

Pages Missing

THE WEEK.

Ninth Year.
Vol. IX., No. 30.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JUNE 24th, 1892.

\$3.00 per Annum.
Single Copies, 10 Cents.

THE WEEK:

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART

TERMS:—One year, \$3.00; eight months, \$2.00; four months, \$1.00. Subscriptions payable in advance.
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No advertisements charged less than five lines. Address—T. R. CLOUGHER, Business Manager, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto.
European Agents—SMITH, AINSLIE & CO., 25 Newcastle Street, Strand London.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

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DEEP regret has been caused everywhere in Canada by the news of the death of Captain Stairs, the gallant young Canadian who won distinction for himself, and shed lustre on the name of his country by the grand service he rendered Stanley, whom he accompanied as chief officer in the Emin Bey relief expedition. Mr. Stairs was a native of Halifax, and a graduate of the Kingston Military College. During the three years of untold hardship and danger which were consumed in that memorable expedition, he was Stanley's most trusted officer, and showed himself on every occasion brave and manly and true to a degree which won the admiration of those who shared with him its toils and dangers innumerable. Some of the exploits of the young Canadian soldier which went the rounds of the press a year or two since, will still be fresh in the memory of many of our readers. One instance which sets in a startling light the fearful hardships of the campaign was that in which, having been despatched from the place where the forces were temporarily entrenched, to Ugarrowas, another Arab settlement, to bring up a number of sick and wounded who had been left behind on the march, he set out on the journey with a band of fifty-six men and returned with only sixteen. Such work as that was fitted, if anything could be, to try men's mettle. At the time of his death young Stairs was about to return home, after having brought to a successful conclusion the Katonga expedition, which he had led under appointment by the King of the Belgians. His iron frame, broken down, no doubt, by intolerable toils and hardships, finally gave way to the deadly African malaria.

A GOOD deal of interest has very naturally been kindled among people of all classes in Canada by the announcement that the leaders of the Home Rule Party in Ireland have asked Mr. Edward Blake to come to their aid, and by his intimation that he is disposed to respond to the call. The constituencies in Ireland are so completely in the hands of the party leaders that they will have little difficulty, we dare say, in complying with his very reasonable condition, that a safe constituency be provided for him, the more especially as he is a man whom any body of electors in the kingdom, in harmony with his political opinions, might be proud to have as their repre-

sentative. For an electorate in downright earnest in wishing to secure Home Rule, a very strong additional incentive to accept Mr. Blake as their representative would be found in the fact, which the leaders of the party have recognized in sending the invitation, that he would probably be more useful than any other man, Mr. Gladstone himself of course always excepted, in the very difficult and delicate task of framing an acceptable and workable Home Rule Act. There may be a few other men among Mr. Gladstone's prominent supporters as able as Mr. Blake—there are probably none abler than he—and some of them are even more experienced statesmen. But it is evident that Mr. Blake's intimate knowledge of the structure and workings of the Canadian Confederation, which has many points of analogy with the scheme proposed for Ireland, has given him peculiar qualifications for the position of a counsellor in formulating and launching a scheme of local self-government for the land of his fathers. For selfish, or perhaps we should rather say for patriotic, reasons, very many Canadians will be extremely sorry to see Mr. Blake leave Canada, for their eyes have been turned towards him as the Moses who might yet lead our bewildered people to the borders of the land of promise. Once admitted to the larger arena, the chances would, we fear, be against his return to take part in Canadian affairs.

ON the eve of the long-looked-for general election, the political destiny of the United Kingdom is one of great uncertainty. The situation may almost be described as critical. As usual, unhappy Ireland, whether through her own fault or that of her Anglo-Saxon rulers, is the disturbing factor. As usual, too, just when it might have seemed that the end of her long struggle was at hand and the coveted local autonomy within reach, she is in danger of having the cup dashed from her lips by discord, this time a double discord, among her own people. It may be that the obstinate Parnellite faction has not sufficient strength to seriously affect the issue, or that a compromise may be effected in time to prevent serious harm. But what is to be the outcome of the Ulster agitation? This is a division of the most unmanageable and dangerous kind, because a division on so-called religious grounds. The Protestants of Ulster are, it is evident, in deadly earnest. Their dissent from the Home Rule scheme is not in regard to matters of detail, which might be settled by compromise. It is the thing itself to which they object. If it were simply their equal civil rights or their religious liberty for which they were contending, it might be possible to agree upon guarantees or safeguards which would be acceptable. But, whether with or without good reason we need not now attempt to decide, the thing to which they are so strenuously objecting is of the very essence of self-government—the rule of the majority. They are not willing to take their chances under a democratic system. Their opponents would say, and not without much appearance of truth, that they have been so long accustomed to the virtual rule of a minority, composed of themselves and their intolerant sympathizers, that they cannot be content to accept a system under which they will have only the same rights and privileges and the same share in the government as their fellow-citizens of the majority. The retort will be, of course, the familiar one that the majority are not free agents and cannot, therefore, be trusted; that it is "not Home-rule, but Rome-rule" which is dreaded, and the worst feature of the case is that the appeal is thus not to reason but to a sentiment—a conviction or passion, which can hardly be reasoned with. In case of the triumph of the Liberals, which now seems probable, it is hard to see how a struggle which will be nothing less than civil war on a small scale can be avoided. It is not to be expected that the majority, after having at last, after so many years of controversy, made up their minds to attempt to end the long struggle and to lay a foundation for lasting and genuine peace in a system of local self-rule which in any other British country would be regarded as simply just and reasonable, will consent to forego their purpose and renew the interminable struggle with redoubled bitterness at the demand of a minority of the residents of one of the four Provinces of Ireland. It may be hoped, however, that the resources of statesman-

ship—it is a pity that we cannot count more largely on the Christian forbearance of sectaries—may be found equal to the emergency when it actually arises.

THE annual reports of the Merchants Bank of Canada and the Imperial Bank of Toronto, which appear in our columns this week, agree with those of almost all the other Canadian banks in one important particular. They admit that the past year has not been favourable to an increase in banking profits. While this fact is of peculiar interest to the shareholders, the general public may be disposed to regard it as of greater importance to the country that, as Mr. Hague informs us is the case with the Merchants Bank, there has been a steady advance in all the leading departments of the bank's business during the year. The circulation shows an increase of more than \$140,000; the deposits were larger by \$590,000, and the discounts by \$983,000. The total earning power of the bank has increased from \$12,861,000 in 1880, to \$20,117,000 in 1892. That the net earnings have not increased in the same ratio is due to the general fact that with an increasing volume of business there has been, as is common in other lines of business, a decreasing ratio of net profit on the business done. There is added to this for the past year, the special fact of a heavy loss incurred through a defalcation in New York, which could scarcely have been foreseen or provided against. In the case of the Imperial Bank the showing is most encouraging to the stockholders, who have received not only the usual dividend of eight per cent., but a bonus of one per cent. in addition, while the Rest has been increased by \$50,000. As these dividends have been paid partly out of Profit and Loss Account of last year, they are not necessarily inconsistent with the statement made in the first sentence. Under the able and careful management of Mr. D. R. Wilkie, the Cashier, the business of the bank is evidently kept on a sound footing, and steady and healthful progress being made. The report of the seventh annual meeting of the shareholders of the Traders' Bank of Canada came to hand after the foregoing was in type. The statement of the past year's business shows an increase of considerably more than half a million dollars in deposits, notwithstanding a reduction in the rates of interest paid. Nearly 10½ per cent. was earned on capital, enabling the Directors, after paying a dividend of 6 per cent., to add \$20,000 to Rest Account. A very satisfactory showing.

IN business circles the annual addresses of a few of Canada's able bank managers and directors have come to be looked for from year to year with great interest. Among these careful dissertations on the financial and business condition and outlook of the country, none perhaps are more worthy of attention than those of Mr. Hague, General Manager of the Merchants Bank. That which we have now before us is a specially elaborate and careful review of the situation from all points which come naturally within the range of the banker's observation. So far as we can describe it in general terms, it is neither very sanguine nor at all pessimistic. The writer has evidently found it necessary to carefully balance advantages with disadvantages, and to place over against signs of progress in one business or locality, modifying facts and circumstances in another business or locality. For this reason a correct view of the financial state of the country as he sees it can be gained only by a careful reading of the whole address. He compares the business of exporting with that of importing, somewhat to the advantage of the former, since while all our leading exports are of articles of prime necessity, the expense of handling which is small and the risks mainly in the fluctuations of the market, in the case of imports, though the fluctuations in price are slower, "the expense of selling them, as compared with the export trade, is probably twenty to one, and is increasing." And then in the case of the latter there is the never-ceasing liability to loss through the credit system. This leads to some hints with regard to the desirability of aiding legitimate attempts to curtail the giving of credits, which are worthy of special attention. We are not sure that the experience of some of our readers may not oblige them to take Mr. Hague's commercial aphorism, "So long as we have good things to sell, we need not fear that

we shall (not) find buyers," with considerable allowance. Passing by many interesting observations on various other forms of industry, the following remarks in regard to farmers, whose business lies at the very base of all Canadian prosperity or adversity, touch a matter of special interest to all classes. The facts given us as the result of Mr. Hague's survey are valuable, however opinions may vary as to their true significance:—

I have paid careful attention to the working of farmers' business at our country branches, and the managers of the bank have been instructed to give special attention to it also. The past year has not been supposed to be a year of much saving with farmers, but it is a fact that out of twenty-nine branches where farmers' deposits are received, in twenty-seven of them there has been an increase in such deposits. In only two has there been a decrease, and that only of a small amount. I have no doubt that this experience has been common.

THE resolution passed by the York County Councillors at their recent session, authorizing a committee to draw up a petition to the Ontario Government asking for an amendment to the existing laws in the direction of providing for the payment of all county officials by salary, instead of by fees as under the present arrangement, shows that the tendency of public opinion is in the right direction. There is a manifest inequality and injustice in the working of the fee system which an honest and progressive Government should not be slow to recognize and remove. It is, moreover, desirable in the interests of good government that the number of offices with large salaries attached should be reduced within the smallest practicable limits. The effect would be to remove a species of patronage which must be a source of worry to the Government as well as to the crowds of hungry aspirants who are always on the look-out for the rewards of political services. The power to bestow such rewards is a temptation to both Government and office-seeker. We hold, too, that the fee system is indefensible in principle. At any rate, even the forensic talent of Sir Oliver Mowat failed to find or devise a satisfactory defence when he attempted it last session. His most plausible argument, to the effect that the fee system makes the payment proportionate to the actual work, fails egregiously in those cases in which the work is mainly routine and can be performed very cheaply by proxy. Even in cases in which there is a degree of force in this plea, the counter objections are so many and cogent that it is readily overborne. It is to be hoped that the Premier and Government will give heed to the petition of the Council.

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT'S twenty-one questions did not elicit a vast amount of information with reference to the effect which the *Globe's* publication of documents concerning the "Reptile Fund" have produced upon the minds of the members of the Government, individually or collectively. So far as any visible effect is concerned they served rather to give the House and the country another clever exhibition of Sir John Thompson's skill in fence. Nevertheless the main object of the asker, that of having a synopsis of the documents in question put upon the records of Parliament, was of course gained. The answers were adroitly evasive throughout, but in only one particular, perhaps, did they fail in being formal answers to the question to which they were ostensible replies. That was, it is true, a particular of vital importance to the whole case. When Sir Richard asked whether the Government, in view of the fact that those documents, if authentic, prove that upwards of \$112,000 were expended in twenty-four constituencies with the knowledge and approval of several members of the Cabinet and many members of Parliament, intended to cause a committee of the House to be appointed to investigate said matters, and particularly to ascertain from and by whom the said funds were supplied, Sir John Thompson answered that the Government intended to await the report of the Commission before deciding what steps may properly be taken with regard to any matters which may appear not to have been comprised within the reference to the commissioners. This would seem to imply an admission of the obvious fact that the question of the distribution of the funds is not included in the reference. But when the leader of the Opposition put the direct question whether the special charges apparently substantiated by the published documents were to be considered by the Commission, Sir John replied by repeating the answer to a previous question, which answer certainly contained no reply to the particular enquiry which was put by Sir Richard Cartwright, and emphasized by Mr. Laurier.

NOW most of our readers will, we think, agree with us that the question which Sir John Thompson thus evaded is one of the very first importance to the whole enquiry. As we have before insisted, the excision of that part of Mr. Edgar's charges which had to do with the disposal of these large sums of money, and the limiting of the charges referred to the commissioners to the single question whether these sums of money were corruptly and fraudulently obtained as alleged, were most reprehensible and evasive tactics, unless the intention was to make the matter excised the subject of a distinct investigation. The plea of outlawry which the Government were understood to set up is one to which neither Parliament nor people ought to listen with patience. Suppose the report of the commissioners to have been made and properly acted upon by Parliament. It matters not for the purpose of this argument whether the charges that "the Postmaster-General had diverted railway subsidies from the purpose for which they were granted by receiving for election purposes large sums of money out of such subsidies, and out of moneys raised on the credit of such subsidies, and so forth," were found to have been proven or otherwise. Whether the accused had been found innocent and the charges dismissed, or had been found guilty and punished by the House, if the matter ended there, we make bold to say that by far the most important part of the affair would have been suffered to pass unnoticed. It would still be the fact, if the documents which have been published in the *Globe* are authentic, that evidence of bribery and corruption on a very large scale had been laid before Parliament and the country and had been tacitly declared unworthy of notice or enquiry. Infamous as would be the crime on the part of members of the Government of appropriating large sums from Government subsidies, for political purposes, far, far worse for the country would be the wholesale debauchery of the consciences of electors by Ministers and members of Parliament. The first would be a crime against the Treasury; the second one against the people. The first would inflict upon the country pecuniary loss, which might be made good, or would be felt only for a time. The second would result in irreparable damage to the country by lowering the moral tone of its citizens, and corrupting the political life of the Dominion at the very source. We assume, as we may surely do with all confidence, that the sums of money distributed in the constituencies in question, amounting to several dollars for each and every vote recorded for the Government candidates, could not possibly have been used for other than corrupt purposes. Should Parliament and the people permit such charges, supported by such evidence, to pass without rigid enquiry, will it not be about time for every high-minded Canadian to despair of his country?

IT was, perhaps, a somewhat bold step on the part of the young member for East York to commence his Parliamentary career with a proposal to limit the privileges and profits of such powerful corporations as the Canadian railways have now become. It is not, we fear, very likely that a Parliament, the majority of whose members, in both Houses, have not denied the soft impeachment that they habitually travel on free passes furnished by the railways, will be zealous in securing the rights of the public against the wishes of the obliging managers of these roads. Nevertheless Mr. Maclean's action is, we are persuaded, on the right line, and we hope that he will display the courage, energy, and persistence necessary to compel Parliament sooner or later to take the matter up. Some one exclaimed that legislation by Parliament to limit railway fares for passengers would imply the right to interfere also with freight rates, as if that were a reduction to the absurd. Of course it would imply such a right. Why not? As a matter of fact the principle involved is already recognized by the establishment of the Railway Committee of the Privy Council, though any strict application of it would probably be resented as an innovation and an interference with the rights of private property. But the fact is that in view of the large sums of public money invested in the railways, in the shape of subsidies both Parliamentary and local; in view also of the special rights and privileges granted them in such matters as the securing of right of way and in other respects, in view also of the fact that they partake largely of the characteristics of natural monopolies, it is time that the rights of the public to a voice in their management were affirmed much more effectively than has hitherto been done. We do not undertake to say that the maximum of two cents a mile

which Mr. Maclean proposes is necessarily the correct limit, nor do we suppose it likely that Parliament or Government is in possession of the information needed to enable it to do justice in the matter off-hand. But it is, we believe, demonstrable that public interests and the ends of public justice demand a thorough investigation of the whole question, with a view to the reduction of both passenger and freight rates to the lowest proportions that would be reasonably remunerative after free passes and unfair preferences of every kind had been done away with. Probably the appointment of an independent railway commission will be found a necessary preliminary. As things are at present, there is good reason to believe that the people, whose money has been put so freely into the roads, have never yet derived anything like their fair share of the benefits which should accrue to them. The experience of Hungary, in which, owing to the action of the Minister of Railways, the people now travel at the rate of a little over a cent a mile, the increase of travel immediately counterbalancing the reduction in rates, is an instructive case in point.

WHAT is affirmed in regard to railways in the preceding paragraph is only what is true, in general features, of all our management of those concerns which are either in the nature of the case or in virtue of bad legislation, to a greater or less extent monopolies. Truly we are a race of incapables. We countervail nature's beneficent designs in our behalf. When she puts into our hands an inexhaustible supply of some commodity necessary to our convenience and comfort, we, in our organized wisdom, proceed to turn it over to some few individuals and make it virtually their private possession, well content if they will graciously supply our individual wants on such terms as they may choose to impose, or at any rate on such terms as will enable them to heap up for themselves enormous riches at our expense. We are constantly doing the same thing with the useful inventions of individual members of society. Witness the terms on which the general public not only ride on the great national highways, but are permitted to have the benefit of coal and other mineral productions, of gas and electrical appliances, such as the telegraph, the telephone, the electric light, etc. Not only so, but, untaught and undeterred by these results of national and municipal incapacity, we go even farther and send men to Parliament authorized as our representatives to so legislate for us as to compel us to pay such exorbitant exactions as thirty cents a gallon for the oil which she pours out freely for us from her flowing fountains, and which, as was demonstrated the other day, could be prepared for use in the best manner and sold to us at our doors for about one-third of that price, but for our own sapient law-making. Alas, for our incapacity to utilize the gifts of the good gods without first paying toll to a dozen more or less greedy private interests! Let not our readers be alarmed. We are not going to become rabid socialists, until at least we have some evidence that socialism has discovered some means of transmuting the baser metals of human weakness and selfishness which make the whole community their prey, into the pure gold of a genuine and clear-sighted altruism. But, on the other hand, we do not exactly see why it is necessary that we in Canada should fall so far in the rear of the Mother Country, which has long since forborne to increase the price of the necessaries of life by Act of Parliament; has given the people the benefit of the telegraph at reasonable rates; and is even now preparing to do the same thing in respect to the younger and no less useful appliance, the telephone. All which is but a round-about way of saying that we are on principle in favour of all sound legislation which tends to lessen the burden of taxation on the necessaries and comforts of life, whether the taxes be imposed directly by the State, or indirectly by private individuals and corporations.

WHEN we read the other day the solemn assurance given to the House by Sir John Thompson, to the effect that he desired to do only what is fair and right in the matter of re-distribution, and when we learned that the Government had decided to yield to the representations of the Opposition with reference to one or two of the worst and most indefensible features of the Bill in both Quebec and Ontario, we were disposed to hope that the conscience of the Dominion Commons was at last asserting itself, and that the country might be spared the demoralizing spectacle of the threatened struggle. But the events of Monday have, we frankly confess, destroyed this hope, and forced us back to the conclusion that the

value of Sir John Thompson's professions must be estimated in the light of his deeds. How any fair-minded Conservative could fail to be convinced by the arguments and figures presented by Mr. Mills and Sir Richard Cartwright that a much nearer approach to justice would be made by either of the two plans proposed than by the present Bill, we are unable to understand. Mr. Mills' proposal to have regard to County lines throughout, had the very great merit of laying down a principle which would become a precedent in all future cases, and reduce the possibility of "gerrymandering" to the minimum. Sir Richard Cartwright's solution of the problem, by the simple and seemingly fair method of combining two by two the smallest contiguous constituencies in the Province in order to secure the two additional seats, and leave the others untouched, became so easy, in view of the smallness of the population of several contiguous counties in Eastern Ontario, that the refusal to consider it can be explained on no other than partisan grounds. If Sir John Thompson and his Government persist in carving the two seats required out of Western, instead of Eastern, Ontario, while the unit of representation in the latter is so very much smaller than in the former, we do not see how it can be possible for history to avoid placing their Redistribution Act of 1892 on the same low moral plane with that of their predecessors of ten years before, which is now defended only by one or two of the rashest young members of the House. How such men as Dr. Weldon of Alberta, from whom we had reason to expect so much better things, can bring themselves to the support of so obvious an iniquity must be to many of their admirers, as it is to us, a profound ethical puzzle.

ONCE more Canada is threatened with the loss of the bonding privilege by way of retaliation for the alleged bad faith of its Government in the matter of the canal tolls. If we could but see that our Government was in the right, though we might still question the wisdom of the policy which risks so much to gain so little, we could readily understand and sympathize with the feeling which would prompt a refusal to yield a right once claimed, under compulsion. As we have always been compelled to regard our Government as in the wrong in this matter, we are the more sorry that a dead-lock is threatened in consequence. "Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just." Seeing that it may be at least doubtful whether Canada can in this case rely upon that triple armour—and all the more if it is not doubtful—why should not our Government offer to leave the question to the decision of some impartial tribunal? That would be far more dignified than to trust to the hope that the President's threat is a mere ante-election "bluff," and far more honourable than to rely upon the fact, if such it be, that the abolition of bonding would injure our neighbours more than it would ourselves. Let our Government prove the honesty of its convictions by promptly offering to submit the question whether the remission of tolls in favour of Canadian routes is or is not a violation of international obligations, to arbitration. Three disinterested and competent jurists would probably agree upon the matter in a day. By the way, is it not a strange, and to one party or the other a disgraceful, thing that now for the second time there is a disagreement between the representatives of the two Governments as to what was the actual understanding reached at the non-official interview? In the former case Sir Charles Tupper afterwards admitted to Mr. Blaine that his (Mr. Blaine's) recollection of the matter was correct. How is it going to be in the present instance?

OTTAWA LETTER.

THE maiden speech of Mr. W. F. Maclean, member for East York, is likely to win for him the friendship of the large body of people in Canada, who think that the cost of travelling is very great, when compared with other expenses. Mr. Maclean advocated, in committee, on a Bill respecting the Midland Railway of Canada, that rates for passenger traffic should be regulated by Parliament. He pointed out that while within the last thirty years everything we consume had fallen in price, rates for railway traffic remained the same that they were thirty years ago. He claimed that railways should be required to adopt a two-cent-per-mile rate. This was practically the law of the State of New York; and in England there was practically a Parliamentary rate of a penny a mile. Mr. Haggart promised that the subject would have the attention of the Government, and in answer to Mr. Maclean said that it was the intention of the Government to introduce the Bill to amend the Railway Act.

The House has devoted itself very steadily to the

Redistribution Bill in committee. Sir John Thompson made an important announcement when he said that the Government meant to withdraw the provision in the Bill which took the township of Clarence out of the county of Russell and annexed it to Prescott. Mr. Edwards, the sitting member for Russell, expressed his satisfaction at this proposed line of action, but Mr. Laurier could not allow the opportunity to pass without pointing out that this admission of mistake on the part of the Government showed in a conclusive manner the absolutely arbitrary character of the Bill, and that there was no principle to be found in it from first to last.

The debate was resumed in committee the first thing on Monday morning. After a speech from Mr. Mills, in support of his amendment, that county boundaries be adhered to in the redistribution, a vote was taken upon the same, resulting in the usual majority for the Government. The yeas and nays were not demanded, the Opposition being content with a count of the members. Then the details of the Bill were taken up. Besides making the concession in regard to Russell County, already referred to, the Government made another very important step in the direction of conciliation. All through their speeches the Opposition have urged that the village of Merriton be left in the county of Niagara to which it naturally belongs, instead of being added to Welland. To this Sir John Thompson agreed.

Then a long discussion took place over the general policy of the Bill in taking the two members, necessary for the increased representation in Toronto and Nipissing and Algoma, from the Niagara district, and amendments came thick and fast. Mr. Mills, Sir Richard and others could not see why certain ridings in the Eastern part of the Province below the unit of representation were not united, and the densely populated portion of the Province, already under-represented, let alone. But the Government, having made what they consider reasonable concessions, did not fancy the idea of allowing the Bill to be cut to pieces entirely.

It was a surprise to almost everyone when the close of Monday's sitting showed the Bill, as far as it deals with Ontario, to be practically passed. Besides the admission made in regard to Russell, and the restoration of Merriton to its former love, the clause annexing London west to London proper has been dropped. Col. Denison proposes that West Toronto shall be divided into two ridings, Bathurst Street being the dividing line, and that all west of that street shall be known as West Toronto, and all east of it as West Centre Toronto.

Everything in the shape of Parliamentary business gives way to the Redistribution Bill, and whatever else is done, however important it may be in itself, sinks into obscurity. Mr. Carling is putting through a Bill to amend the Patent Act, which, it must at once be perceived, is a matter of great importance. The chief provisions of the Bill, as explained by the Minister, are to extend the life of a patent from fifteen to eighteen years, and to do away with the necessity for models. The Bill did not pass its second reading without discussion. Sir Richard Cartwright questioned the desirability of extending the period of patent right, and Mr. Mills did not approve of the provision making it optional to furnish a model. This will be discussed further in committee.

The good people of Ottawa have long since got sick of the deliberations of the Senate and House of Commons, and have gone quite "lacrosse" mad. For many years this city has striven for the mastery in lacrosse, and on Saturday evening the capitals came home from Cornwall with a well-earned victory over the strongest team in Canada. Great was the reception the victors received, and the individual players are so many lions of the hour.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union of the Dominion held its annual session in this city, the latter part of last week and the first of the present week. It is generally considered that the estimable ladies who comprise this growing association have not much of an opinion of the way in which the Parliament of Canada conducts the business of the country, and that they are particularly disappointed that the House has not yet declared in favour of Prohibition. But however they may disapprove of Parliament in general, there is one member of the Commons at least whom they regard as a modern Sir Galahad. Mr. Charlton has had a hard time with his Sabbath Observance Bill, and has not received that consideration to which he thinks he is entitled, but he has pluckily persisted in his duty. All his disappointments and discouragements must have disappeared like mists before the sun when he found on his desk in the House, the other evening, a basket of beautiful white roses, sent to him with the compliments of the ladies of the W.C.T.U.

On Wednesday the House commenced morning sessions, the Speaker taking the chair at eleven o'clock, rising at one for lunch and resuming again at three. There is a determination on the part of the Government to get through with the work as speedily as possible, and the Opposition being somewhat mollified by the concessions already made in the "gerrymander," will probably withdraw to a certain extent from the policy of obstruction. It is scarcely probable, however, that prorogation will take place before the middle of next month. Even if the Redistribution Bill goes through this week, there yet remains the Criminal Code, and there are more supplementary estimates to be voted, including the railway subsidies, which must give rise to some discussion at all events.

T. C. L. K.

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TWO KNAPSACKS:

A NOVEL OF CANADIAN SUMMER LIFE.

BY J. CAWDOR BELL.

CHAPTER VII.—(Continued).

THE mile and a-half was soon covered, and the trio stood before a roomy farm-house. A boy, not unlike Tommy, but better dressed, was swinging on the gate, and him the detective asked if he could see Miss Du Plessis on important business. The boy ran into the house to enquire, and came back to the gate, accompanied by the lady in question. She changed colour as her eye took in The Cavalry, immovable as a life guardsman on sentry. The detective handed her his professional card, and explained that he and his two friends had been entrusted with the duty of protecting her property and herself. "You need have no doubts, Miss Du Plessis, for the Squire, as a J. P., knows me perfectly," he continued.

"I have no fear, Mr. Nash," answered the lady, in a pleasant voice, with just a suspicion of a foreign accent; "your name is known to me, and you are in good company."

Wilkinson, standing by his friend's stirrup, heard this last statement, and blushed, while The Cavalry thought he had heard a voice like that before.

"Has Mr. Rawdon seen you, or have you seen him?" asked the detective.

"Neither; but the two Marjories have been here, and have told me about him. They do not seem to admire Mr. Rawdon."

"The darlins!" ejaculated the lawyer; whereupon Wilkinson pinched his leg, and made him cry "Owch!"

The rest of the conversation between the plotters at the gate was inaudible. At its conclusion, the lady's face was beaming with amusement.

"Give me that bundle for Miss Du Plessis," said Nash to Coristine, who lifted his hat to her, and handed the parcel over.

"Now, for instructions," continued the commander-in-chief. "The Cavalry will go to Bridesdale, that's Squire Carruthers' place, and keep Mr. Rawdon from going to church, or bring him back if he has started, which isn't likely. This branch of the Service will also make sure that all children are out of the way somewhere, and inform older people, who may be about, that Miss Du Plessis is coming to the house during church time, and is very much altered by night-watching and sick-nursing, so that they need not express astonishment before Mr. Rawdon. Fasten these knapsacks about you somehow, Horse-Doctor; put the beast up where he'll get a drink and a feed; and go to church like a good Christian. The Infantry will halt for the present, and afterwards act as Miss Du Plessis' escort. Infantry, attention! Cavalry, form threes, trot!"

Coristine took the knapsacks, made another bow, and trotted away, while the dominie walked up to the gate, and was introduced to the fair conspirator.

After showing the detective and his bundle into an unoccupied apartment, Miss Du Plessis returned to the sitting-room where she left the dominie. In the few minutes at their disposal, he informed his new acquaintance of his chance-meeting with her uncle, of whose arrival in Canada she was in complete ignorance. The imparting and receiving this news established such a bond between the two as the schoolmaster had hitherto thought impossible should exist between himself and one of the weaker sex. Yet, in her brief absence, he had taken pains to dust himself, and shake up his hair and whiskers. His companion was preparing to tell how she had heard of him from Miss Carmichael, when another young lady, almost her counterpart in general appearance, entered the room.

"Now," said the newcomer, in a deep but feminine voice, "now the false Miss Du Plessis will go on with her nursing, while the real one takes Mr. Wilkinson's arm and keeps her appointment at the Squire's."

Miss Du Plessis clapped her hands together and laughed heartily. Wilkinson, thinking, all the time, what a pretty, musical laugh it was, could not help joining in the amusement, for Nash was complete from his wig down to his boots. The colonel's niece threw a light, woolly shawl over the detective's shoulders, and accompanied the pair to the gate, where, before dismissing them, she warned her double not to compromise her to Mr. Rawdon.

"I hope soon to have the pleasure of meeting you, Mr. Wilkinson, under more favourable circumstances," she called after that gentleman, as they moved off, and then ran into the house to hide her laughter.

The dominie felt his face getting red, with a pretty young lady hoping to meet him again, on the one hand, and a not by any means ill-looking personation of one hanging on to his arm, on the other. After a minute, the detective withdrew his hand from his companion's arm, but continued to practise his assumed voice upon him, in every imaginable enquiry as to what he knew of Miss Du Plessis, of her friend Miss Carmichael, and of the working geologist's intentions. He was thus pretty well primed, and all promised well, till, within a quarter of a mile of the house, a vision appeared that filled him and the disguised Nash, to whom he communicated his fears, with grave apprehensions as to the success of the plot. It was no less a person than the veteran, Mr. Michael Terry, out for a Sunday walk with the Grinstun man. Their dread increased as the old man came running forward, crying: "An' it's comin' back yez are, my darlin'!"

Mish Ceshile. It's a throifle pale yer lookin', an' no wonder." Saying this, Michael shook hands with Nash, and whispered: "Niver fare, sorr, Mishter Coristine towld me all about it."

The made-up lady introduced her father's old servant to Wilkinson, whose apprehensions were dispelled in a similar way, so that all were prepared to give Mr. Rawdon the reception intended.

"Ullo, hold Favosites Wilkinsonia," cried the working geologist, swaggering up with a cigar in his mouth, 'ow's yer bloomin' 'ealth? That hold bloke of a Hirish haint in a 'urry to do the hamiable between 'is hold gunver's gal an' yours truly. My name, Miss, is Rawdon, Haltamont Rawdon, workin' geologist and minerologist, and, between you and me and the bedpost, a pretty warm man."

"Yes; Mr. Rawdon," replied the pseudo Miss Du Plessis, "you look—well, not pretty—but warm."

"O, dash it hall, that haint wot I meant, Miss Do Please-us; I mean hi'm a man that's got the dibs, the rhino, the blunt, you know, wot makes the mare go. I don't go geologizin' round for nothin'."

"You pick up stones, I suppose?"

"Yes; grinstuns, limestun grit, that's the stuff to make you jolly."

"I have heard of drawing blood out of a stone, Mr. Rawdon, but never of extracting merriment or exhilaration from a grindstone."

"Then you don't know my grinstuns, Miss; they're full o' fun."

"Are they indeed? How amusing! In what way does the fun display itself?"

"A bundle of my grinstuns, distributed at a loggin' bee, a raisin' bee, or a campaign caucus, ware there's a lot of haxes to grind, can make more fun than the Scott Act'll spile in a month. But silence is silence 'twixt partners, which I opes you and me is to be."

The fictitious Miss Du Plessis, with much simpering and affectation, quite unworthy of the original, drew the working geologist out, and inspired him with hopes of securing her hand and property. Mr. Rawdon spoke very freely of the wealth he had in the hand and in the bush, of his readiness to make allowance for Madame Du Plessis, if that "haffable hold gent," her brother in law, was not prepared to provide for her. When they reached the house, they found that no one was at home but Tryphena, who was confined to the kitchen by culinary duties. They, therefore, occupied the parlour, the Grinstun man seeing no impropriety in being there alone with a young lady whom he had met for the first time. Indeed, he was much gratified to find that the lady was not at all stiff and offish, as he had feared, but as "haffable as her huncle and more." The lady laughed, and blushed at loud compliments, as loud as the check of Mr. Rawdon's clothes, and asked flattering questions, which he answered with a jollity and recklessness that almost astonished himself. Was there no romance, no spice of daring in his occupation? she had asked, and he, remembering that he was talking to a soldier's daughter, who would, doubtless, appreciate courage, replied enigmatically that the grinstun business was about the riskiest business on earth, and required 'croism of no hordinary kind.

While this conversation was going on, the dominie and the veteran were walking churchward, for, as the former had signified his intention of going to a place of worship, the old man insisted on accompanying him.

"Oi was born a Catholic, sorr, and a Catholic O'll doie, though my darter is a Protestant, and what's more, a Proshytarian. She rades her Boible an' Oi rade moine, an' there's sorra a bit av differance betwene thim. If the church is good enough for her, it's good enough for the loikes av me."

"That is what I call being a Catholic in the truest sense of the term. We will not deprive people of the kingdom of Heaven because they refuse to go our way."

"Till me now, sorr, what's that that's pertindin' to be my dear young mistress, Miss Ceshile?"

"An old soldier knows how to keep a secret, I am sure. It is the famous detective, Mr. Nash."

"Sure I hope, by my sowl, that he'll make the crathur gnash his tayth. It was all I could do to kape my hands aff him, as we were walkin' along to mate yez. Him to make up to the cornel's darter, the misherable, insignifikint, bad shpokin, thavin' scrap av impidence!"

The church bell had ceased ringing, the horses and waggons were in the driving shed without any attendant, and, as the pair approached, they could hear the sound of hearty singing coming through the open windows. They entered together, the old man crossing himself as he did so, and sat down in a pew near the door. The schoolmaster saw that the church was that of Mr. Errol, who occupied the pulpit. He looked round, but could not see his friend Coristine; nor was little Marjorie anywhere visible. They must have strolled on farther to Mr. Perrowne's consecrated edifice for the sake of the walk. Then, with reverent mind, the dominie joined in the simple worship of the Kirk.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Services—Nash Routs Rawdon—The Dinner Talk—The Pedestrians with the Ladies—Singing out of One Hymn-book—Grinstuns Again—The Female Vagrant and the Idiot Boy—Little Marjorie—Nash's Thoughts—The Captain and the Plot—Arrival of Rufus and Ben—To Arms!

MR. ERROL'S sermon was on the text, "Lord, I knew thee, that thou art an hard man." He elaborated the unfaithful servant's harsh opinion of God, and, before he

sat down, completely exonerated the Father in Heaven from the blasphemous judgment of those who call themselves His children. There is a thief in the world who comes to steal and kill and destroy; he is not God, but the enemy of God's children. The dominie's heart warmed to the man who, though of a different communion, fulfilled St. Paul's ideal of a clergyman, in that he arrogated no dominion over the people's faith, but was a helper of their joy. The sermon lifted the schoolmaster up, and brought God very near; and the hearty hymns and reverent prayers helped him greatly. When the service was over, he waited, and soon Carruthers presented his comely, matronly wife, while Mrs. Carmichael recalled herself to his remembrance; and, finally, the minister, having divested himself of gown and bands in the vestry, came down the aisle with cheery step and voice to bid him welcome to Flanders. Wilkinson was happy—happier than he had been for many a long year. He seemed to have so many friends, and they were all so cordial, so glad to see him—not a hard man or woman among them; and, therefore, God could not be hard. He walked with the minister, who was going to dine at Bridesdale and then ride five miles to preach at another station. He thanked him for his sermon, and talked over it with him, and, of course, quoted "The Excursion":—

If the heart
Could be inspected to its inmost folds,
By sight undazzled with the glare of praise,
Who shall be named— in the resplendent line
Of sages, martyrs, confessors—the man
Whom the best might of conscience, truth and hope,
For one day's little compass, has preserved
From painful and discreditable shocks
Of contradiction, from some vague desire
Culpably cherished, or corrupt relapse
To some unsanctioned fear.

"That's just all the trouble, Mr. Wilkinson," said the delighted minister. "People think to honour and glorify God by being afraid of Him, forgetting that perfect love casts out the fear that hath torment, and he that feareth is not made perfect in love."

With such conversation they beguiled the way till they stood at the gate of Bridesdale, and entered the hospitable mansion, there to be received by the odious Grinstun man.

"What in aa' the world, Marjorie, did Susan mean, sending us yon godless, low-lived chairacter o' a Rawdon?" asked the Squire of his sister, Mrs. Carmichael.

"I cannot understand it, John," she answered; "for her own Marjorie fairly detests the little man. Perhaps it is some business affair with the Captain."

"Aweel, aweel, we maun keep the peace, sin' I'm a judge o't; but I do not like thee, Dr. Fell."

Then they all entered the house together. Wilkinson found the spurious Miss Du Plessis gone.

The dominie saw that the working geologist was boring Mrs. Carmichael, after her return to the drawing-room from laying aside her walking attire, and valorously interposed to save her. He enquired for her niece, Marjorie, and learned that that young lady had annexed Coristine as her lawful prey, and, introducing him to her grown-up cousin, had arranged the triangular journey to Mr. Perrowne's church. The service there was longer than in the kirk, so that half an hour would probably elapse before the two Anglican perverts appeared with their captive, the lawyer. Before the absentees made their appearance, a man—dressed in Mr. Nash's clothes, but with the beard and moustache recognized by Ben Toner as those of the bailiff—was ushered in and greeted by the Squire as Mr. Chisholm. The rest of the company seemed to know the transformed detective, including the Grinstun man, whom he rallied on his attentions to a young lady.

"You're a nice man, Rawdon, when every decent person has gone to church, gallivanting with young ladies. I saw you at the Talfourds."

"Don't care a 'ang if you did," replied Rawdon; "if Miss Do Please-us takes a shine to a warm man, and gives you 'and-to-mouth beggars the go-by, that honly shows 'er common sense."

"What has Miss Du Plessis got to do with it?"

"She's got this to do with it, that she's promised to be my missus before the week's hout."

"When?"

"Wy, this mornin'; 'ere in this blessed room."

"Oh, come, Rawdon, you are joking. Miss Du Plessis hasn't been out of Mrs. Talfourd's to-day."

"Don't you try none of your larks hon me, Mr. Chisholm. You can't take a rise hout of this kid, hinnercent has he looks."

"But, I tell you she has not. Who do you think that girl was you brought home to Talfourd's place?"

"Wy, Miss Do Please-us, of course; 'oo else could it be?"

Mr. Chisholm laughed loud and long, and at last ejaculated: "Miss Du Plessis! Oh, but you're a green hand, Rawdon, to take Martha Baggs for her; the daughter of old Baggs, in the revenue service. Hope you didn't give your friends away, Rawdon?"

"You think you're pretty clever, Mr. Chisholm, comin' hover me with your Marther Baggses. Hold Hirish knows Miss Do Please-us, I should say, and wouldn't go takin' no Marther Baggs for 'er."

"Mr. Rawdon," interposed the Squire, "I'll thank you to speak more respectfully of my father-in-law; as good a man, I judge, as yourself."

"No hoffence, Squire; but I wish you'd hask the hold gent to come 'ere and shut up this 'ere bailiff's mouth with 'is Marther Baggs."

Mr. Terry, who preferred the society of the kitchen to that of the parlour, was produced, and, on being asked if the lady with Mr. Rawdon was Miss Du Plessis, answered that his "sight was gettin' bad, an' the sinse av hairin' too, an' if it wor Miss Jewplessy, she had changed her vice intoirely, an' got to be cruel rough an' common in her ways. Av coorse, it moight have been the young mistress; but, Talfer's was nigh to han', an' it was aisy axin'."

A horrible suspicion came over the Grinstun man, and paled his rubicund visage. He darted up to his room, and speedily re-appeared with knapsack on back and staff in hand, ready for the road. Mr. Carruthers pressed him to stay at least for dinner, but he was resolved to solve the mystery by a visit to the Talfourds, and said that, if Mr. Chisholm was right, he would not be back for a while. His retreating figure was watched with positive pleasure by most of the company, and with still greater satisfaction by the small party returning from the Anglican service.

"What garred ye fricht Rawdon awa, Mr. Chisholm?" asked the Squire.

"I wanted to eat my dinner comfortably," replied the detective, putting beard and moustache in his pocket, when all the company, except the dominie who knew, cried out, "it's Mr. Nash."

"To think of you deceiving me," exclaimed Mr. Carruthers, "and me a justice of the peace. I've a thoct to bring you up for conspiracy."

"There can be no conspiracy without at least two persons," answered the detective.

"But, man, you are two persons, that I've known off and on as Chisholm and Nash."

"When he was one of my masters," put in the dominie, "his name was Dowling."

"And this morning," remarked the man of aliases, with a smile, "I was Miss Du Plessis or Martha Baggs, so Rawdon will have hard work to find the lady of his affections."

At this juncture Coristine and his fair companions entered, and, while the young Marjorie renewed her acquaintance, Wilkinson was gravely introduced to one of his own teachers, to the no little amusement of the lady herself, of the lawyer, and of the company generally who were in the secret. Miss Carmichael explained that Mr. Perrowne had declined to come to dinner, but would look in later in the day when Cecile came home; whereat many smiled, and the dominie frowned heavily. Mrs. Carruthers now announced dinner, when the Squire took in his sister, Wilkinson, her daughter, Coristine, Marjorie, and Mr. Errol, the hostess. All the pairs agreed in congratulating themselves on the absence of the Grinstun man, and looked with approbation on Mr. Nash, who, all alone but cheerful, brought up the rear. There was no room at the table for the five youthful Carruthers, who rejoiced in the fact and held high carnival in the kitchen with Tryphena and Tryphosa and their maternal grandfather. Mr. Errol had said grace, and dinner was in progress, when the hall door was heard to open, and, immediately, on went the detective's facial disguise. But the lightness of the step that followed it reassured him, so that his smooth features once more appeared. Shortly afterwards Miss Du Plessis entered, apologizing for her lateness, and taking the vacant chair between the host and the dominie.

"I was really frightened," she said to the former, "by a dreadful little man, with an Indian hat and a knapsack, who stopped and asked me if I was Miss Do Please-us. When I told him that my name was Du Plessis, he became much agitated, and cried 'Then I'm done, sold again and the money paid,' after which he used such very bad language that I actually ran away from him. I looked round, however, and saw him hurrying away towards the Talfourds." Wilkinson looked very fierce and warlike, and attacked his food as if it were the obnoxious Rawdon.

"Cecile," said Miss Carmichael across the indignant dominie, "I told a fib about you this morning, but quite innocently. I said you would not be home to dinner."

"Neither I would, were it not that Mrs. Talfourd's sister came in after church, and offered to stay with her the rest of the day. Whom did you tell?"

"Your devoted friend, Mr. Perrowne."

Miss Du Plessis blushed a little, and the schoolmaster cut the clergyman up several times and stuck his fork into him savagely. Then he commenced a conversation with the Squire, into which the lady between them was almost necessarily drawn. Mr. Nash edified Mrs. Carmichael; her daughter conversed with the minister, to the latter's delight; while Coristine divided his attentions between the hostess and Marjorie.

"What was Mr. Perrowne preaching on, Marjorie?" asked Mrs. Carruthers.

"Pillows on the ground," replied that young person. Her cousin laughed, and came to the rescue, saying:

"It was the Church, the pillar and ground of the truth; Marjorie seems to associate all English Church services with bedtime."

"There wasn't much bedtime about the service this morning," interposed the lawyer; "the parson rattled along in grand style, and gave Miss Carmichael, and all other broken reeds of dissenters, some piping hot Durham mustard. Did it sting, Miss Carmichael?"

"Is that the effect mustard has on broken reeds, Mr. Coristine?"

"It is rather a mixing of metaphors, but you must make allowance for an Irishman."

Mrs. Carruthers at once conversed with her countryman, or rather her father's countryman, on Ireland, its

woes and prospects, during which Marjorie informed Mr. Errol that she had not known what made her cousin's cheeks so red when looking on Eugene's prayer-book. Now she knew; it was Durham mustard that stings. There must have been some in the book. The victim of these remarks looked severely at the culprit, but all in vain; she was not to be suppressed with a frown. She remarked that Saul had a hymn-book that made you sneeze, and she asked him why, and he said it was the snuff.

"What did Eugene put mustard in his prayer-book for?"

"Mr. Coristine didna say he put mustard in his bookie, Marjorie," said the minister; "he said that Mr. Perrowne put mustard in his sermon, because it was so fiery."

"I don't like mustard sermons; I like stories."

"Aye, we all like them, when they're good stories and well told, but it's no easy work getting good stories. That was the way our Saviour taught the people, and you couldna get a higher example."

"Why have we hardly any of that kind of teaching now?" asked Miss Carmichael.

"Because the preachers are afraid for one thing, and lazy, for another. They're afraid of the most ignorant folk in their congregation, who will be sure to charge them with childishness and a contempt for the intellect of their people. Then, it takes very wide and varied reading to discover suitable stories that will point a Scripture moral."

"You seem to be on gude solid releeigious ground doon there, meenister," interrupted the master of the house; "but Miss Du Plessis and Mrs. Carmichael here are just corruptin' the minds o' Maister Wilkinson and Maister Nash wi' the maist un-Sawbath like havers I ever hard at an elder's table. We had better rise, gudewife!"

Shortly after the company returned to the parlour, Mr. Errol signified that he must take his departure for the Lake Settlement, where his second congregation was. At this Mr. Nash pricked up his ears, and said he would saddle his horse and ride over with him. "Na, na!" cried the Squire, "he'll no ride the day; I'll just get the waggon oot, and drive ye baith there and back." Orders were given through Tryphosa, a comely, red-cheeked damsel, who appeared in a few minutes to say that Timotheus was at the gate. All went out to see the trio off, and there, sure enough, was Timotheus of Peskiwanchow holding the restive horses. It transpired that Carruthers, having lost his house servant through the latter's misconduct, had commissioned his sister to find him a substitute, and Marjorie's interest in Timotheus had resulted in his being chosen to fill the vacant situation. He grinned his pleased recognition of the two pedestrians, who bravely withstood all the temptations to get into the waggon and visit the Lake Settlement. When the waggon departed, Mrs. Carruthers went to her children, taking Marjorie with her, and Mrs. Carmichael went upstairs for a read of a religious paper and a nap. The young ladies and the tourists were the sole occupants of the sitting-room. The lawyer went over to Miss Du Plessis, and left his friend perforce to talk to Miss Carmichael.

"I hear, Miss Du Plessis, that you own a farm and valuable mineral land," said Coristine.

"Did Messrs. Tylor, Woodruff and White give you that information?" she asked in return.

"No, indeed; do you know my firm?"

"Very well, seeing I have been two years in Mr. Tylor's office."

"Two years in Tylor's office, and me not know it?"

"You do not seem to take much interest in feminine stenographers and typewriters."

"No, I don't, that's a fact; but if I had known that it was you who were one, it would have been a different thing."

"Now, Mr. Coristine, please make no compliments of doubtful sincerity."

"I never was more sincere in my life. But you haven't answered me about the land."

"Well, I will answer you; I have no farm or valuable minerals, but my father left me two hundred acres of water and wild land near what's called the Lake Settlement, which he bought when Honoria married Mr. Carruthers and took up her residence here."

"Do you know if the taxes are paid on your land?"

"No; I was not aware that wild land and water could be taxed."

"Taxed is it? You don't know these municipalities. If you had a little island in your name, no bigger than this room, they'd tax you for it, and make you pay school rate, and do statute labour beside, though there wasn't a school or a road within ten miles of it. For downright jewing and most unjustifiable extortion on non-residents, commend me to a township council. You'll be sold out by the sheriff of the county, sure as eggs, and the Grinstun man 'll buy your property for the arrears of taxes."

"Whatever shall I do, Mr. Coristine?" asked the alarmed young lady; "I do not wish to lose my father's gift through negligence."

"You should have taken advice from the junior member of Tylor, Woodruff and White," replied the lawyer, with a peculiar smile; "but the Grinstun man has bagged your estate."

"Oh, do not say that, Mr. Coristine. Tell me, what shall I do? And who is the man you mean?"

"The man I mean is the one that met you when you came here to dinner. He is going to quarry in your farm for grindstones, and make his fortune. But, as he wants yourself into the bargain, I imagine he can't get the land without you, so that somebody must have paid the taxes."

"Then it is the little wretch Marjorie told me of, the cruel creature who kicked a poor dog?"

"The very same; he is the Grinstun man. I've got a poem on him I'll read you some day."

"That will be delightful; I am very fond of good poetry."

"Wilks says it isn't good poetry; but any man that grovels over Wordsworth, with a tear in the old man's eye, is a poor judge."

"I admire Wordsworth, Mr. Coristine, and am afraid that you are not in earnest about poetry. To me it is like life, a very serious thing. But, tell me, do you think the land is safe?"

"Oh yes; I wrote to one of the salaried juniors, giving him instructions to look after it, just as soon as I heard what Grinstuns had his eye on."

"Mr. Coristine! How shall I ever thank you for your kindness, you, of all men, who profess to treat us workers for our living as positive nonentities?"

"By forgetting the past, Miss Du Plessis, and allowing me the honour of your acquaintance in future. By-the-by, as you admire Wordsworth, and good poetry, and airnest, serious men, I'll just go and send Wilks to you. I have a word for Miss Carmichael. Is she constructed on the same poetic principles as yourself?"

"Go away then, farceur! No; Marjorie is inclined to frivolity."

With a wave of her fan, she dismissed the lawyer, who began to think lady stenographers and typewriters a class worthy of platonic attention. "Short hand!" he muttered to himself; "hers is rather a long one and pretty, and she is a favourable type of her kind, but I'm afraid a pun would make her faint, when Wilks would certainly call me out and shoot me dead with his revolver."

"Wilks, my boy," said Coristine aloud, when he reached the stiff chair in which the dominie sat erect, facing Miss Carmichael on a lounge at safe distance; "Miss Du Plessis would like to hear you discuss Wordsworth and other Sunday poets. She doesn't seem to care about hearing my composition on the Grinstun man."

The dominie eagerly but properly arose, answering: "Miss Du Plessis does too much honour to my humble poetic judgment, and, in regard to your doggrel, shows her rare good sense." He then walked across the room to the object of his laudation, and, taking Coristine's vacated chair, remarked that few poets preach a sermon so simply and beautifully as the author of "The Excursion." Would Miss Du Plessis allow him to bring down his pocket volume of the Rydal bard? Miss Du Plessis would be charmed; so the schoolmaster withdrew, and soon reappeared with the book all unconsciously open at "She was a phantom of delight." With guilty eyes, he closed it, and, turning over the pages, stopped at the fifth book of "The Excursion," announcing its subject, "The Pastor." It was now the lady's turn to be uncomfortable, with the suggestion of Mr. Perrowne. The lawyer, whose back had been turned to the poetic pair, looked unutterable things at Miss Carmichael, who, not knowing to what extreme of the ludicrous her companion might lead her, suggested a visit to the garden, if Mr. Coristine did not think it too warm. "It's the very thing for me," answered the lawyer, as they arose together and proceeded to the French windows opening upon the verandah; "it's like 'Come into the garden, Maud.'" They were outside by this time, and Miss Carmichael, lifting a warning finger, said: "Mr. Coristine, I am a school teacher, and am going to take you in hand as a naughty boy; you know that is not for Sunday, don't you now?"

"If it was only another name that begins with the same letter," replied the incorrigible Irishman, "I'd say the line would be good for any day of the week in fine weather; but I'm more than willing to go to school again."

"Sometimes," said the schoolteacher quietly, "sometimes the word 'garden' makes me sad. Papa had a great deal of trouble. He lost all his children but me, and almost all his property, and he had quarrelled with his relations in Scotland, or they had quarrelled with him; so that he was, in spite of his public life, a lonely, afflicted man. When he was dying, he repeated part of a hymn, and the refrain was 'The Garden of Gethsemane.'"

"Ah, Miss Carmichael, dear, forgive me, the stupid, blundering idiot that I am, to go and vex your tender heart with my silly nonsense. I'm ashamed, and could cry to think of it."

"I will forgive you, Mr. Coristine," she replied, recovering from her serious fit, and looking at the victim in a way that blended amusement with imperiousness: "I will forgive you this once, if you promise future good behaviour."

An impulse came over the lawyer to shake Miss Carmichael's hand, but she made him no shadow of an excuse for so doing. It was plain that the mutual confidences of the girls, which embraced, using the word in a mere logical sense, their year long distant acquaintance with the transformed pedestrians, had given maturity to the closer and more pleasant acquaintance of the day. Little Marjorie's appropriation of the lawyer as her Eugene added another ripening element to its growth; so that the two garden explorers felt none of the stiffness and uncertainty of a first introduction. What Miss Carmichael's thoughts were she only could tell, but she knew that the impetuous and affectionate Coristine required the merest trifle of encouragement to change the steady decorous tide of advancing knowledge and respect into an abruptly awkward cataract, threatening the rupture of pleasant relations or the loss of self-respect. She would have preferred

talking with Wilkinson, as a check upon the fervour of his friend; but, although she laughed at the dominie's culpable ignorance of her city existence, in her secret soul it piqued her not a little. No; she would rather take refuge with the clergy, Mr. Errol or Mr. Perrowne.

(To be continued.)

IN MEMORY OF WALT WHITMAN.

"Rude am I in my speech."—Othello.

O "good grey poet," thou wert born too soon,
In the dim morn ere yet the mists were gone;
Thy time had been the glare and blaze of noon,
When, unobscured by clouds, the day-god shone.

Rude wert thou as the first-born of a race,
That, bursting from the bonds of form away,
Sings out its heart, not studious of the grace—
If grace it be—that makes the bard to-day.

Th' applause of those whose verses fashion moulds—
The poetaster's meed—thou couldst not gain;
But other hearts thy plainer language holds,
Whose homage far outweighs such tributes vain.

Yes, thou shalt live, for many a soul has grown
The better by thy life; this earth had been
The sadder but for thee, for thou hast known
To banish gloom and let the sunlight in.

All may not deem thee poet; thou canst claim
The simpler honour by our fathers given;
"Maker" thou wert, that good old Saxon name
Wins thee safe entrance into Shakespeare's heaven.
Toronto, April 27, 1892. A. F. CHAMBERLAIN.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL.

IN the magazines a few years ago were given the steps in the development of a composite picture, made by printing numerous negatives on the same card one after another, so that the final picture was a general average of all the pictures, and not exactly like any one of them. In many respects this composite picture, produced from a dozen different negatives, resembles the Ontario High School system, which has been evolving since the beginning of the century under a great variety of ideals of what a secondary school ought to be. Each of these ideals has left its impress on the school of to-day, and if one had the materials at hand, it would form an interesting study to trace the stages of growth and watch the effect of each new ideal as its influence began to be felt on the slowly developing composite notion of the place and power of the high school.

In the first stage it was a photograph of the Scotch parochial school with one master, who was trusted to supply all the teaching his pupils received. The original school, founded by Knox, had rendered signal service beyond the sea, and had brought the average education of the Scotch nation a good way above the average in England, and even in Ireland, the earliest British home of education. Under the code of the present day the Scotch parochial school no longer exists, but it has left its mark upon Scotland and Scotchmen for all time to come. The course was not over-burdened with numerous studies, seeing that Latin, Greek, a little English and a little mathematics were almost the only subjects attempted; but the teacher had received a fairly liberal education, and was not unfrequently a university graduate of some ability and much enthusiasm and moral earnestness, and it was customary to retain his services for many years in the same parish. From Scottish biography and story, from Hugh Miller, Dr. McCosh, Sir Walter Scott and other sources, we have some graphic descriptions, and we are thus enabled to get glimpses of the whole internal economy of these schools as they existed for over two hundred years. In Ontario a few schools very similar to these were the original stock from which our present highly-organized and well-equipped system of secondary schools have been slowly developed. From the early history of the colony we have records of the quality and the quantity of the work they accomplished at Cornwall, Kingston, Toronto and Niagara; and from the writings of Dr. Scadding, the biography of Bishop Strachan and others might be collected a tolerably complete history of these first grammar schools, their teachers and their distinguished pupils.

In 1828 the English ideal of a secondary school was transplanted to Toronto when the Royal Grammar School was founded, which has evolved into the present Upper Canada College in its new quarters, with a new lease of life, seemingly as vigorous as in its earliest prime. The whole history of the evolution of this school, from the days of Edward VI., or some centuries earlier, would carry us too far afield for present purposes. It forms a very interesting chapter in the history of education, as may be seen from such books as "Our Public Schools" (Kegan, Paul and Company, London, 1881); but as the English ideal has influenced only indirectly the general trend of secondary education in this Province, and has not succeeded in multiplying itself on our soil, we may leave it with casual mention as one of the minor agencies that assisted somewhat in the development of our system, ser-

ving to modify, in a certain measure, the Scotch ideal, with which we set out. It served as a model in several respects; it was placed in a better position as regards endowment; it employed a larger staff of teachers; it proved the advantage of a division of labour; its course of study was enlarged; but the classical ideal predominated, modern languages, science and English being held subordinate to Latin prose, Latin and Greek translation, and Greek and Roman history. For many years it was by all odds the best school in Canada, and served as a standard to which the poorly-supported grammar schools might strive to approximate but with little hope of actually reaching, since they were left without adequate funds to furnish proper equipment either in buildings or in qualified teachers.

Until 1845 or 1850, or even 1860, the grammar schools appear to have remained stationary, or nearly so, but the materials for making a proper estimate of their work are not easily found. The Reports of Dr. Ryerson from 1847 and a few references in contemporary writings seem to be about all the materials at present accessible, and these are not very satisfactory. This much is, however, pretty certain; they increased in number very slowly; they received very meagre support from the public funds; there was little or no supervision of their work; the legal qualifications of the teachers were placed very low, and their salaries were on a scale even lower than their qualifications. The natural consequences were that few young men of ability remained grammar school masters longer than was necessary to fit themselves for some better paid profession, and that aged clergymen undertook the charge of some of these schools as a means of adding to their superannuation allowances. A few excellent masters full of zeal and skill did their work admirably for ridiculously low salaries. There were few restrictions in those days, and each master was able to make or mar his school according to his taste, temperament, training and constitutional predilection. Consequently, a great variety of ideals and methods prevailed, and as great a diversity in text-books. Almost the only common bond among these isolated schools was the university matriculation, to which only a very small number of pupils went up, and at the different colleges different standards were set up, and each standard was, moreover, quite elastic, so that on the whole nothing resembling uniformity could be expected from the grammar schools, and practically there was none.

When Dr. Ryerson made his tours of inspection and observation in New England, Britain and Germany, he returned to his native land strongly impressed with the Prussian ideal of secondary as well as primary schools, and after a few years devoted to the public schools he made some attempts to improve the grammar schools; but he never seems to have thrown the same enthusiasm into this branch of his work as he did into the founding of the free common school system. It would be interesting to conjecture what would have been the outcome of his labours if he had attacked his educational problem from the other end first, and had begun by establishing thoroughly organized county grammar schools before he proceeded to create the log school-house in every section. This would have been a repetition of the English solution, and on the whole we may be thankful that he copied largely from the example of the Scottish and the New England communities. It is evident that in his ideal secondary school the classical model predominated, though he owed little himself to classical education; for we find before the close of his superintendency that the grammar schools were graded into two classes, viz., high schools and collegiate institutes, and that the higher class required to have a minimum of four masters and an average of sixty boys studying Latin, girls not being considered worth counting.

The appointment of one, then two, and finally three, inspectors took place during those years, and about 1870, or a little later, another transatlantic ideal was imported and foisted to the top of its bent for some seven or ten years. This was the famous English idea of "Payment by results," under which the English schools still groan, and which has driven English teachers into organized revolt. In Ontario an examination was established for admission to high schools, which has indirectly proved a stimulus to the public schools, though it has tended to narrow the scope of the public school course in the higher classes, attention being concentrated on the few subjects required for this entrance examination.

Shortly after, the famous "Intermediate Examination" was established in the high schools, to determine the "Results" of the school work, and to form the basis for "Payment." The examination in itself was beneficial, but the method of using the results was a piece of medieval clumsiness. Upon the success of the pupils at a written examination held twice a year was made to depend the amount of the Government grant to the school to the extent of \$20 to \$30 a head. In other words a money premium was placed on skilful cramming, and as might easily have been foreseen, the "crammer" immediately came into demand, while the conscientious educator found his occupation gone. The worst artifices of the old English "poll coach" were deliberately subsidized, and skilful crammers found ways and means without number of forcing their pupils through these examinations for mercenary ends, often to the ruin of their pupils' health and the serious detriment of their own. Really good and intelligent teachers refused to bow the knee to the golden calf set up, and as a consequence some of the best men in

the high schools lost their situations and others retired in disgust. We had all the evils that still afflict the English schools, in their full intensity; but fortunately the *reductio ad absurdum* was worked out here in a single decade. The Intermediate was held only once a year, and shortly afterwards the vicious principle of payment by the results of a paper examination alone was finally abandoned. But it has left its mark on our schools, and the scar will not soon be obliterated. Whatever may be said of the present system of making the grant depend on a number of factors, it is certainly more rational to grade the schools in proportion to the quality of the teaching than in proportion to the quantity of it.

The last chapter in the development of our high schools is one of great interest in many respects, not the least of which are their wonderful increase in number, equipment and attendance. Between 1877 and 1890 the number has gone up from 104 to 120, and there is no sign that the number will not reach 150 before the end of the century. The expenditure has increased from \$343,710 to \$627,208, and the attendance from 9,229 to 19,395 during the same period, in the face of an almost stationary increase of population. The discussion of these remarkable results would make this article too long; but it is evident that the Ontario High School has passed its embryonic stages and that it has come to stay. Whatever further ideals may in the future be impressed upon it by legislation or by departmental regulations, its general features will not be very seriously affected, not more than the composite photograph after the twentieth or thirtieth imprint. We have got rid of some of the bad results of mixed ideals and are now slowly but surely advancing to the development of original notions suited to our present needs. There are doubtless numerous defects and inconsistencies that require to be pointed out and removed, but the year 1900 will, all being well, find Ontario with one of the best systems of secondary schools that has yet been devised and put into active operation. C. C.

PARIS LETTER.

THE French Derby realized all expectations. The run to Chantilly and back was splendid, and being three frs. cheaper than last year, attracted some extra thousands of citizens, who cared very little about the favourite, but a great deal about the forest and fields. The day was not grilling, although hot; the race-course was as springy as frozen asphaltum and tried the steel muscles of the winner. Paris contributed 35,000 spectators, and excursion trains poured in their thousands from other cardinal points. English visitors for Paris broke the journey at Amiens, took the local train to Chantilly, did the Derby, and resumed rail, reaching the capital in time for dinner. The gate money amounted to 76,000 frs.; the licensed betting stalls took 1,650,000 frs., of which 750,000 frs. were planked down on the Derby heat proper.

The two favourites were Chêne-Royal, and Fra Angelico, both the property of Baron de Schickler; the second, however, was the better horse, but the Baron decided to allow Royal Oak to win the blue ribbon, if not likely to be out-distanced by a rival stable. The prize was 75,000 frs., over a course of 2,640 yards, and the run took two minutes and thirty-four seconds. The betting was two to one on the winner, who will appear with Fra Angelico in the contest for the Grand Prix. I have seen a larger fashionable attendance at the French Derby, and a better display of toilettes also. The Duc d'Aumale, who is on the high road to eighty, seemed delighted at the invasion of his property; Sir Robert Morier, English Ambassador at St. Petersburg, and his daughter were the Duke's honoured guests. Despite his burly form and robust mien Sir Robert wants a good rest. Prince Bismarck ought to ask him to Varzin. The colours of Baron de Schickler are white and pink; before he gained the prize, flower girls were selling bouquets of lily of the valley and pinks, the winner's colours; the country small boys offered wreaths of "oak" leaves for one sou each, a tribute quite apropos to "Chêne"-Royal. The most conspicuous fact about the day was the number of elderly women, fat, dowdy and unkempt, generally huxters, annuitant cooks and unstarving needle women, who patronized the Monaco booths. If they did not lose, they did not score heavy gains.

M. Sarcey, the eminent dramatic critic, has been at the Vienna International Theatrical and Music Exhibition, to report on the representations given by the picked troupe from the Comedie-Francaise. He eulogizes the theatre hours, seven till ten, which means, enjoying the spectacle on a light stomach, and permitting of an agreeable early supper and of rational bed hours. It is about ten o'clock when many Parisians enter theatres, just when the Viennese are going home. At Vienna, as at London, the artistes and the plays that gave most pleasure, were precisely the opposite of those admired at Paris, and with both foreign audiences, beauties and defects were quickly indicated. On reading between the lines, Scribe and Musset cut out Molière. A new stage star from Italy, Middle Duse, has burst on the public of Vienna; she arrived with a small company from Italy, hired a humble theatre, put no advertisements in the papers, published no puffs, and shut her door against all journalists. In the course of three days she was as famous as Byron after one night. She plays in comedy, melodrama, and tragedy with equal success, and her repertoire includes selections from the best productions of France and England. Her "Cleopatra" is

ranked finer than Sarah Bernhardt's; she produces, too, more "creeps" in the spectator by her extraordinary play of features and metallic vibrating voice. By a curious optical arrangement, the last scenes between Antony and Cleopatra unroll in darkness. There is also a great attraction at present in Vienna, suggested by the revival of the Bastille, its life and neighbourhood, at the 1889 Exhibition here. It represents the Haute-Marché of Vienna, in 1692, with all its manners and customs. The electric light is employed, but by a secret process is made to resemble the oil light of two centuries ago.

The sanitary condition of Paris keeps the population on the *qui vive*. The sudden outburst of heat and its continuance, aided by the official laying on of the poisonous Seine water, have had for natural result an epidemic of summer cholera, and that, damaged aliments and improperly prepared food augment. But its merciless first cousin, cholera nostras, is abroad; every year this form of cholera, the authorities admit, causes twenty deaths; during May, fourteen mortal cases have been certified to, so the season is not cheery. Scientists are trotting out all the hobbies respecting microbes, bacilli, etc.; the public takes not the slightest interest in these animalcule families, save to get rid of them. What have not Koch and Pasteur yet discovered? Professor Peter maintains that we breed our own microbes by inattention to food and cleanliness.

The French do not appear to be in any way enthusiastic over the announcement that their possessions in the Sahara have been looped to those of the Congo, with some kind of rocket extension towards Lake Tchad. The French indulge in a good deal of wilful but titillating hallucination on the subject of colonial expansion. Their day dream is, to have boundless tracts of territories, where every nation's trade would be locked out by China-wall tariffs save their own; whose populations would send orders for goods to the Mother Country by every post; where Frenchmen would not be required to peg a tent for life among the natives—save when holding a fat sinecure. They covet at once colonies as live as those of England, and as vast and as useless as those under Charles V. of Spain. But they know well they cannot have modern colonies because Frenchmen are the first to avoid their own possessions, and to emigrate to other countries. Why so? Senator Jules Simon and Professor Levasseur ought to explain. In presence of her dwindling population and the rabbit-like fecundity of the Germans and the Italians, an emigration drain from France might turn out a grave political mistake. Senator Simon points to Canada as an illustration of the colonizing success of France. But why has it stopped since 1789? Because the law of primogeniture having been abrogated, all children, whether virtuous or vicious, share alike the paternal wealth, so younger sons have not the stimulus for seeking their fortune abroad; they count on the small divide when papa departs, and take chance to supplement it by a starvation commercial or governmental clerkship.

Sir Edward Blount in recently opening a branch line to Mantes of the Great Western Railway said that for forty-one years he has been opening railways in France—a fact that ought to give M. Yves Guyot the fits. Sir Edward is over eighty, but full of brain and energy; fifty years ago, he once told me, he constructed the railway from Paris to Rouen; he is a British subject and the only foreigner that the law winks at presiding over a French company. He is one of the founders of the Jockey Club, and is connected with several banks and at the head of numerous industrial enterprises.

The Marchioness of Dufferin has given her first garden party, and which was a success as a matter of course. Though the afternoon was lowering and a few drops of dispersing rain fell, such did not affect the beauty and pleasure of the fête. The lawn, the finest in the capital (it is nearly eighty years since the sward has been broken up), was as green and refreshing-looking as eye could desire, while the feet sank voluptuously into the turf. Lady Dufferin received her numerous *invités*, the representatives of all that is distinguished in the world of distinction, with the attention and natural gracefulness of which she commands the secret, aided and successfully imitated by her daughters. Lord Dufferin had a pleasant word and welcome smile, as always, for every one. The ladies' toilettes were richly elegant, and marvels of tasteful simplicity. Bright coloured foulards predominated, and stripes, plaids, spot and flower designs, constituted the favourite patterns. Cherry and rose satin, grey and lilac, were also favourite materials, while white guipure was the patronized trimming. The Tzigane band executed the choicest morceaux of its rich repertoire. The well-laden and well-laid-out buffet had been installed in a large and airy dining-room overlooking the garden—a prudent meteorological arrangement. Mr. Austin Lee, the popular secretary of the Embassy, was the object of a demonstration of congratulations on the occasion of his recent marriage. He will be difficult to please if not satisfied with troops of friends, earnest well-wishers and sincere sympathizers.

M. Reinach in his collection of Edmond About's writings omits the following smart anecdote: Madame Alboni is very stout; About described the diva as "a nightingale piping out of a lump of fat." Next day Alboni sent him, by a marquess, a "goose quill" as a gift. About accepted it with a bland smile, adding: "I regret, monsieur, that Madame Alboni should have plucked you for my sake."

Z.

EXTREMISTS are seldom just.—Paley.

A TRIOLET.

SHE listened unto all I said,
And, sweetly smiling, answered, "Yes."
She blushed a lovely rosy red,
And listened unto all I said ;
With earnest pleas her ears were fed,
And giving me her lips to press,
She listened unto all I said,
And, sweetly smiling, whispered, "Yes."

Brandon, Man.

A. MELBOURNE THOMPSON.

THE RAMBLER.

WHAT do we actually understand by the term suburban? When I say that I took a walk through a suburban district the other evening I do not mean that I threaded the luxurious upper precincts of St. George St., or Madison Avenue, Kensington Crescent or N. Sherbourne St., but that I found myself in a far humbler and more obscure neighbourhood characterized by staring red brick, children at play in the streets, and general dismalness; never mind where the locality was; whether pink or green on the gorgeous new map issued by the *Mail*, or the Directory Co.—I forget which—whether east or west, north or south. As I observed the listless women at the windows, worn out after all-day application to sewing, shop-tending, housework or washing dishes, the tired men ready only for bed or at best the perusal of the *Telegram*, and the stuffy though respectable character of the houses, an unaccountable depression overcame me. Yet not altogether unaccountable perhaps, since Mr. Kipling has recorded sentiments of a similar nature in his letters from Vermont. The terrible flatness, dulness, mediocrity of the locality struck me very forcibly and I may even say, sadly. The dwellers in that suburb have absolutely no pleasures. They have no time for self-improvement. It would be cruellest irony to talk to them of books. Try twelve hours' steady labour in a house yourself and see if, when dark falls, you are ready for books and culture. Many of these women, dressmakers and dressmakers' apprentices, general servants, laundresses, shop girls, tailoresses, rise at six and work till half-past five, break off for a cup of tea and work again till bed-time. Many of the men, while apparently enjoying shorter hours, put so much more bodily strength into their work that at eight o'clock they are exhausted too. A labourer in the fields is better off—far; he has at least the breath of heaven, the waving wheat, the glint of a kingfisher's wing, the music of the blackcap. These people live at the extreme end of this large town. There is nothing for them to go out and see, except other streets as uninteresting and other workers as unenlightened. Even the Island does not greatly attract, for it is three or four miles distant and one is tired getting there and getting back. See them out on the lake, huddled together on one of the large steamers, and they do not look particularly happy. Like many other deflections, this deflection is partly racial. The Anglo-Saxon element does not permit them to be happy. Happiness is wanting, sadly, strangely wanting in this prosperous and spacious new land. Why, even a People's Palace would be something, and yet—to how many optimistic minds would this hint carry treasonous and heretical opinions of a most forbidding description. Yet hear one of these poor people speak. I recently asked an Old Country person how she liked it out here. "You make more money, I suppose?" Yes; she admitted she could make more money. "And what do you do with it?" That appeared to be the difficulty. There was, she said, so much more to be done with it. "In Ireland, I had my Sunday suit and the rest of the week I went in print, but here I have to go in the fashions." One keeps the countenance, listens, looks grave. "And you will stay now you are here, I suppose." She supposed so. But she referred pointedly to the disappointments she and her party felt when arriving here. "They talked in Ireland of the money as almost lying in the streets. I never saw it. I know we have to work here as well as there. It's cruel, the talk—of the gold we should find here, and it's thinking we are we'll get it without lifting a hand. Then there's little to see beyond the city streets."

Given, as the *Spectator* says, a nation that does not drink wine, that is sober and cautious and conscientious and unimaginative, and you have the natural result of village life in Vermont, and it may be added town or suburban life in Canada. We can neither emulate the Sicilian nor the Franco-Canadian. We do not understand fêtes and pageants. If we get rich, we manage to amuse ourselves tolerably well, and only tolerably well; but if we remain poor, we have not the wit to become our own jig-makers, and cakes and ale have to be forever abandoned.

In fact, it seems to me that an older country, such as England, is the best place for the poor man. So long as his position in society is only low enough, he may manage to extract a certain amount of pleasure out of his surroundings. I could not seek to exalt the music-hall at the expense of the Baireuth Festival, but the former came to stay a number of years ago and nightly claims its open-mouthed grinning victims. Then go higher in the scale. Here is a young man of education, college taught if you like, who, though he forever remain obscure and unsuccessful in the walks of journalism or art, can yet enjoy his shilling seats at the best theatres in the world, can for

other shillings ramble among art treasures and books, can take trips into the country fraught with intense pleasure and instruction and interest. Better for such a one his European or English struggle, accompanied at least by glimpses of a life distant, varied, and better than his own, than the clerkship in the colonies under which his faculties dwindle and he becomes a mere toiler at a desk. But I am fully aware of the heresy I utter.

I have been so expectant of the slashing diatribes (I think "slashing diatribes" is, if not original, correct,) of my correspondent "Shining Light" that so far I have refrained from saying my customary words about School Closings. It is nice to be famous and delightful to be read, but still, one's duty to the country perforce makes one careful. I am not, however, going to say that I have also refrained from attending those peculiar forms of entertainment. Who would be so callous, so brutal, as to decline the "Bohemian Girl" arranged for two pianos and the "Tannhauser March" for four! Who could resist Anglicized renderings of Rossini arias and Verdi scenes given by a young person in pink cashmere and the most innocent of expressions? Who but must own the power and pathos of a Macaulay Lay, recited from memory (her teacher anxiously following in a book, behind the best drawing-room screen, two dollars and Japanese, at Eaton's, and conveniently disposed on the platform) by a young miss of tender years and small voice? Then the delightful crush, and the sitting on the stairs, and the smell of the coffee and the genial clergyman's well-worn speech, and the feminine clapping of hands, and all the mystery and charm of a late evening invasion of a "Ladies' School!" There is nothing else quite like it, and the worst of it is, it becomes an acquired taste, till lots of people, like the misguided creatures who swarm to weddings, scramble in like manner for invitations to that hilarious function, the School Closing. There is always a wag on these occasions; sometimes it is the clergyman and sometimes the French or German Professor. And I have long regarded the speeches, made by said clergyman or professor upon presentation of the prizes, gems in their way. The speaker is always so ready. The child is Dora Bright and the prize is "Maury"; for pre-eminence in geography of course. "I have here, Miss Dora, such a—such a—delightful book. I trust, I hope, nay, I am convinced that you will peruse it with the greatest eagerness and pleasure during the holidays. When you go to—ah—Mimico or to—ah—Oakville, or to the—Island, you will carry this—ah—charming work with you and appreciate all the more for having read it the wonders of the lakeshore, of the beach, of the—ah—country. Allow me, etc., etc." Needless to say how the face falls as furtively the pages are scanned, even though the child does not know that Maury is no longer an authority. Then, the literature and Latin prizes which fall to the same young person, giving an occasion indeed. "Language and Literature—essentially the young ladies' subjects. I am glad to see that the same fortunate and talented pupil takes both, hoping only that her companions will forgive her and extend the hand of reconciliation. This pupil's name is familiar, I see; Mary Jones, daughter, I presume, of my old friend, Judge Jones, whom I see in the audience. Miss Mary, I have very great pleasure in congratulating a worthy daughter of an eminent father, and presenting, etc., etc." Consternation of the Faculty, giggling among the pupils, wrath in the bosom of Mr. Justice Jones and his daughter Guinevere, who is the stupidest girl in the class of which Mary, the daughter of Baker Jones, is such an ornament.

Speaking of the uninteresting and somewhat tame nature of many transatlantic phases, I would draw attention to a little sketch in the *June Dom. Ill. Monthly*. When I say that I do not consider the story distinguished by literary skill I wish to say nothing invidious; the author may or may not be capable of better things. I refer only to the subject matter. Here is what, if we wish to be veracious and *Canadian*, we must depict. "McLarty's Kicking B" is true as Mr. Reid's "Mortgage" picture is true. Whether we like them or not, there they are and there they must remain, as approximate truths of Canadian life and scenery. But Mr. Reid chooses and places his colours too carefully. Artistic license, I suppose, permits him to mingle old gold, dull blue and olive green. In a Canadian farmhouse it would more likely be rose-pink, scarlet, apple-green and white patch-work quilts; an oilcloth table-cover and a mat of home construction, like one I once saw representing the Lion and Unicorn *et al.*, in primary colours upon a ground of old trouserings, gray, black and brown.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SCULPTURE.

To the Editor of THE WEEK:

SIR,—Please accept thanks for the publication in your last issue of my letter in reply to one of your correspondents. Immediately following this letter, in "Art Notes," I noticed an apology or amende. This is open to criticism, but it could not possibly interest the public to pursue the question, and the explanation is taken as it seems to be meant. Apart from this, there was one passage in my letter which, referring as it did, in a general sense, to the

nobility of sculpture and the ends and aims of the art, I should be glad to have corrected. My manuscript, probably, was to blame, for the substitution of the word *three* for *true*, which affected the sense of the passage. The sentence should have read thus: "The *true* functions of sculpture limit it to the treatment of lofty, dignified and elevating subjects, which it aims forever, humanly speaking, to perpetuate." With this as a text, it may not be inopportune to offer some reflections and observations upon sculpture. I am well aware that of late years there have been many conspicuous and amazing departures from the rule embodied in the above words, by those who consider themselves, and are considered by their admirers, prominent artist-sculptors; but I think that it must be admitted by all who have observed with intelligent interest, or studied with reverence, the acknowledged masterpieces of antique or more modern sculpture, that this is a rule and a principle of the art. Sculpture must be, in its aims, lofty, dignified and elevating, and, furthermore, it must be true. True, not necessarily in the sense of the closest realism in the portrayal of a subject, for the desired result may be weakened in this very way, but true in all profound and underlying essentials, and these essentials of truth, it is not paradoxical to say, are heightened and made manifest by a proper idealization. The power of idealization and discrimination in its use, constitutes art.

There have been in the Toronto press of late, some curious references to sculpture, and notably among them are the views of a writer, given about a week ago, in one of the daily papers. This writer, who may be a professional artist, says, in his article upon the O.S.A. exhibition: "For some reason or other the interest which Canadians take in sculpture is slight, and to the world at large sculpture is supposed to be the least attractive of arts: although the fact that the exhibits by sculptors in this year's salons exceed those of the painters, leaves the matter open to question." With no desire for "odious" comparisons, and certainly with no intention of depreciating painting—for a life long love and respect for this art prevents that—one may be allowed to take strong exceptions to the first two propositions which the writer quoted has advanced. Painting and the graphic arts, engravings, etchings, drawings, may be, 1st, grand, elevating, ennobling; 2nd, they may be at once beautiful and instructive, decorative and pleasing; 3rd, they may be humorous and diverting, while skilfully executed. All of these qualities undoubtedly have their uses and their charms. True sculpture, however, can only be the first, and it seems to be as much of an injustice to Toronto to say that sculpture is not cared for, as to say that there is no appreciation here for an oratorio. In music, opera may, indeed, be more popular, and comic opera may draw the largest crowds. But, is there no difference of value in the appreciation?

Every celebration of the Battle of Ridgeway attests the value of sculpture, even though the soldiers' monument in the Park may lay no claim to being a masterpiece. When, even here in Toronto, artists are every day using, and pupils studying from, plaster casts of statuary, how can it be said that the interest in sculpture is only slight? That it is utterly erroneous to say that "to the world at large sculpture is the least attractive of arts," is shown by the indisputable fact that throngs of visitors from all over the world are continuously viewing the masterpieces of sculpture in the museums, galleries and public places in Europe, while in the New World the greatest solicitude is shown for such acquisitions, and the collections in a number of places on this continent are becoming every day more important. The question as to the correctness of these propositions seems to have arisen in the writer's own mind, because he would seem to speak "by the book," of "the fact that the exhibits by the sculptors in this year's salons exceed those of the painters." It is to be presumed that he refers especially to the Paris salon, and he may have scanned its catalogue. The statement is startling, but simply incredible. Even with the time-honoured restrictions upon the art of sculpture removed, its traditions ignored and its canons subverted, there could not be found subjects for such an avalanche of works, and if the subjects were found there would not be time for them to be executed. I have not seen the Royal Academy catalogue, but it is safe to say that there there has not been displayed *one piece of sculpture* to fifty paintings. If the writer referred to has looked into the matter at all, there must have been a most remarkable (numerically) display of sculpture at the Paris salon. If one-third in number only to the paintings, it would be prodigious. The information is startling, for the result would be simply and inevitably a debasement and degradation of sculpture. Its deliberate dethronement, in France at least, from the lofty position achieved by the ancients, upheld by the great Italian masters, and transmitted to modern times by lesser but illustrious men. It would indeed be like another revolution if, through this French school and the national characteristics of audacity and irreverence, a grand and dignified art should be degraded to the commonplace and worse. It would verily be like desecrating a sanctuary.

The influence of Paris upon art is well known. Whether on the whole it is for the good or evil of painting, let the painters determine. As to sculpture it is not possible to conceive such an efflorescence as has been above suggested, but it is very reasonable indeed to suppose that the general tendency of the French schools of sculpture is to the grievous deterioration from high ideals. No people of modern times, perhaps no people of any time, have produced as many sculptors as the French. They are alert,

quickwitted, and adroit at imitation. They have produced undoubtedly a host of clever modellers, so that now from all over the world *articles de Paris* are sought. They have produced much more than this, worthy, enthusiastic and conscientious sculptors, who have successfully wrought out their own ideals to their highest limit, and whose works deserve and receive admiration. But, with all this willingly conceded, have they attained the highest place; has France ever given to the world one preëminent sculptor? In the annals of a notable art, there are names which any ordinarily educated person would blush not to know. Is any one of these French? If the measure of the old Greeks is unattainable, and that of Michael Angelo and the Italian masters beyond reach, where and when can they show a Thorwaldsen or a Canova? And if this be true that no preëminent French sculptor has ever arisen, how can the fact be accounted for? The answer seems only to be found by a consideration of the national character and the genius of the people. Undoubtedly there is an affinity between literature and art, and what the French are in literature, so it may be assumed they are in the most serious branch of art. For exemplification: Some five years ago the *Pall Mall Gazette* publicly claimed that forty literary Englishmen could be pitted against the forty Immortals of the French Academy. A French journalist, astounded, went to M. Taine as the chief authority on English literature, to get the list condemned. To his amazement and disgust, the claim of the *Pall Mall Gazette* was sustained, and the interview was thus concluded by the eminent critic: "Doubtless we are superior in one branch of letters, in light and frivolous literature. There we are the masters, but that is not the kind that will ever give us the superiority. And in other branches, in poetry, history, philosophy and science, we are inferior." M. Taine had said: "We have far too great a belief that we are the first *littérateurs* in the world," and so it may be said that the French have far too great a belief that they are first in the world in art. With all the multitudes that have practised it, certainly they have not been first in this severe and serious, albeit beautiful, art of sculpture. The French have been pithily characterized as "a sceptical people who could produce a Voltaire, but never have produced a Shakespeare," and so it may be said that to-day they can present a Frémiet, but never have given a Thorwaldsen to the world.

GILBERT R. FRITH.

Toronto, June 14, 1892.

MY GIFT.

If I could catch the swift elusive breeze,
Flitting away with stolen, sweet perfumes
Of violets and anemones, and all the blooms,
That freight the snowy boughs of orchard trees.

If I could learn the strain of all the rills,
That dance and dimple o'er their rocky glades,
And songs of mating birds, in ferny shades,
With whisperings of the leaves on wooded hills.

If I could gather ripples from the grass,
That overflows the slopes to shimmering tops,
And prison lights and shades, in vale and copse,
And blue ethereal mists, of mountain pass,

With one lush, perfect day of June I'd send,
Warm, soft, impalpable, and love should be,
The messenger, that bore the gift from me,
And left it in the study of my friend.

And you would find your dull room glorified,
And reaching out to joyous summer skies,
My recompense would be, your glad surprise,
A subtle, passing thought of me beside.

EMMA PLAYTER SEABURY.

ART NOTES.

MR. GEORGE BRUENECH, the well-known Toronto artist, is paying his old home a visit. Mr. Bruenech has been spending several months in different cities in the States—such as Detroit, Cleveland and Washington. We are glad to know that though his pictures have sold successfully in the States, he does not intend to leave Canada, but purposes spending part of the year here and part in the States. His Muskoka scenes met with especial favour, and many people at once identified the localities depicted. A very fine water-colour by Mr. Bruenech, perhaps the finest that has yet appeared from his brush, may be seen from the window of James Bain and Son, booksellers, King Street, Toronto. The subject is "The North Cape, Norway." It may interest our readers to know that the obliging Norwegian captain stayed his steamer in the rolling swell which is so well depicted, for an hour and a-half, and whilst lashed to the railing with two sailors holding his material, the artist laid the foundation of his striking and successful picture. The billowy sea, the bluff cape, the approaching steamer and the *tout ensemble* are admirable.

MESSRS. LOWELL, of Boston, U.S.A., have published a large steel engraving of Mr. Paul G. Wickson's picture of Antevool, a celebrated Detroit race horse. It is said that the horse is a very handsome animal, and that the scene

of the picture is a road in Claireview Park, on the shore of the beautiful Lake St. Claire. Though we have seen neither the painting nor the engraving we are assured that both are of excellent workmanship.

SPEAKING of the way Andrew Lang and others view pictures, the *Magazine of Art* says: "In strong contrast with the meteoric movements of these busy editors is the sober pace of the critics. But even here there are exceptions. Mr. Andrew Lang, for example, who to all appearance merely saunters leisurely around the rooms, and then, after resting languidly for a few minutes, disappears with seemingly but a very incomplete notion of the exhibition. But read his brilliant article in the next Saturday's *Daily News* (for the Press is requested to publish nothing about the exhibition till after the private view), and after seeing how accurate and all-embracing a note he has taken of it all, you will wonder how it was done. Mr. Humphry Ward, even though he bears, Atlas-like, upon his shoulders the weight of the *Times*, does not grudge himself a few minutes' relaxation in conversation with his brother and sister critics. Of the latter, indeed, as I have already hinted, there are legion; but among them are a few who are an honour to their craft. Mrs. Beavington Atkinson, for many years connected with the *Portfolio*; Miss Dyer, the regular representative, except at the Academy, of the *Daily News*; Miss Rosa Gill, of the *Exchange and Mart*, whose intelligent criticisms and unusual knowledge and appreciation of the technical qualities of engravings as well as of pictures make her, it must in fairness be confessed, notable among the critics "of any sex"; Lady Colin Campbell, sometime amateur-painter, and now the critic for the *World*; Mrs. Whitley, of the *Lady's Pictorial*; Mrs. Humphrey, of the *Evening News*; and, especially, Miss Hepworth Dixon—these are of the best and most deservedly known of the lady-writers."

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

POLAND had a field-day recently at Paris at a chamber-music concert; the programme was almost to an item made up of national music, interpreted appropriately by two Polish executants, MM. Stojowski and Gorski. The critics single out for special praise a new sonata for piano-forte and violin, by Zeleski, Director of the Conservatoire of Cracow.

ACCORDING to the American papers, Mr. Jerome Hopkins is delivering a lecture entitled "Musical Quacks classified." His discourse is a free exposure of some of our speculative institutions which attracted the lecturer's attention when over here. Some of our prominent charlatans and sham degree holders are delineated with a power that would hardly be appreciated by the gentleman thus individualized and photographed for edification.

HER Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, the scene of many operatic glories and musical triumphs, will soon be numbered with the things of the past. The furniture and fittings have been brought to the hammer. Amongst the items were the elaborately ornamental proscenium, surmounted by the Royal Arms, sold for two guineas, and the drop-scene painted by Telbin, and produced at a cost of £2,000, knocked down for £6 15s! *Sic Transit gloria mundi*. A first-class hotel is to be built on the once classic site.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

ACROSS THE PLAINS, WITH OTHER MEMORIES AND ESSAYS. By Robert Louis Stevenson. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Hart and Company. 1892.

It is rather late in the day to criticize Robert Louis Stevenson, a name to conjure with in the realm of present day English Literature. Mr. Sidney Colvin, in a graceful prefatory letter to the author, says so very truly, "it is your prose the public wish to read, not mine." And though the sheaves of golden prose gathered together in this volume for the delectation of those who will delight to feast on them, have singly fed the literary public in days past, from the columns of *Fraser's*, *Longmans'*, the *Magazine of Art*, and *Scribner's*, they are here made the more welcome by juxtaposition. It may be strange, but it is nevertheless true, that a bundle of old essays by Stevenson, made into a new volume by fresh paper, print and binding, is infinitely more attractive to thousands of the lovers of letters than the latest book of many a well-known author. The secret is not far afield. It lies in the genius of the man, in the magic of his style, in the surpassing beauty of his language, and his weird mastery over his subject matter. Let the reader who doubts, and who cares to do it, test the matter by contrasting any one of the twelve essays in this volume from the first "Across the Plains" to the last "A Christmas Sermon,"—we make no reserve—with an essay by any well-known writer on a somewhat similar subject, and he will none the less, we venture to say, appreciate Robert Louis Stevenson.

CYCLOPEDIA OF HISTORY. In two Volumes. New York: John B. Alden. 1892.

The publisher of this clear, compact and concise work announces that it is "though complete in itself, yet a department in Alden's Dictionary Cyclopaedia." A very serviceable work is comprised in these two volumes of about 1,000 very closely printed pages; it is in keeping

with the character of those cheap, popular yet very useful publications issued by the same publisher, many of which have from time to time been noticed in these columns. The first volume deals with countries comprised between the letters A and G, beginning with "Abyssinia," and ending with "Guiana." The second volume begins with "Hanover" and ends with "Zululand." Though the United States are reserved for a separate volume, twenty-one pages are given to a notice of the continent of "America." Each country is noticed under suitable headings, and a reasonable effort has been made to deal in just proportion with each. We find under the sub-heading "America, British," the following admission: "Besides touching, actually or virtually, every considerable power of the continent, England, in the new world as in the old, commands nearly every turning-point in navigation and commerce." Under "Brazil" we find that events are traced to the death of Dom Pedro II., at the end of last year, the fall of Fonseca and the rise of Peixotto; and the candid admission is made: "So far the experience of the Republic has contrasted not wholly well with the unselfish and democratic rule of Dom Pedro." "Canada" receives twelve pages and is not unfairly dealt with. The chief objection to the work is the smallness of the print, which we take to be "brevier," but used as a work of reference this objection should not be pressed, especially in view of the trifling cost of so much important and useful information.

TALES AND LEGENDS OF NATIONAL ORIGIN OR WIDELY CURRENT IN ENGLAND FROM EARLY TIMES. With critical Introductions by W. Carew Hazlitt. London: Swan, Sonnenschein and Company; New York: Macmillan and Company; Toronto: Williamson and Company.

Mr. Hazlitt has gathered together between the same covers in prose version a representative number of the old legendary tales which have for centuries floated in poetic or other form along the margin of the stream of English literature. It may fairly be said that among the first literary treasures of the English boy or girl gathered on that tempting shore are the tale of "Fortunatus" of the "wishing hat"; the story of the splendid archer "Robin Hood," or the narrative of famous "Dick Whittington," four times mayor of London. Though these and kindred tales are mingled with the brightest recollections of childhood in the form in which they were then familiar, they nevertheless linger with us in later years and kindle the imagination of each new generation as they still please the failing fancy of the old. The compiler has with no inconsiderable labour sought to trace each story here presented to its source; to separate the wheat from the chaff, or in other words to give the authentic version as far as possible. Each of the tales is preceded by a critical note indicating the sources of authority; the various readings, and views of other compilers; and in fact supplying in large measure to the elder reader such information on the subject as he may often have longed for in vain. The language used in the tales is an adaptation of the quaintness and character of the old narrative, to the demands of the present day, and it is a by no means unsuccessful one. Some readers may object to the fine old ballads "Chevy Chase," and the "Battle of Otterburn" being rendered into prose, but to us the attempt is justified by the end attained in "a prose rendering true to the substance and sense." The contents of the volume are divided under "Supernatural Legends," of which there are ten; "Feudal and Forest Legends" include six; of "Romantic Legends" we have twelve; and "Descriptive and Humorous Legends" number seven. Mr. Hazlitt's high bibliographical reputation gives tone and character to anything that comes from his hand. This volume is no exception to the rule. It is beautifully printed, in bold type, on superior paper; is tastefully bound, and provides 486 pages of fascinating reading for young or old.

THE QUEBEC ACT, 1774. By Gerald E. Hart. Limited Edition. Montreal. 1891.

This pamphlet embodies a paper read by its author before the Society for Historical Studies in Montreal, November, 1890. In it Mr. Hart gives a clear and concise view of the state of affairs in Canada prior to the passing of this memorable enactment, during the regimes of Governor Murray, Lt.-Col. Irving and of Sir Guy Carleton respectively, and immediately subsequent thereto. His comments on the character of the Governors of those early days and the conduct of the people whom they ruled are keen and incisive. It will surprise many to read how highly the French-Canadian peasantry valued the new liberties and privileges accorded them by British rule. In the words of the author: "Fifteen years of liberty outweighed one hundred and fifty years of the former religious and military dominancy." He further says: "Evidently a plebiscite would have altered the destiny of Canada, for an overwhelming majority would have declared in favour of the adoption of the whole body of English customs and laws, and the English language would in a generation or two have followed, as has actually taken place in Louisiana, the sister French colony of America." It is anomalous that a people of foreign origin and language should form such a large portion of the population of a great British Dominion. The incompetency, ignorance and short-sightedness of our early rulers are blame-worthy. The result has in many respects been objectionable. But why bemoan the errors of the past? Are not

the French-Canadians a spirited and gallant race? Did not many of their forefathers as well as ours fall fighting side by side in defence of British right and British rule for Canada? Have not Canadian statesmen of French, alike with those of British blood, framed our laws and shaped the destinies of our common country? Does not the genius and the grace of the Gallic mind and fancy embellish and enrich our country's letters? Are French-Canadians to be denied the language and traditions which are theirs by birth and which have been ratified by British law? And why should their religion subject them to detraction? Is it not shared with them by millions of men of British blood and ancestry, in the Mother Land and throughout the broad Empire of our Queen? Of men whose fathers' blood has flowed like water in defence of British rule and might. Is not the better way to deem these men, as they are by right, our true and lawful brothers; their language and traditions a noble part of one common national heritage; and to join heart and hand with them in building up our Canada, our common country and home? This pamphlet presents a vivid picture of our people and policy in those early days, and it contains impressions of historic medals and stamps; signatures to one important historical petition; a letter of the period; and extracts from the debate in the House of Commons at time of passing the Quebec Bill.

DR. AMORY H. BRADFORD has an able opening article entitled "Morality: What is Better?" in the *Andover* for June. Miss Agnes Maule Machar, so well known as "Fidelis," contributes an appreciative sketch under the heading, "Leaders of Widening Christian Life and Thought," of John McLeod Campbell, the friend of Thomas Erskine. The article is marked by the broad tolerance, the purity of spirit and the fine literary touch which characterize Miss Machar's work. The remaining articles of the number are all good reading; especially interesting is Dr. F. G. Moore's on "The Greek Question at Cambridge."

"THE Woman's Suffrage Question" opens the *June Contemporary* with three articles in appreciation by Millicent Garret Fawcett, the Rt. Hon. L. H. Courtney, M.P., and Sarah M. Sheldon Amos, respectively. An oft-recurring question is dealt with by G. Pitt Lewis, Q.C., M.P., under the caption, "Forms of Home Rule." A scholarly article, full of a fine antique flavour, yet of very modern style, is that entitled "Lacedaemon," from the pen of Walter Pater. "Trace" heads a strange narrative of animal magnetism, by J. M. Soames. "The Fate of the East," by an Old Resident, is suggestive reading. The Bishop of Colchester continues his philippic against Professor Driver on the Old Testament question.

THE *Library Review*, edited by Kington Parkes and published by Hutchison and Company, London, England, is a neat and attractive periodical. Its name indicates its character. The leading article in the June number is descriptive of the famous Borghese Library, and is accompanied by illustrations of the covers of some of its rare volumes. J. Stanley Little concludes his contribution on "Aspects and Tendencies of Current Fiction." The remaining articles are all of a literary character. At the end of the number there is a great deal of useful information about books, and a library calendar compiled by R. J. Hempton. A clever and amusing poem, entitled "The Song that Pierced My Heart," is a tribute (?) to the rhythmic genius of W. E. Henley.

ST. LOE STRACHEY opens the *Nineteenth Century* for June with a short but pithy article on "Ulster and Home Rule." "The Inefficiency of the Army" is pointed out by Field-Marshal Sir Lintorn Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.; "Ireland Blocks the Way," so writes Herbert Gladstone, M.P. In "Some Great Jewish Rabbis," the Rev. Charles H. H. Wright, D.D., deals very ably with the great rabbis of the first century. "A Butler's View of Men-Service," by John Robinson, deals with a phase of domestic service. "Sculpture of the Renaissance," by Miss V. Paget (Vernon Lee) is very interesting. "The Increase of Crime," by the Rev. W. D. Morrison (Chaplain to H. M. Prison, Wandsworth) is a timely article. "The Invasion of Destitute Aliens," by the Right Hon. the Earl of Dunraven, K.P., and "Did Dante Study in Oxford?" by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., are also very well worth reading amongst much that is far from bad.

PROFESSOR J. B. MOORE continues his able series in the *Political Science Quarterly* for June on the important international question of "Asylum in Legations and Consulates and in Vessels," and concludes the historical view of it with the comparatively recent Chilean case, in which the learned professor does not support the conduct of the notorious Egan. Mr. J. H. Noble suggests "the test of illiteracy" as "the best solution" of the immigration question. Robert Brown, jr., gives "a brief" but succinct "sketch of the history of tithes in England and Wales." A well-considered and comprehensive paper is that by Professor Ugo Rabbeno, on the landed system of the able Italian economist, Achille Loria, who, the writer says, has several points in common with Henry George. The remaining articles are on "Local Self-Government in Japan," by Ernest W. Clement, and "The Exercise of the Suffrage," by Professor A. B. Hart. Amongst the reviewers in the number we notice the name of Professor Ashley. Professor Dunning's "Record of Political Events" is ably conducted.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

KOSSUTH has sent the manuscript of the fourth volume of his *Memoirs* to his publisher in Pesth. He feels quite well again, it is said, and is busily continuing his work.

PROFESSOR CHARLES WALDSTEIN, head of the American School of Archaeology at Athens, will describe "The Finding of the Tomb of Aristotle" in the July number of the *Century Magazine*.

"THE WRECKER," by Robert Louis Stevenson and Lloyd Osbourne, which has been the leading serial of *Scribner's* since August, 1891, will be concluded in the July issue, and published almost immediately in book form.

M. ZOLA has finished his big book on the Franco-Prussian War, at which he has been at work for fifteen months. He visited battle-fields, questioned survivors of the fights, and consulted 300 volumes, historical and military, while writing his own story of the international "unpleasantness."

MR B. SAWDEN, who is writing a series of articles for the *Dominion Illustrated Monthly* magazine on "Civic Government in Canada," is also engaged on a politico-historical novel, the scenes of which are partly laid in Canada and the United States. The hero is a man of millions, and from him Mr. Sawden's story derives its title, "The Billionaire."

The second session of the International Congress of Experimental Psychology will be held in London on Monday, August 1, 1892, and the three following days, under the presidency of Professor H. Sidgwick. The Congress will assemble in the rooms of University College, Gower Street, kindly lent for the purpose. Among the many names of distinguished representative scientific scholars who will take part in the proceedings we notice that of Professor J. Mark Baldwin, of Toronto University, who will deal with "Suggestion and Volition."

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND COMPANY will shortly issue a reprint of Fielding's "Journal of a Voyage to Lisbon," edited with an introduction and notes by Mr. Austin Dobson. Lovers of Tennyson will welcome the new book by George C. Napier, M.A., on "The Homes and Haunts of Tennyson," from the same firm. It is profusely illustrated with engravings, many of which were made from photographs taken expressly for this purpose. The edition is limited. They also announce a third edition revised of Prof. Goldwin Smith's "A Trip to England."

Harper's Weekly says that M. Maurice Barres, whose philosophical romances are making him one of the lights of literary Paris, is, to judge from his portraits, a singularly homely man, at least in face. In figure he is tall and slender, and is distinguished-looking, it is said, though the term is somewhat vague. He is a native of Lorraine, and has been for some years in the French capital, where he is familiarly known by the nickname of "Mademoiselle Renan," in recognition of the metaphysical tendencies of his writings. His best-known book is "Le Jardin de Berenice." Unlike most French authors, M. Barres is acquainted with modern English literature, for which he has a strong liking.

WE have much pleasure in announcing that our learned contributor, Professor Alexander F. Chamberlain, has attained the unusual distinction of having had conferred upon him the first Ph.D. degree ever granted in anthropology on this continent. Not only has this comparatively young, but already prominent scholar, won this honour for Canada, his native country, but with a zeal and self-denial which is as rare as it is commendable, he proposes to devote to his own country the training and culture which his ability and industry have won for him abroad. When, it may not be inaptly remarked, will Canada be prepared to retain the invaluable services of so many of her gifted sons, who, though they love her, must do so in a foreign country, where work is adequately remunerated. Professor Chamberlain is also President of "The Canadian Club" of Clark University, a club whose objects are social, scientific and educational.

THE death of Captain Stairs, the intrepid young Canadian who won signal distinction as Stanley's right hand man in his last great trip in Africa, has caused world-wide regret. The deceased explorer was twenty-nine years of age. He was born at Halifax, Nova Scotia. He was educated at Edinburgh, and, returning to Canada, went through the Military College at Kingston. He spent two years in engineering work in New Zealand. He then joined the Royal Engineers, and held the rank of lieutenant, when Stanley selected him as one of the officers of his expedition for the rescue of Emin Pasha. His bravery, his discipline, his capacity, won for him the admiration and confidence of the great explorer. He was at the head of another African exploratory expedition when he met his death at the mouth of the Zambesi on his return journey. The life and career of Captain Stairs are alike an honour to the name he bore, to the land of his birth and to British arms. Long may the Military School at Kingston, on the quiet shore of Lake Ontario, continue to send forth such heroes and heralds of peace and civilization as he who lately bore the ennobled name of "Stairs."

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Oxley, J. Macdonald. Fergus MacTavish. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society.
 Nickerson, M. H. Carols of the Coast. Halifax, N. S.: Nova Scotia Printing Co.
 Wilson, Sir Daniel, LL.D., F.R.S.E. Left-Handedness. London: Macmillan & Co.

THE TRADERS' BANK.

SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

An Increase in the Deposits of Upwards of Half a Million Dollars—A Decidedly Successful Year—Two Semi-annual Dividends of Three Per Cent. Paid, and Twenty Thousand added to the Rest.

Proceedings of the seventh annual general meeting of shareholders of the Traders' Bank, held at its banking house in Toronto, on Tuesday, the 21st of June, 1892.

The President having taken the chair, Messrs. R. B. Belden and E. B. Freeland were appointed scrutineers, and Mr. Strathy, secretary.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Directors have pleasure in submitting to the shareholders the accompanying statement of the affairs of the Bank as on the 31st May, 1892.

After making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, crediting interest to date on all interest-bearing accounts, and reserving accrued interest on outstanding deposits, sterling exchange, etc.,

The net profits of the year amounted to	\$62,997 57
Being 10.42, or nearly 10½ per cent. on the paid-up capital.	
To this is added balance at credit of profit and loss last year	5,192 12
Making in all	\$68,189 69

Appropriated as follows, viz. :—

Dividend No. 12, three per cent., payable 1st December, 1891	\$18,102 37
Dividend No. 13, three per cent., payable 1st June, 1892	18,132 00
Added to Rest account	\$36,234 37
Written off office furniture account	20,000 00
Balance at credit of profit and loss carried forward	7,070 41
	4,884 91
	\$68,189 69

Deposits show an increase of \$567,273.35 over those of last year, which may be considered satisfactory in view of the fact that rates of interest paid were lower than those of former years.

The different offices of the Bank, including the head office, have all been inspected once or oftener during the year, and continue to receive careful supervision.

The officers of the Bank have discharged their respective duties to the satisfaction of the Board.

ALEXANDER MANNING,
 President.

GENERAL STATEMENT:

31ST MAY, 1892.

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid up	\$604,400 00
Rest account	55,000 00
Dividend No. 13, payable 1st June	18,132 00
Former dividends unpaid	110 16
Interest accrued on deposit receipts	3,807 66
Balance of profits carried forward	4,884 91
	\$686,334 73
Notes of the Bank in circulation	\$523,505 00
Deposits bearing interest	\$2,201,973 33
Deposits not bearing interest	365,431 87
	2,567,405 20
Balance due London agents	271,103 49
Balance due to other Banks in Canada	7,100 89
	3,369,114 58
	\$4,055,449 31

ASSETS.

Gold and silver coin current	\$80,953 48
Dominion Government demand notes	227,704 00
Notes and cheques of other Banks	125,642 03
Balances due from other Banks	56,307 36
Balance due from New York agents	3,420 04
Dominion Government debentures	302,560 00
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of note circulation	12,800 00
Call and short loans on stock and bonds	89,553 04
	\$983,939 95
Bills discounted, current	\$3,127,710 63
Notes discounted overdue (loss fully provided for)	333 06
Mortgages on real estate sold by the Bank	1,012 59
Bank premises (including safes, office furniture, etc.)	32,453 08
	3,161,509 36
	\$4,055,449 31

H. S. STRATHY,
 General Manager.

TORONTO, 31st May, 1892.

The usual resolutions were passed, and the following were elected Directors for the ensuing year:

WILLIAM BELL, Guelph,
 WILLIAM MCKENZIE, Toronto,
 C. D. WARREN, Toronto,
 W. J. GAGE, Toronto,
 JOHN DRYNAN, Toronto,
 ROBERT THOMSON, Hamilton,
 J. W. DOWD.

At a subsequent meeting Mr. Bell was elected President, and Mr. McKenzie, Vice-President.

MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA.

The annual general meeting of the Shareholders of the Merchants Bank of Canada was held in the board room of that institution in Montreal, on Wednesday, 15th June, when there were present: Messrs. Andrew Allan, president; Robert Anderson, vice-president; Hector Mackenzie, Jonathan Hodgson, James P. Dawes, F. S. Lyman, John Crawford, W. Burke, J. H. R. Molson, W. B. Francis, A. H. Lunn, J. Y. Gilmour, Robert Benny, J. S. Morel, L. H. Montgomerie (St. Johns), James Croil, John Morrison, David Lewis, John Cassels, Timothy H. Dunn (Quebec), Sir Joseph Hickson, J. T. Molson, E. F. King, John McConnell, James Williamson, C. S. Garland, J. P. Cleghorn, Richard White, A. Leclaire, James B. Allan, and others.

The proceedings were opened by the president, Mr. Andrew Allan, taking the chair, and requesting Mr. John Gault to act as secretary. After the secretary had read the advertisement calling the meeting, the president submitted the following annual report of the directors:—

REPORT.

The directors of the Merchants Bank of Canada beg to report to the stockholders the results of the business of the past year:— The net profits of the year, after payment of interest and charges, and deducting appropriations for bad and doubtful debts, have amounted to \$530,247 17

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Balance from last year' and 'Dividends Nos. 46 and 47, 7 per cent.'.

The business of the bank has made steady progress in all its leading departments during the past year. The actual earnings of the bank were not quite equal to those of last year, although a larger business has been done, a state of things which the directors believe to have been common.

During the year the failures amongst the circle of the bank's customers have not been numerous, nor, with one exception, important, and in several cases the securities held were sufficient to liquidate the whole debt. The exception was in New York, where the head of a large firm obtained an advance on forged bills of lading.

The person who committed this fraud was of high character and reputation, whose firm had done an extensive business, with an honourable record for more than twelve years back. The firm has gone into insolvency, and the claim of the bank against them is undisputed. Some recovery is expected to be made, but the greater part of the debt has been written off out of the present year's profits.

But for this untoward event the net result would have been better than the average of the last few years.

Certain doubtful debts of former years, provided for in the contingent fund, have now been charged against that fund, leaving a balance therein of \$75,800 to meet the estimated contingency in the remaining doubtful debts of the bank.

The board have had reason to deplore the death of a much esteemed colleague, Mr. John Duncan, whose large experience was always used to the advantage of the bank.

The vacancy has been filled by the election of Sir Joseph Hickson, a gentleman so well known in Canada that it is not necessary to speak of his qualifications for the post.

As requested by the shareholders last year, the board have considered the question of either increasing the capital to six millions, or decreasing it to five millions. They were much inclined to take the latter alternative, as there would be many advantages in that course. But the difficulty of dealing with a capital of such a broken sum as \$5,779,200 was so great, that although no more capital is needed, the directors concluded for convenience sake to increase the stock to the round sum of six millions, by allotment according to Sec. 27 of the Banking Act, at a premium of 45 per cent. The matter will be explained in all its bearings by the general manager.

The officers of the bank have discharged their duties during the year with zeal and efficiency, and to the satisfaction of the directors.

(Signed) ANDREW ALLAN, President. Montreal, June 10, 1892.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31ST MAY, 1892.

Large table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Divided into LIABILITIES and ASSETS sections.

(Signed) G. HAGUE, General Manager.

The president then moved, seconded by the vice-president, Mr. Robert Anderson:— "That the report of the directors, as submitted, be and the same is hereby adopted and ordered to be printed for distribution among the stockholders."

But before putting the motion to the meeting, Mr. Andrew Allan called upon the general manager, Mr. George Hague, for a few remarks upon the financial outlook.

GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

I desire to say a few words in the first place respecting our own business and various matters appertaining to it, and then to take a brief look over the business of the country generally. The latter, you will understand, is just as pertinent to the bank's annual meeting as the former, as has been pointed out more than once in this room.

The figures of our balance sheet will show that there has been a steady advance in all the leading departments of the bank's business during the year.

Our circulation is more by \$140,000, our deposits are more by \$500,000, and our discounts and investments are more by \$985,000, all which is satisfactory, as showing that the directors and officers of the bank in these times of keen competition have been reasonably enterprising. Not that we have adopted a pushing and driving policy, for that is never prudent in banking. Nor have we resorted to illegitimate methods.

We have endeavoured to conduct our business on the solid and honourable line of banking tradition as understood in the great centres of banking in the world. Experience has proved these to be the most advantageous in the long run. The bank has endeavoured so to deal with its customers that they will remain with us and recommend us to others for business-like treatment. I think the following figures will justify the policy:—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Our deposits in 1880 were', 'Our circulation in 1880 was', 'Our discounts and advances in 1880', and 'Our total earning power in 1880 was'.

In view of this statement, you may naturally ask why have our net earnings not increased as steadily as the earning power, and especially why do we show such small earnings this year. To the first I reply, that in banking as in other lines of business, along with an increasing volume of business, there has been a decreasing ratio of net profit on the business done.

With regard to the present year, the meagre showing, so much below the average, is wholly due to the misfortune which happened us in New York. Respecting this I can only say that there are some events that can neither be foreseen nor guarded against. When a member of one of the best families of the United States, the head of a firm who has maintained an unblemished reputation during a long business career, every engagement being honourably met—when the head of such a firm descends to the crime of forgery, the event can only be compared to "thunder out of a clear sky." Almost every bank, however, has had an experience of this kind, the Bank of England itself not having escaped. But for this we should have had to present a better statement than the average. For though the year has been marked by many vicissitudes, there have been few failures in our circle of customers, and the ordinary run of losses has been smaller than usual. The bank for years back has admittedly pursued a cautious policy in selecting customers and granting credits. One feature of this policy was, while affording every reasonable support to our customers, to prudently restrain any appearance of overtrading, or illegitimate crediting, on their part. As a natural consequence of this the large majority of our customers have conducted their business so as to meet their engagements. And if some persons during the course of years have fretted under these reasonable restraints and removed their accounts, we have rarely had reason to regret our action in the long run.

THE CAPITAL STOCK.

As you have heard from the report, the directors have followed the resolution of last year with regard to the capital stock of the bank, and acted upon the alternative of increasing the same to the round figure of six millions. Not that we needed more capital, for we do not. In fact, if the alternative course had been more simple and feasible they might have adopted it, and recommended a re-adjustment of the stock on a basis of five million dollars. But with the capital standing at such a broken sum as \$5,779,200, it would have been a very complicated operation to adjust the stock on this reduced basis. There would, however, be many advantages both to the bank as a corporation, and to the stockholders individually, in having a capital of five millions instead of six, and transferring the balance to rest and surplus profits. In this connection I beg to quote from a report made to the board on the subject as follows:—

"With regard to the reduction of the stock to five million dollars, there would be many advantages in such a course, but it might be difficult to attain them. If the stock were reduced to that sum, the surplus being credited to the Rest account (or part of it to surplus profits), the bank would immediately be in the position of having a "Rest" equal to one-half of its capital, with a surplus fund in addition of several hundred thousand dollars. As the earning power of the bank would not be diminished, dividends of ten per cent. could at once be declared. These dividends would give the stockholders a larger income from their stock than they obtain at present, or than they would obtain if the dividend were increased to eight per cent. And the large surplus over and above ample Rest would assure that this rate of dividend could be maintained: all which could not fail to enhance the price of the stock and give it a selling value of over \$200. The quotation would almost certainly range nearly equal to the stock of the Bank of Montreal or the Bank of Toronto.

"Thus not only would the income of the shareholders be larger than it is now, or likely to be for some time to come, but the stock itself, or any portion thereof, would be worth considerably more than it is at present."

Further consideration only confirms me in the wisdom of the above recommendations. The truth is, the banks in Canada, having a capital of more than four millions, are at a disadvantage as compared with those of other countries, in the small amount of business we do on our capital, and the consequent small percentage we can divide amongst our stockholders. Compare, for example, the position of the following banks of Great Britain and Australia with our own and other large Canadian banks:—

Table comparing Capital, Deposits, and Dividend of various banks including Bank of Commerce, Merchants Bank of Canada, Bank of British North America, and others.

"Dividend and bonus. In all the above cases the amount of deposits is a fair index to the general volume of business. I am convinced that for the business this bank is likely to command, either now or in the future, \$5,000,000 is an amply sufficient capital; while one can hardly overestimate the importance of guarding the capital against all future contingencies by a "Rest" of large amount, with a fund of accumulated profits beyond it, to secure equalization of dividends.

Meantime, in our own case, the change of the capital from the broken figure of \$5,779,200 to \$6,000,000 will facilitate a re-adjustment should it be deemed advisable at some future day.

BANKERS' ASSOCIATION.

The past year has been signalized by the putting into operation of the Bankers' Association of Canada. The importance of such an association was impressed upon leading bankers when conferring together, in 1890, respecting a renewal of the bank charters, and, after considerable difficulty, owing to the extent of the Dominion and the diverse interests represented by various localities, a constitution was finally arranged and officers elected. The objects of the association, as stated in this constitution, are as follows:—

"To carefully watch proposed legislation and decisions of the courts in matters relating to banking, and to take action thereon; also, to take such action as may be deemed advisable in protecting the interests of the contributors to the bank circulation redemption fund, and all matters affecting the interests of the chartered banks."

"It shall also be competent for the association to promote the efficiency of bank officers by arranging courses of lectures on commercial law and banking, by discussions on banking questions, by competitive papers and examinations. Prizes may be offered for proficiency, under the direction and control of the Executive Council."

It must be evident that these objects are highly desirable, and that, if properly carried out, the best interests of stockholders will be subserved by them. It is hoped that by means of the association a higher standard of banking comity may be developed amongst bankers, that injudicious measures may be repressed, mistaken ideas corrected, and all sound principles diffused, to the great advantage of bank customers and of the people at large.

The association has already done serviceable work in preventing dangerous legislation, and I may take occasion to say that there is scarcely a session of our various Parliaments in which some legislation is not introduced that has an important bearing upon your interests. Decisions in the courts are also constantly transpiring in which new questions are decided, or new interpretations given to the law on the great variety of subjects in which banks are interested. Some of these decisions, though given in local courts, have a bearing upon banking interests in every part of the Dominion. The important subject of a new

INSOLVENCY LAW

was recently referred to at one of the meetings of the association, and during the interval of the session of the Dominion Parliament this subject will receive from the bankers of the Dominion the attention it deserves. For my own part, looking back upon the experience both of Canada, England and the United States, I believe that any bill which contains a power to an insolvent to obtain a discharge against the will of any of his creditors, cannot fail to be abused. Great abuses, as we know, prevail at present, but of two evils it is always well to choose the least. A bill, if such can be had, for the equitable distribution of an insolvent's estate and the suppression of preferences, would be highly beneficial, leaving the question of discharge to be settled between the insolvent and his creditors individually.

COMPETITION.

The axiom that "competition is the life of trade" must be taken to refer to such as is legitimate. There is a style of competition both in general business and banking, which does not serve the public, but injures it. When there are too many traders in a given town or locality, their competition in cheapening goods generally leads to extravagance on the part of purchasers, or, if it leads to giving longer credit, to their customers getting deeper and deeper into debt. Many a private individual has been impoverished for years by this style of competition, and many a farmer has become overloaded with debt and lost his farm. Too many bankers in a given district produce greater mischief still. The result is a cheapening of the rate of money, which leads to extravagance in the use of it, undermines economy, introduces loose habits of business, and is responsible in many instances for bankruptcy.

When, under the influence of bank competition, extended credit is given to persons of small capital, they are generally induced to attempt more than they can profitably manage, to erect too expensive buildings, or to launch out into a speculative style of business, to the detriment of their prudent neighbours who trade within their means. There are localities in Canada which are almost ruined for a series of years by the lavish style in which money was spread abroad by bank managers, who were bent on extending business at all risks. The losses of the banks from this style of competition have amounted to millions, and left traces of devastation behind them which have taken years of industry and economy to efface.

The experience of Scotland in this matter is worthy of consideration. Many years ago the evils of reckless bank competition were such that the banks were compelled to devise means to protect themselves and the community from it. After thorough discussion a plan was matured by which, under mutual agreement, a number of branches were closed in places where they were redundant, and measures taken to prevent the establishment of unnecessary branches in future. A committee was formed under whose regulations all the banks in Scotland have worked their business, from time to time, with uniform rates for deposits, discounts, and exchange according to the circumstances of the money market. This arrangement has been in force for years, and has given satisfaction. Its operations have been beneficial to the community. No man desires to go back to the days of unlimited competition, and it cannot be denied that the producing, manufacturing, and trading classes of Scotland are as prosperous as any community of similar size in the world. There is competition, but it is the competition, not who shall scatter the most money, or take the poorest securities, but as to who shall be the most attentive, courteous, and vigilant in carrying on his business. This competition benefits all parties concerned. But of the other kind Canada has had far more than enough, and has lost millions of money by it.

BUSINESS GENERALLY.

With regard to business generally, I may remind you that in a country of such vast extent and such a variety of interests as ours, it is needful to be careful of impressions derived from partial information. Business may be good in one locality or one branch, and depressed in another. It is always well to bear in mind that persons are much more ready to talk and magnify the troubles of their business than its successes. This applies more or less to all descriptions, but it applies particularly to certain well-known pursuits. We bankers are not exempt from this frailty ourselves. It is also a pity that trade questions in this country are so often made the battle-ground for political contests. The effect is exaggeration on both sides, and men of business always need to be cautious in acting on reports of statements that may be coloured by political prejudice. Taking as impartial a view as is in my power and looking at matters purely from a business standpoint, I begin with the great productive industries of

TIMBER AND LUMBER.

Last year and the year before were years of heavy losses in the timber trade—no new thing, by the way. Important failures took place both in Canada and England. (In one of these we were interested but our securities brought us out with only a small loss.) The reason of these failures was the common one of parties, on the strength of a good year's trade, plunging into enormous operations far beyond their means to carry through. Production has now been curtailed, and most of the goods we are shipping this year will be sold to advantage.

SAWN LUMBER.

has had an average year, and with the exception of the Toronto building trade, the general demand is good. This line of business requires not only a heavy capital to carry it on successfully, but also an extraordinary degree of vigilance. Multitudes of operations are carried on over widely extended tracts of country, and anything like an easy-going style of conducting business will infallibly lead to ruin. Bankers know this to their cost. Painful as it is to think of labour and money thrown away, it is only too true that it would have been better for the banks and many of their customers if millions of trees that have been cut down and sawn up had been left standing in the woods. There is no reason to believe that any reckless operations are going on at present, and the bitter lessons of experience are likely to bear fruit in a more cautious and profitable style of business.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

In the various branches of business connected with the export of farm produce, there has been no great disaster to chronicle and no reckless speculation displayed. The exporters of grain have, probably, held their own, and little more can be said. I am speaking, of course, of legitimate trade. Gambling in grain is not one whit more honourable than playing for high stakes in a gambling house. The course of prices has been disappointing for the last few months, but the trade is generally in the hands of men who understand it and have capital to conduct it. The export of cheese has been generally profitable. This is one of the most satisfactory of our productions, and is making the name of Canada well and favourably known in England. Canadian cheese is becoming as much a staple as Canadian timber. But to carry on the export of cheese successfully, not only great local knowledge in buying is required, but first rate connections for selling in Great Britain. The export of cattle was on a large scale, but it left little profit except to the ships that carried them. Of all commodities shipped across the ocean, live animals are the most difficult to deal with. We have not had a large share of this business of late, but what we have has turned out satisfactorily. The McKinley tariff is working an expected change in the direction of the destination of some other farm products. They are going to England instead of the United States. Certain initial difficulties common to all lines of business are being overcome by the intelligence and energy of our traders. It was undoubtedly for the advantage of the United States to buy our products. They bought them because they wanted them. If they chose to cut off the supply of useful articles for political reasons the mischief will work out in time. Meanwhile, so long as we have good things to sell, we need not fear that we shall find buyers.

IMPORTING TRADES.

The conditions attending these are diametrically opposite to the foregoing. All our leading exports are in articles of prime necessity, and the expense of handling is small. The risks of the business are in the fluctuations of the market. In giving credit there is really loss. The masses of bills that we handle in connection with the export trade are almost invariably good. In the importing trade the fluctuations in the value of goods are slow, but the expense of selling them, as compared with the export trade, is probably 20 to 1, and is increasing. Then there is the never ceasing liability to loss by giving credit. It is certain that the bulk of our wholesale merchants in the leading lines of imports, but especially in dry goods, have made slender profits in the past few years. It is increasingly true that no man can hope to succeed in the importing trade without adequate capital, thorough knowledge of business, close buying in the best markets, together with incessant industry, sharp economy in details, and, above all, rigid supervision of credits. Every failure that has taken place of late years had its origin in neglect of one or more of these matters. The attempts made to curtail unreasonable credit are worthy of the support of all bankers. But until we have such a continued scarcity of money as to compel heavy curtailment of discounts, we can scarcely hope that anything we can do will have much effect. Such a scarcity would probably bring about a lasting reform, and put the dry goods trade on as good a footing as it is in the United States. It does seem anomalous that what can be done in New York, Detroit and St. Paul cannot be done in Montreal and Toronto. When no paper is taken that has longer than three months to run, and every bill is expected to be paid when due, renewals being looked upon as the first symptoms of danger, the trade will be on a satisfactory basis.

MANUFACTURES.

It is almost impossible to avoid touching upon political considerations here, but, politics apart, I may say generally that the splendid water powers of Canada are the natural foundation of its manufacturing industries, as they have been of those of every country in the world. It is not to be expected that we could let such powers as those of the Ottawa, the St. Maurice, the Trent, the Grand River, the Magog, the Chaudiere, the St. John, and their tributaries, with others like them, go on forever without making some attempt to establish other manufacturing industries besides sawmills. What was done in the early days of Lancashire and Yorkshire in old England, and Massachusetts, in New England, that is, utilizing water power, is exactly what we have been doing in Canada for twenty years back. If we have made mistakes, so have Englishmen and Americans, and we can correct them as they have done. The system of bonusing by municipalities has undoubtedly been abused, and manufactures drawn to localities where there are no natural advantages for them. But the manufactures of Canada are being more diversified. No one can fail to notice a great development in this respect, especially in connection with electricity in all its branches. Many of our miscellaneous manufactures are highly profitable. When manufactures are carried on by men who thoroughly understand their trade, and who can introduce economies in working, they are steadily profitable. But it is vain to think that men can make money merely by starting factories under a protective system in default of capacity, especially knowledge and economy. As manufactures are developed they tend more and more to the production of specialties, and it is only by the production of specialties that any profit can be realized. This fundamental rule applies to everything that is produced by machinery, including our cotton and woollen mills, our flouring and sawmills, our tanneries, shoe factories, implement manufactures, and all the miscellaneous lines which are domiciled amongst us.

RETAIL STOREKEEPERS.

Much of what has been said implies to retail storekeepers. The day has gone by forever when almost anybody could make money or make a living by opening a store and selling goods. It can't be done. Men only waste their time and energies in carrying on the business of storekeeping without previous training. But even with this thorough knowledge of the goods he sells, the retailer often splits on the rocks of giving too much credit. After doing an apparently successful business for years, he finds himself brought to a stand because his books are full of uncollectable debts. The most successful retail merchants are those whose rule is to do business for cash, and who make credit an exception. Finally, I come to the interest which is often spoken of as the foundation of every other in the country, namely:—

FARMING.

The condition of the farmer is more than any other the battle ground of the politician. Partial views are exceedingly prevalent. But looking over the field generally, I must remind you that there are many varieties of farms and farming localities. There are localities in this Province which have been rather over-populated than otherwise, the farms having been subdivided until they cannot yield a living. It were better if this process of subdivision were reversed. Certain localities are well adapted to one kind of production and not for another. There are hundreds of farms in the Dominion on which neither wheat nor any other grain can be grown to a profit, but where cattle and dairying pay well. A farmer in these times is exposed to the law of competition as much as the manufacturer. He cannot prosper unless he considers what his farm is adapted for. The majority of our farmers understand this and act accordingly. But there are some who do not; and a few unsuccessful farmers—successful by their own fault—will fill a whole county with their lamentations. Farmers can no more expect a constant succession of prosperous years than merchants can. And some make mistakes. Too expensive houses, too much luxury in the shape of pianos, organs and such like, are the mistakes of some, and a dogged persistence in old ways and an unprofitable style of handling the farm, of others. And, to say the truth, there is a certain number among our farmers who are too fond of drink, too fond of politics, and who spend precious time loafing about neighbouring towns and taverns. Such men as these will never thrive under any political system in the world. Happily they are only a small minority. I have paid careful attention to the working of farmers' business at our country branches, and the managers of the Bank have been instructed to give special attention to it also. The past year has not been supposed to be a year of much saving with farmers, but it is a fact that out of twenty-nine branches where farmers' deposits are received, in twenty-seven of them there has been an increase in such deposits. In only two has there been a decrease, and that only of a small amount. I have no doubt that this experience has been common.

The whole deposits of the country in the Banks, and in Government and other Savings Banks a year ago, were \$213,000,000. They now amount to \$231,000,000. I have little doubt that a large proportion of this increase belongs to farmers.

I have said nothing so far with regard to the varied lines of enterprise carried on in this city, but a large part of what has been said of the business of the country generally applies also to Montreal. For if the country prospers, Montreal prospers, and vice-versa. Over-trading and excessive competition, speculation, long credits, all work out the same results here that they do elsewhere, and so do the opposite styles of conducting business. These, I believe, generally prevail.

The large shipping trade of Montreal, both internal and on the ocean, was conducted with an average degree of profit for the most part, and our harbour improvements will give still greater facilities to this.

The immensely increased railway traffic of the Dominion in recent years is particularly remarkable, and demonstrates a very large degree of enterprise and activity in the business of the Dominion.

It will be noticed that I have not referred either to the business of the Maritime Provinces or of British Columbia. We have no branches in either, and only desire to speak at length in this address of subjects that come under personal observation; but as our mercantile customers in the leading cities deal with both extremities of the Dominion, I may say that it is gratifying to see the rapid progress of our Pacific province in all the leading lines of its business, while there is no reason to doubt that the people of the Maritime Provinces have had an average year's business in their leading lines of production and distribution. And from a commercial and banking point of view it is gratifying that our disputes with our sister colony, Newfoundland, have been settled. It is a pity that such disputes ever arose.

REMARKS OF MANAGERS.

I append, finally, a few remarks of our managers on the business of their own localities, as such information is both interesting and valuable. One says: "Dry goods dealers have not made as much as they should considering their large stocks. Rents, expensive help and interest eat up their profits. As to farmers, opinions differ. My own impression is, they make almost as much as formerly, but spend more freely. The age with them, as with others, is an extravagant one."

Another says: "Some manufacturers in this neighbourhood made little headway, and some fell behind. Others, however, did better than the average, and in one branch of manufacturing large profits were made. Nine out of ten of the farmers in this locality are well to do. When one runs behind, it is invariably owing to his being indolent, incompetent, or dissipated."

Another: "Manufacturers in this neighbourhood, by hard work and economical management, have generally added to their means."

Another, in an important centre, says: "Last year's good crop, followed by a better winter than usual, has left the farmers in a far better position than they were a year ago."

Another says of the flour mills in his district that the loss of the Newfoundland market was appreciably felt, and that the year has not been a good one. Woollen mills that were well equipped and worked with adequate capital undoubtedly made money. Of the farmers, "the wasteful, shiftless one, with fences down, and thistles growing round his machines lying in the fence corners, have as much to find fault with here as in any other country. With the hardworking, careful farmer the position is entirely different."

The manager of our Hamilton branch writes that "the crop of grapes is becoming second in importance, and is a more certain one than grain. The business can probably be developed to an extent hardly possible to be conceived of at present. The farmers of the neighbourhood are doing well. The variety of articles is so great that they are sure to do well in some of them. Distress amongst farmers is looked upon as due to bad methods."

In a cheese district a manager reports that "the business was satisfactory to all parties. The amount of money distributed among farmers in the neighbourhood was over a million. Farmers here have learned that dairying pays better than anything else. Next in importance is raising hogs." Another reports that the lazy, indifferent farmers are being weeded out, while the provident and thrifty ones are getting more independent. Last year farmers' deposits at this branch increased 50 per cent.

Another reports that both manufacturing and storekeeping had an unprofitable year. This is a poor district for farmers, the majority of them are poor, but they had better crops than usual last year, and undoubtedly reduced their indebtedness considerably. Another, writing from a wholesale centre in a good farming district, says that wholesale houses and manufacturers have done well, and that the loan companies state that payments on mortgages have been far more prompt than in years back. Yet a steady decline in value of farms had been going on for some years, owing to the opening up of new fields of enterprise in the North-West. This has brought about a more economical style of living, not a bad result. Another manager, referring to business generally, observes of electric companies that great strides have been made during the year, and handsome profits realized. "But dry goods and general stores have been unprofitable, with one or two exceptions. The most successful retail firm in this place do an immense trade on a cash basis." Another, speaking of certain lines of business in which many failures

had taken place, largely the fault of injudicious bank advances, observes that the majority "had been weeded out, greatly to the advantage of solvent houses. A great deal of money has been lost during the year, but these disasters have not been an unmixed evil; for with the disappearance of weak concerns and the withdrawal of unhealthy competition, prospects are much improved."

Another reports that there has been no depreciation of farm property in his section; on the contrary farms are increasing in value.

Still another complains bitterly of the tax on the mining industry imposed by the Government of this province as having brought the business almost to a standstill. Several managers in Ontario refer to the considerable amount of last year's crops still left in farmers' hands. Our Toronto manager refers to the collapse of two prominent capitalists from land speculation, and to the heavy depression in the city lumber trade being likely to lead to losses by the banks. The wholesale trade of the city has had only a fair year. The foregoing reports are all from Ontario and Quebec.

The condition of business generally, and farming in particular, in the North-West, is so well known that it hardly needs to be referred to. There can be no doubt that a more healthy condition of trade prevails in its principal centre, Winnipeg, and we hear from our manager that all leading lines have been profitable. But there are far too many retail stores in the city, the result being that, with few exceptions, they are hardly making a living. A conspicuous failure of a brewing and milling company in the interior of Manitoba was clearly the result of incompetence and extravagant management.

The crop, as is well known, was in excess in quantity, but bad weather and delay in thrashing deteriorated its value largely; and the holding over for better prices proved a terribly mistaken policy, as it has so often done in Ontario. But in spite of all this, the North-West has made considerable progress during the year, and the prospects for the future are excellent. But it is very true, as Lord Mount-Stephen has lately observed, that the great want of that part of the Dominion is men.

On the conclusion of Mr. Hague's masterly *resumé*, the president asked if any of the shareholders had any remarks to make, as this was the time to bring them forward.

Mr. Morrison made some remarks about the increase in the Bank Premises account and other matters connected with the bank.

Mr. John Crawford congratulated the president upon his vigorous appearance after his severe illness of last year. There were four items in the report to which he desired to allude. They were the appointment of an interim director, the steady decadence of the earnings, the proposed increase in the capital and the Field forgeries. He desired to congratulate the board upon their appointment of Sir Joseph Hickson to replace the late Mr. John Duncan on the directorate.

To the comments of Mr. Crawford, the general manager made a circumstantial reply. As to the Field forgeries the loan itself was a genuine loan. It was the securities that were forged.

The report was adopted, the usual votes of thanks given to the president, directors and general managers, and the meeting proceeded to the election of directors, the old board being re-elected as under: Messrs. Andrew Allan, Robert Anderson, H. Montagu Allan, John Cassels, James P. Dawes, Sir Joseph Hickson, T. H. Dunn, Jonathan Hodgson, Hector Mackenzie.

At a meeting of the Board held subsequently, Mr. Allan was re-elected president, and Mr. Anderson, vice-president, of the bank.

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA.

Proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders, held at the Banking House of the Institution, in Toronto, on Wednesday, 15th June, 1892.

The Seventeenth Annual General Meeting of the Imperial Bank of Canada was held, in pursuance of the terms of the charter, at the banking house of the institution, 15th June, 1892. There were present:

Messrs. H. S. Howland, T. R. Merritt (St. Catharines), T. R. Wadsworth (Weston), Robert Jaffray, Hugh Ryan, Rev. E. B. Lawler, George Robinson, R. S. Cassels, Wm. Ramsay (Bowand, Scotland), T. Sutherland (Stayner), Joseph Whitehead (Quebec), W. B. Hamilton, John Stewart, David Kidd (Hamilton), Robert Beaty, R. L. Benson (Peterboro'), H. S. Northrup, J. H. Patterson, R. Thompson, John Bain, J. C. J. J. Gould (Uxbridge), R. H. Ramsay, S. Nordheimer, Dr. Thorburn, J. K. Fiske, D. R. Wilkie, etc., etc.

The chair was taken by the president, Mr. H. S. Howland, and Mr. D. R. Wilkie was requested to act as secretary.

The secretary, at the request of the chairman, read the report of the directors and the statement of affairs.

THE REPORT.

The directors have much pleasure in meeting the shareholders, and beg to submit the seventeenth annual balance sheet and statement of profit and loss account of the bank for the year ended 31st May, 1892.

Out of the profits for the year and balance of profit and loss account carried forward from last year:—

(a) Dividends have been paid at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, and in addition thereto a bonus of 1 per cent., amounting in all to \$171,622.80.

(b) Rest account has been increased by \$50,000.

(c) Bank premises account has been credited with \$6,276.63.

(d) The fund to cover rebate on bills discounted current has been supplemented by an appropriation of \$3,613.74.

The allotment to shareholders of \$500,000 new stock has been taken up to the extent of \$163,600. The disposition to be made of the unsubscribed shares, within the provisions of the Bank Act, is a matter for future consideration on the part of your directors.

The deposits and note circulation of the bank have increased during the year in the sum of \$1,326,723.

Keeping pace, in a measure, with railway development in the Northwest Territories, a branch of the bank has been opened during the year at Edmonton, Alberta.

The new premises at Brandon, Manitoba, the property of the bank, have been in occupation since the 13th of March, and meet in every respect the requirements of the bank.

The necessity of providing suitable accommodation at Calgary for the business of the bank has induced your directors to purchase premises, at a reasonable cost, on the corner of Stephen avenue and McTavish street, which, it is expected, will be at an early date ready for occupation.

The scarcity of idle capital in the Northwest seeking investment necessitates the ownership by the bank of banking premises at several points; care has, however, been taken from time to time to reduce below cost, by appropriations from profit and loss account, the value at which these and other banking premises are held as assets.

You will be asked to approve of and to aid in the establishment of an officers' and employees' mutual guarantee fund; which fund, your directors believe, will not only be an economical and otherwise excellent substitute for the system of officers' guarantees now in force, but will tend to community of interests on the part of the officials themselves.

The policy of maintaining ample cash reserves and of investing a considerable portion of the funds of the bank in first-class readily-convertible securities, although curtailing immediate profits, enables the bank to avail itself from time to time of any good business that

offers, and ensures the full and continued confidence of the public and of the shareholders.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. S. HOWLAND, *President*.

STATEMENT OF PROFITS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MAY, 1892.

Balance at credit of account 31st May, 1891, brought forward	\$50,750 44
Profits for the year ended 31st May, 1892, after deducting charges of management and interest due depositors, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts	221,817 07
	\$272,567 51

From which has been taken—	
Dividend No. 33, 4 per cent. (paid 1st December, 1891)	\$75,326 39
Dividend No. 34, 4 per cent. (payable 1st June, 1892)	77,037 21
Bonus 1 per cent. (payable 1st June, 1892)	19,259 30
	171,622 80

Written off bank premises and furniture account	\$6,276 63
Reserved for rebate on bills discounted (making total \$30,742 29)	3,643 74
Carried to rest account	50,000 00
	59,916 37

Balance of account carried forward	\$41,028 34
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REST ACCOUNT.

Balance at credit of account 31st May, 1891	\$750,000 00
Transferred from profit and loss account	50,000 00
Premium received on new capital stock	220,292 00
	\$1,020,292 00

GENERAL STATEMENT, 31ST MAY, 1892.

LIABILITIES.

Notes of the bank in circulation	\$1,288,410 00
Deposits not bearing interest	\$1,584,452 83
Deposits bearing interest (including \$38,806 98, being amount of interest accrued on deposit receipts to date)	6,468,573 05
Due to other banks in Canada	\$8,053,025 88
	2,243 71
Total liabilities to the public	\$9,343,679 50
Capital stock (paid up)	1,940,607 00
Rest account	\$1,020,292 00
Contingent account	33,050 19
Dividend No. 34, payable 1st June, 1892, 4 per cent. and bonus 1 per cent.	96,296 51
Former dividends unpaid	92 25
Rebate on bills discounted	30,742 29
Balance of profit and loss account carried forward	41,028 34
	1,221,501 58
	\$12,505,788 17

ASSETS.

Gold and silver coin	\$316,052 98
Dominion Government notes	754,249 00
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of note circulation	32,002 40
Notes of and cheques on other banks	251,141 96
Balance due from other banks in Canada	443,584 97
Balance due from agents in foreign countries	273,072 61
Balance due from agents in the United Kingdom	229,514 66
Dominion of Canada debentures	\$174,868 24
Province of Ontario securities	685,935 00
Municipal and other debentures	321,739 41
Canadian, British and other railway securities	137,680 46
	\$1,320,223 11
Loans on call, secured by stocks and debentures	963,902 11
Total assets immediately available	\$4,583,753 88
Other current loans, discounts and advances	7,498,555 16
Overdue debts (loss provided for)	29,308 19
Real estate, the property of the bank (other than bank premises)	63,478 47
Mortgages on real estate sold by the bank	98,522 07
Bank premises, including safes, vaults and office furniture, at head office and branches	220,006 00
Other assets, not included under foregoing heads	12,170 40
	\$12,505,788 17

D. R. WILKIE, *Cashier*.

The usual votes of thanks were passed to the president and directors, also to the cashier and other officers for their attention and zeal in promoting the interests of the bank.

The ballot was then taken for the election of directors, which resulted in the election of the following shareholders, viz.: Messrs. H. S. Howland, T. R. Merritt, Wm. Ramsay, T. R. Wadsworth, Robert Jaffray, Hugh Ryan, T. Sutherland Stayner.

At a subsequent meeting of the directors Mr. Henry S. Howland was elected president, and Mr. Thomas R. Merritt, vice-president, for the ensuing year.

LET every student have all the rest, recreation, diversion, amusement, required for keeping his forces in the finest condition; but he does not need one-quarter of a year. A healthy student, and such as I constantly have in mind, can get as much vigour out of two months as out of three. Eight weeks in the woods will give all necessary power as well as thirteen. Eight weeks in the dissipating and charming enjoyments of society are better than thirteen for his college arms. A short vacation is better for a tired and healthy man than more, than a long one spent in laborious diversions. We are trying to find a way in which college men can begin their professional career before the age of twenty-seven. "Shortening the college course" is a bad method for securing this aim. The college course is none too long, but the vacation is too long. Each student spends more than one year of his four in vacation. He cannot afford to spend so long a time. The college period is the only period of his life when he finds so long a period of rest necessary.—From "A Too Long Vacation," by Prof. Charles F. Thwing, in *North American Review*.

SCIENTIFIC AND SANITARY.

EUCALYPTUS oil has come into such demand that over 20,000 pounds were sent to England from California last year, the tree having been planted in immense quantities in that State. General Stratton planted fifty-five acres near Haywards in 1869, chiefly for timber purposes. In 1883 it was discovered that a decoction of the leaves would remove the incrustated scales from boilers. While the engineers were preparing the liquid they imagined the odour cured one of bronchitis, and the other of asthma, and they started a factory to extract the oil at San Lorenzo, which is said to have been the beginning of this industry.—*New York Independent*.

It is well known that serious loss is caused in the various Australian colonies by the ravages of the rust fungus in wheat. An Intercolonial Conference, as we learn from *Nature*, met to consider the subject in 1890, and this body has since held two other meetings, the third having taken place at Melbourne last month. Many experiments have been made, and it has been clearly shown that there are several varieties of wheat which, except under very unusual circumstances, are never seriously attacked by rust. It has also been shown in many districts early sown wheat of a rust-labile kind generally escape damage by rust, when the same wheats sown late suffer seriously. In view of these facts the Conference has directed attention mainly to encouraging the growth of varieties less liable to be attacked by rust, and also to early sowing. At the March meeting it was recommended that a practical system for the production and distribution of rust-resisting wheats suitable to different districts should be immediately established, and that this system should, subject to modifications needed by each colony, be conducted on the following lines: A central station for each colony for the preliminary testing of new wheats introduced into the colony; for the production of new varieties by cross-fertilization and by selection; and for the distribution of suitable wheats thus obtained to representative districts of the colony, to be there subjected to a sufficient test, and, if necessary, fixed in their characters by farmers and others competent for the work; and that such wheats as pass satisfactorily this test should then be distributed to the farmers around in such a manner and by such agency as would be most suitable to the conditions of each colony. A committee was appointed to take steps for the proper naming of the different varieties of wheat.—*Science*.

"August Flower"

For Dyspepsia.

A. Bellanger, Propr., Stove Foundry, Montigny, Quebec, writes: "I have used August Flower for Dyspepsia. It gave me great relief. I recommend it to all Dyspeptics as a very good remedy."

Ed. Bergeron, General Dealer, Lauzon, Levis, Quebec, writes: "I have used August Flower with the best possible results for Dyspepsia."

C. A. Barrington, Engineer and General Smith, Sydney, Australia, writes: "August Flower has effected a complete cure in my case. It acted like a miracle."

Geo. Gates, Corinth, Miss., writes: "I consider your August Flower the best remedy in the world for Dyspepsia. I was almost dead with that disease, but used several bottles of August Flower, and now consider myself a well man. I sincerely recommend this medicine to suffering humanity the world over." ©

G. G. GREEN, Sole Manufacturer, Woodbury, New Jersey, U. S. A.

Minard's Lintment Cures Distemper.

THERE is a woman living in Vienna, with a most remarkable throat. According to the *New York Sun*, "You can pass probes to all parts of both her throat and larynx without causing any spasms of the muscles, what in ordinary language is called gagging. You can place buttons in various parts of her larynx and remove them again and she will suffer no discomfort. Why this should be so, nobody knows. The most eminent throat specialists in the world have examined her and found no reason for it. Her vocal cords are as pearly white as those found in a typically normal throat. She visits the various clinics of Vienna, and rents her throat out for a gulden an hour to young doctors who wish to gain skill in manipulation." Frau Keller carries her own instruments in a little bag, and will permit no others to be used. She is thoroughly versed in the anatomy of the throat, and teaches a young doctor all the parts of the throat which he must learn to touch.

THE Emperor of Russia some years ago visited a needle factory in his dominions in order to see what machinery—with the human hand—could produce. A number of very fine needles were shown to him, thousands of which together did not weigh half an ounce, and he wondered that such minute objects could be pierced with an eye. The borer—that is, the workman whose business it is to bore the eyes in these needles—asked for a hair from the monarch's head. It was given readily, with a smile. He placed it at once under the boring machine, made a hole in it with the greatest care and then handed the singular needle to the astonished Czar. The second curious needle is in the possession of Queen Victoria. It was made at Redditch, and represents the column of Trojan in miniature—a well-known Roman column, which is adorned with sculpture showing Trojan's heroism in war. On the needle, too, are represented scenes in Victoria's life, but they are done in such a minute pattern that you must use a magnifying glass to see them. And more than this, the Victoria needle can be opened, and within it are several smaller ones.—*Irish Times*.

Petermann's Mitteilungen contains an interesting map, by Dr. E. Hahn, of the "Kulturformen" of the earth, showing the areas within which different methods of getting a living out of the soil are employed. Dr. Hahn discards the old-fashioned division into hunters, fishermen, shepherds and agriculturists as containing a fundamental error; for these three successive "stages" he constitutes six "forms." The simpler forms may have been more widely spread in the earlier periods of the world's history, but all exist side by side at the present time, as methods of cultivation arising from the physical and climatic conditions of the regions in which each is employed. The simplest form is hunting and fishing. The large area which Dr. Hahn assigns to this form in north-eastern Europe and Asia is somewhat remarkable. Next comes what Dr. Hahn calls Hackbau, which we may translate by hand-tillage. This form is characteristic of Central America, the basins of the Orinoco and Amazons, tropical Africa, Further India, and the Malay Archipelago, with the exception of certain coast districts. Plantations, the third form, are found wherever coffee, rice, sugar, are grown on a large scale. Next comes what Dr. Hahn calls "our European and West Asiatic agriculture," characterized by the use of the plough, the employment of oxen as beasts of burden, and the growing of corn. Originating in Mesopotamia, this form has spread, with but slight changes, over all the more civilized parts of the world. With regard to the fifth form, cattle farming, Dr. Hahn states that the only circumstance which was considered characteristic of the shepherd's life was the fact of his being a nomad. This excluded all those herds consisted of other animals than sheep or goats. Larger cattle require better food than could always be obtained on the march. He therefore puts all owners of herds in one category, whether nomads or settlers. They are spread over all Central and Northern Asia, and are found in Arabia, on the borders of the Sahara, in South Africa, and in certain portions of Northern Europe, America and Australia. A curious feature is a long, narrow strip extending from Somaliland into South Africa at varying distances from the

East Coast; by his own account, however, it should not have been reckoned to the cattle-farming regions, as the cowherders make little or no use of the milk given by their animals, which are looked upon as mere standards of value and wealth. The last is the elaborate form of cultivation in small plots, which is the only method by which the exhausted soil of China can be got to maintain its huge population.—*Science*.

THE Jews of Scripture history knew nothing, it appears, of the microscope nor of the nature of disease germs, but the Jewish housewife evidently felt more than does the modern housekeeper the importance of thoroughness in house sanitation. If she found a spot of brown or yellow mould growing upon the wall of her house, she did not simply wipe or wash it off, nor was she satisfied with what is now considered as doing all that domestic sanitation requires, the application of a coat of calcimine or whitewash, or fancy wallpaper to paste over the walls. Instructed by the priest in reference to the danger of living in a house permitting the growth of mould, with the myriads of kindred germs which may accompany such condition, the wife and mother of that period on the discovery of the patch of mould—the "plague spot," in her dwelling, immediately moved her family out of the dwelling, with all her stores—mats, rugs, blankets, robes, pots, cups, etc., probably into a tent, and the priest came in and looked the premises over, and instead of using a little carbolic acid or lime wash he brought his servants with trowels, shovels and baskets and laid bare the stone walls of that house with such a cleaning and scraping as would astonish our modern civilization. Mothers should bear in mind that in rooms, closets or corners which are not scrupulously clean and dry and in which air and sunlight cannot freely penetrate, mould spores will take root, and where mould spores will develop and grow, there the soil favours the development of such disease germs as diphtheria, whence they may be transferred to the little throats of the children.—*Canada Health Journal*.

HAVE YOU READ HOW Mr. W. D. Wentz of Geneva, N. Y., was cured of the severest form of dyspepsia? He said everything he ate seemed like pouring melted lead into his stomach. Hood's Sarsaparilla effected a perfect cure. Full particulars will be sent if you write C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

The highest praise has been won by Hood's Pills for their easy, yet efficient action.

M. LIPMANN has terminated, for a time, his experiments at La Sarbonne in obtaining coloured photographs. He has succeeded in getting four, which are to be presented to the Academy at the next sitting. One represents a fragment of a painted glass window, with four colours; the second a basket of oranges; the third two flags, those of Russia and France; the fourth a superb macaw. The colours are most brilliant, but the learned experimentalist grieves to say that he cannot yet master the reproduction of several colours, but hopes for success by means of that all-powerful aid, perseverance.—*Philadelphia Record*.

EVERY testimonial regarding Hood's Sarsaparilla is an honest, unpurchased statement of what this medicine has actually done.

C. C. RICHARDS & Co.

Sirs,—I was formerly a resident of Port La Tour and have always used MINARD'S LINTMENT in my household, and know it to be the best remedy for emergencies of ordinary character.

Norway, Me.

JOSEPH A. SNOW.

A DISTRESSING SITUATION. — What a dreadful thing it is to wake up in the middle of the night suffering from cholera—the nearest doctor a mile away and no one to send for him. Imagine a more distressing domestic situation, if you can; and yet cases of this kind are very common. The trouble, however, would never have become serious if the man of the house had a bottle of PERRY DAVIS' PAIN KILLER at hand, for it is a remedy that never fails to cure cholera, cramps, diarrhoea, or dysentery. All druggists keep it. 25c. each for large New size.

That Tired Feeling

Prevails with its most enervating and discouraging effect in spring and early summer, when the days grow warmer and the toning effect of the cold air is gone. Hood's Sarsaparilla speedily overcomes "that tired feeling," whether caused by change of climate, season or life, by overwork or illness, and imparts a feeling of strength, comfort and self-confidence.

Editor Rowell Talks Common Sense.

"Every one living in our variable climate, particularly as we Americans live during the winter, eating meat, especially fat meat, needs something to cleanse the system and

Free a Clogged Liver

in the spring. Hood's Sarsaparilla completely fills the bill as a Spring Medicine. After taking two or three bottles I always feel a hundred per cent. better, yes, even five hundred per cent. better. The brain is clearer, the body in better condition for work, sleep is sweeter, and the little troubles of life pass by unnoticed."—A. S. ROWELL, Editor *Lancaster Gazette, Lancaster, N. H.*

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Where other preparations fail. Be sure to get Hood's Sarsaparilla. It is Peculiar to Itself.

DR. J. WEBSTER FOX, the eminent oculist, in an address in the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, prescribed the following rules for the care of the eyesight in childhood: Do not allow the light to fall on the faces of sleeping infants. Do not allow babes to gaze at a bright light. Do not allow children to keep their eyes too long on one object at any one time. Do not allow them to study much by artificial light. Do not allow them to use books with small type. Do not allow them to read in a railway carriage. Do not allow boys to smoke tobacco, especially cigarettes. Do not necessarily ascribe headaches to indigestion; the eyes may be the exciting cause. Do not allow itinerant spectacle vendors to prescribe glasses.—*Canada Health Journal*.

DUST, like the poor, says the *British Medical Journal*, we have always with us, nor has Hygeia with her newest brooms yet succeeded in banishing it. Yet there is abundant evidence to show that a dusty street contains more lurking potentialities of mischief than a jungle peopled with the hungriest wild beasts. To the researches of Miquel and others can now be added the results of an elaborate investigation by Dr. Luigi Manfredi on the composition of the dust of the streets of Naples. The number of microbes of all kinds found in it amounted on the average to 761,521,000 per gramme. Remarkable differences in the proportion of micro-organisms were, however, observed in the dust from different quarters of the city. Thus in the streets least exposed to contamination, that is to say, where there was the least traffic and where the hygienic conditions were most satisfactory, the average number of microbes in the dust was only 10,000,000 per gramme. On the other hand, in the busiest thoroughfares, the average rose to 1,000,000,000, and in some of the dirtiest streets to the enormous figure of 5,000,000,000 per gramme. In this "endless ocean" of infinitesimal life, there was a large number of pathogenic organisms, and the unhealthiness of the street or quarter was directly proportional to the number of microbes in the dust. Dr. Manfredi carefully tested the infective power of the dust, and obtained positive results in seventy-three per cent. of his experiments. Of forty-two cases in which he communicated disease to guinea-pigs by inoculating them with Neapolitan dust, he found the microbe of pus in eight, the bacillus of malignant oedema in four, the bacillus of tetanus in two, the bacillus of tuberculosis in three, not to mention several other microscopic *feræ nature* possessing the power of inducing fatal septicæmia in the unfortunate guinea-pigs on whom they were tried. The moral pointed by these discomforting facts is that our *Ædiles* should take the Dutch housewife for their example, and wage relentless war against dust and dirt of every kind.—*Canada Health Journal*.

Minard's Lintment Cures Garget in Cows.