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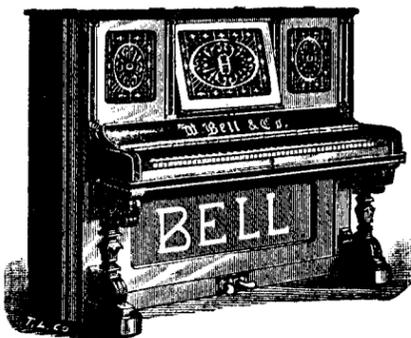
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All articles, contributions, and letters on matters pertaining to the editorial department should be addressed to the Editor, and not to any other person who may be supposed to be connected with the paper.

THE renewal of the *modus vivendi* with the United States for another year was not unexpected and must meet the approval of all good citizens. It will receive this the more readily, as Sir John Thompson was able to couple with his motion for the second reading of the Bill, the statement that the Government had received an intimation from the United States authorities that when the Behring Sea matter is disposed of they will not be unwilling to renew the negotiations with respect to the Atlantic fisheries. A later American despatch, which ought to be authentic because of its reasonableness, represents Mr. Blaine as having definitely abandoned the contention, if indeed he ever seriously put it forward, that Behring Sea is a *mare clausum*, and having further practically admitted that compensation is due to the owners of the Canadian vessels which were seized by the United States' revenue cutters. Should this report prove correct the chief difficulties in the way of a settlement of the Behring Sea question will have been removed, and the way to a treaty made easy. It is in the interest of Great Britain and Canada no less than in that of the United States that whatever regulations may be necessary for the preservation of the seal fisheries shall be agreed on and enforced. The despatch adds, that "the regulation is to be restricted to whatever provisions indisputable facts may show to be essential to a preservation of the seal herds resorting to Behring Sea, but in the proposed international agreement no consideration can be given to the revenue interests of the United States or the pecuniary interest of the lessees of the seal islands, such consideration lying entirely beyond the scope of international cognizance." This, and in fact the whole despatch, though eminently fair and just, is so unlike the tenor of ordinary Washington despatches that we suspect it of coming from a Canadian source. Nevertheless, we can but hope that it will prove well founded, and that we may soon see this vexatious and exasperating business permanently disposed of. We are less sanguine of any early settlement of the Atlantic Fisheries' question being effected, such as will be at all acceptable to Canada. Nevertheless the consent of a Republican administration to renew negotiations, at so early a stage in the Presidential term, is a favourable omen. In view of all the good that would result from a final removal of this cause

of irritation, it will be the part of wisdom and of duty for Canadians to make up their minds to go to the farthest limits of concession, consistent with their self-respect and sense of justice, and while firmly and inflexibly resolved to yield no jot or tittle of their territorial rights, or national prerogatives, to show in every respect in which these are not involved a "sweet reasonableness," and a sincere desire for a final and friendly settlement of this chronic quarrel.

WHETHER the motion of which Mr. Blake gave notice on Monday, providing for the reference of important matters touching the exercise of the power of disallowance, or of appellate power as to educational legislation, to a high judicial tribunal, for a reasoned opinion on the questions of law and fact involved as a preliminary to executive action, be accepted or rejected, it can scarcely be doubted that some provision of the kind is greatly needed in order to ensure the smoother working of our constitutional machinery. The notice derives, of course, special significance in view of the recent educational legislation in Manitoba, and the probable necessity for decision and action in regard to it, at an early day, by the Ottawa authorities. It seems to be felt, even by those who are most strongly opposed to the new Manitoba School Act and who would gladly see it rendered abortive, that a mere veto by the Dominion Government, on the simple pronouncement of the Minister of Justice, would be very unsatisfactory and no real solution of the difficulty. Such a veto would be almost certainly followed by a prompt re-enactment of the Bill, perhaps after an appeal to the people of Manitoba, who, in their present temper, would be sure to sustain their Government by an overwhelming majority. Thus the last state of the case would be, from the point of view of the friends of Separate Schools, worse than the first. There would also be great danger, in such a case, of a final dead-lock between the Dominion and Manitoba. On the other hand it is easy to foresee that the establishment of a tribunal of reference, such as that contemplated by Mr. Blake's motion, would be attended with peculiar difficulties. The question of finality would at once be brought to the surface. Would the Government be bound to accept the decision of the high judicial tribunal, whether the Supreme Court or some other body specially constituted for the purpose, or would it be at liberty to reject the opinion and use the prerogative? To accept the opinion of the Court as final in every case might be regarded as a shifting of responsibility scarcely consistent with our Constitution, or the British system of responsible government. It would certainly be a virtual acceptance of the Opposition view that the veto can be properly used only in cases in which the legislation is *ultra vires* of the Provincial Legislature. It may be that the Dominion Government is now prepared to accept this view. Some utterances of Sir John A. Macdonald and other members of the Government, during the present session, certainly favour this supposition. Should this not be the case, however, and should the Government maintain, as it has on previous occasions been understood to do, that the British North America Act gives large discretionary powers to the Federal authorities, in matters in which the general interests of the Dominion are involved, the existence of such a court of reference as that proposed might prove a serious embarrassment. It would certainly require a good deal of courage on the part of the Federal Government to disallow, on general principles, an Act of a Provincial Legislature, which had been officially declared by the authorized tribunal to be *intra vires*. On the whole it seems probable that the Government, while maintaining their right to seek such judicial advice as they may desire, will refuse to be bound to take that of a body specially authorized or constituted for the purpose. In that case Mr. Blake's proposition may probably be incorporated as an important and popular plank in the Liberal platform.

DISCUSSION of the Esplanade and related questions is still rife in public meetings and in the city press; and must, we suppose, continue to be so until the matter is finally disposed of by some definite action. It is disappointing to find that the representatives of the citizens and those of the railways seem to be no nearer agreement than they were at the outset. The tendency is, we fear,

in the opposite direction. It is to be hoped that the good sense of all concerned, as well as the magnitude of the interests at stake, will prevent the discussion from degenerating into personalities, or becoming mixed up with personal issues of any kind. The railway solicitors are still disposed to adhere to the original plan of overhead bridges, and will, no doubt, continue to do so as long as there is any possibility of gaining the ends desired by the companies. But if anything has become clear in the course of the agitation, it is that the citizens of Toronto, now that their attention has been drawn to the matter and they have given it earnest consideration, will not consent to be shut out from the water front of the city save at three or four points as far apart as Yonge and Jarvis Streets, access at these points being only by elevated bridges, with more or less steep inclines, at least on the Bay-ward side. Comparison between such an arrangement and that contemplated by the advocates of the viaduct scheme, with not only free access on the level to the shore at all points, but with one or more open parks delightfully situated at the very water's edge, is of such a kind that once the latter is conceived as possible, the thought of the former becomes unbearable. It is not easy to see why a viaduct need be uglier to the view than a bridge; but any lack of attractiveness it may have from an aesthetic point of view would be amply compensated for by the results of the substitution of pleasant parks for the gridiron of railway tracks, with their unsightly box cars, which would be the foreground of the picture should the views of the railway men prevail. Seeing that the safety, convenience and health of all the citizens for a generation to come are more or less involved in the decision of the present issue, the members of the Council, the Citizens' Committee and the representatives of other influential bodies, which have moved in the matter, will deserve well of their fellow-citizens if they stand firm to the position that has been so well taken, until success is assured.

NOTHING in Ontario politics is more surprising than the complacency with which the great majority of the people have accepted the school-book system which has been foisted upon the Province by the present Minister of Education. We refer more particularly to the modes of authorization and of publication which he has adopted—modes which are not only educationally indefensible, but are so completely at variance with the principles of Liberalism, as commonly understood, that it is astonishing they should have been proposed by a so-called Liberal Government, and adopted by a so-called Liberal Legislature. Those modes involve the essential features of the worst kind of monopoly,—a monopoly fostered and protected by the Government and Legislature. The healthful principle of competition is, as we have shown on former occasions, almost entirely eliminated. The Minister of Education virtually chooses the books to be used in the schools, and in some cases even employs or appoints the person to edit the books. The absurdity of this arrangement, from the literary and educational point of view, is equalled only by the absurdity, from a business point of view, of the mode of publication, under which the Department holds the copyright, and enters into a contract with some favoured publisher to produce and sell the books at a fixed price. We make no insinuation against the good faith of the Minister, but it is capable of demonstration, and has in fact been demonstrated, that in the case of different books now in use, the profits made by the publishers are enormous. The single fact that the price of one set of books, of which hundreds of thousands of copies are required annually, was recently cut down from ten to six cents per copy at a stroke, speaks volumes. It is not easy to conceive a system combining a larger number of the worst features. Under it a corrupt Minister would have it in his power to put a small fortune into the pocket of any favourite he might choose to entrust with the compilation of a school-book, or of any publisher with whom he might choose to contract for its publication. All inducement to the production of improved text-books by native authors, or to the publication of such by enterprising publishers, is taken away. The public school teachers who ought, in virtue of their profession, to be the best judges of the

merits of the text-books they use, are utterly without choice or voice in the matter. These are but some of the features and results of this system—a system which is condemned and denounced by leading educationists in other countries. Now that the Province is on the eve of a general election this matter should be intelligently discussed and clearly set before the people. We hope the Opposition candidates will study the question, and present it in its true light. We say this not because we are desirous that the Government should be weakened or overthrown, for we see no reason for hoping for a better one on the whole, but because we think there is great need of reform in the very important Department referred to, and would like to see whatever Minister or Government may be in power compelled to accomplish such reform.

WITH the meeting of the Rykert Investigating Committee on Wednesday last the enquiry entered upon a new and unexpected phase. Up to that time the question was supposed to involve the good name and good faith of Mr. Rykert alone, at least of those directly concerned in the transaction. It had not previously, so far as we are aware, transpired that there had been any competition in the case, though it was never quite clear why, in the absence of competition, and on compliance with the prescribed conditions, there should have been so much difficulty and delay in procuring the limit. Our impression is, in fact, that the absence of competition was at least implied in the version of the affair that was given to the committee and the public by the evidence adduced up to this point. But on Wednesday a new witness appeared before the committee in the person of Mr. William Laidlaw. Mr. Laidlaw's statements, corroborated by those of Mr. McCarthy, go to show that the former was not merely a competitor but a prior applicant for the limit in question; that he and Mr. Rykert had worked in harmony for a time, apparently with the understanding that the former by right of priority, was entitled to first choice; and that he awoke one day from his dream of security to find that the coveted limit covered, or supposed to be covered, by his application, had been granted, without his knowledge, to Mr. Rykert's client, while for his own he had received, through some mistake in the order-in-council, the empty right to select a timber-limit on the treeless prairie. Thus the plot is thickened, and the necessity for a thorough unravelling made more imperative than before. It is evident that there was either very sharp practice or very stupid practice in the business. In other words, either an inexplicable blunder or an unpardonable crime was committed somewhere, at some stage, by some one. Whether blunder or crime, and when, where and by whom committed, it would be improper for us to conjecture, but is the bounden duty of the committee to find out and to declare.

NEWFOUNDLAND may perhaps be excused for showing some disposition under present circumstances to resort to heroic measures. The new regulations issued by the Government of the Island to govern the sale of bait to foreigners, during the ensuing fishing season, have certainly the virtue of thoroughness. A Halifax despatch says that the Hon. Robert Bond, Colonial (?) Secretary of Newfoundland, has notified United States Consul-General Frye, that the Island Government have decided to allow all foreign vessels to take out licenses for the purchase of bait in Newfoundland for the ensuing fishing season, and that licenses will be obtainable at the usual ports of entry on the payment of a fee of one dollar per ton, said license being good for three weeks only from the date. On subsequent entry into the Island ports for bait supply, a new license will have to be taken out and the same fees paid, and so on throughout the fishing season. Light dues will also be payable as usual by all vessels entering the ports. The announcement is of special interest to Canadians as well as to Americans, as it is understood that the regulations apply alike to both. Precautions are taken to prevent a vessel from taking out a second license within three weeks of the date of the first. Even where a license has been obtained on these hard terms, the vessel is not permitted to buy bait at pleasure, but is limited to the amount of one barrel per ton. Rumour had it, the other day, that the Islanders were about to send delegates to sound both the United States and Canada in regard to annexation, but this action does not seem much like an annexationist policy. If the regulations be as represented, one of the most serious questions for the Newfoundlanders to ponder will be that relating to the probable effect of such a course upon Newfoundland's prospects of being admitted as a

party to the final settlement of the Fisheries' question should an agreement be reached between the United States and Great Britain in regard to the matter. The main object of this rather sturdy policy, as explained by an Island paper supposed to represent the Government, is to prevent the exportation of bait to St. Pierre and to compel the French to enter the Island ports and to pay such an amount for bait as, together with light dues, will so cripple them that they will not be able to compete with the native fishermen in the foreign markets. The proceeds of the license fees, which the *Telegram* estimates at \$100,000 from the French alone, to say nothing of those from Canadians and Americans, are to be distributed as bounties among the Island fishermen.

THE spectacle presented the other day of a poor Chinaman tossed like a football from one end to the other of the Niagara International Bridge, and forced to remain for a time on the bridge itself, forbidden to set foot on either shore, was a reproach to the two Christian nations whose un-Christian laws can produce such a result. It is true that the Canadian legislation falls a good deal short of the American in its disregard of the international rights of Chinamen, but it is a pity that our legislators have been constrained to follow so bad an example even at a distance. Not content with the extreme to which anti-Chinese legislation has already been carried, a Bill is now pending in the United States Senate which, should it become law, will surpass in atrocity all previous measures of this or perhaps any other civilized nation in modern times. The Bill in question requires the Superintendent of the Census to give to every Chinaman in the country, during the approaching census-taking, a certificate, which, after ninety days from the date of the beginning of the enumeration, shall be the sole evidence of his right to remain in the United States. Failing to produce this certificate he will be liable to deportation, or to imprisonment for five years. It is not probable that the Bill can pass in its unmodified brutality, but in any shape in which the principle may be retained it will be an outrage on humanity. We are not sure, however, that the best thing that could happen for the persecuted Chinese would not be its adoption as originally drafted. The American nation has a conscience, hard though it be to reach it in a political matter. There are indications that this conscience is becoming aroused in regard to the ill-treatment of the Chinese, and the culmination of that ill-treatment in such a measure as the one in question would almost surely lead to a reaction which would compel the sweeping away of the whole body of this iniquitous legislation. Some of the most powerful religious journals in the Union are speaking out emphatically on the subject. The matter is one which comes very closely home to the religious societies because of the disastrous effects such treatment is likely to have upon their missionary work in China. The *Christian Union* declares that to select a certain class of those who have come to the country and put them under special restrictions and requirements, and render them subject to exile from the land of their adoption for no crime whatever, is an act wholly unjustifiable and wholly unworthy of a great nation. The *Independent* goes much further, and permits a prominent contributor to declare that they are disgracing themselves before the civilized world by this "iniquitous legislation," and to call on all organized bodies of Christian people "to pour in their protests and make themselves heard at the bar of the Senate."

MR. GOSCHEN'S budget presented in the British Parliament the other day, showing a surplus of no less than £3,221,000, of which over £3,000,000 was in excess of the estimates, indicates a degree of national prosperity, greater probably than had been generally anticipated. The fact that no less than £1,800,000 of the total excess over the estimates came from alcoholic beverages does not, we suppose, lessen the significance of the figures in the respect named, however they may reflect on the good taste of the multitudes who can think of no better way of investing their increased earnings than by what the Chancellor characterized as a "universal rush to the beer barrel, the spirit bottle and the wine decanter." The excess of £100,000 in postal and £90,000 in telegraph receipts, above the estimates, affords very tangible evidence of increasing activity in commercial and industrial spheres. A most gratifying part of Mr. Goschen's announcement was the statement that the national debt has been reduced during the last three years by £23,323,000, the largest reduction that has ever been made during the same length of time. The uses to which they

put the increase of the revenue in England are in instructive contrast with the methods in vogue in the United States and Canada. Indian and colonial postage rates, and the tax on apprentice agreements are reduced, the stamp on health insurance policies and the duties on gold and silver plate abolished, the duty on currants reduced, also that on inhabited houses, while all working class tenements under twenty pounds rental are to be exempted from the house tax. In all these cases the change is in the direction of lessening the burden of taxation resting upon the people, especially upon the poorer classes. Whether the budget prove to be a "dissolution budget," as the Gladstonians prophecy, or not, it can scarcely fail to materially strengthen the position of the Government. That was a fortunate day for Lord Salisbury in which he was able to announce the appointment of Mr. Goschen as his Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is quite possible, as hostile critics suggest, that a still better use might have been made of the surplus. A reduction of the income tax, for instance, might have distributed the benefits of tax-reduction more evenly and more appreciably. None the less the budget is undeniably an encouraging one, nor will its effect in strengthening the Government's position be greatly affected by the consideration, however truthful, that the successful showing is due mainly to causes beyond the control of any Chancellor or government.

THE speech of Chancellor von Caprivi at the opening of the Prussian Diet was in some respects agreeably disappointing. The frankness of the new Chancellor's reference to the cause of his predecessor's resignation was more than could have been expected, and perhaps all that could be desired. Divested of its courteous phraseology, it means simply that Bismarck's personality was too towering, and his will too over-mastering, to give other statesmen, in other departments of the Government, a chance, and that he was, therefore, compelled to give way in order that the ideas of others might have larger scope and prominence. In a word Bismarck was either too strong or too self-willed for the position. The ostensible design of the change is thus to substitute for what was in effect a one-man Cabinet, one in which the heads of the various Ministerial Departments may become something more than mere figure-heads, or agents for registering and carrying out the decrees of an autocratic chief. But between the lines of Chancellor von Caprivi's speech it is easy to read that the primary cause of Prince Bismarck's retirement is, as has been all along pretty well understood, to be found in the determination of the Emperor himself to have his own views and wishes count for more in matters of administration. To what extent the new regime will make room for the introduction of a larger admixture of the representative and responsible element in the German system of Government remains to be seen. There is, at the outset, no other indication of a tendency towards liberalism than that involved in the pluralizing of the Government Departments in fact as well as in form. In some respects, particularly in regard to the odious restraints upon the press, the new Chancellor announces his determination to be more rigidly conservative than his predecessor. He has curtailed instead of enlarging the sphere of newspaper information, and even goes so far as to intimate that the Government will retain newspapers in its own interest, for the purpose of influencing public opinion abroad. It is not easy to conceive of a system more directly opposed to the growth of free institutions or the spirit of genuine liberalism. But it is none the less a method which requires a despotic will for its maintenance, and one which, it is pretty safe to predict, will be found hard to associate with the proposed division of ministerial responsibility. It is, moreover, inconceivable, in view of the rapid spread of democratic ideas in Germany, to say nothing of the encouragement and stimulus, designed or undesigned, which the Emperor himself is giving to such ideas, that the people of Germany will long tolerate either a star-chamber ministry or a muzzled press.

THOUGH Governor Hill, of New York, has shown himself a determined enemy of the Australian ballot system, and will, by his persistent vetoes, probably prevent the passage of the Saxton Ballot Reform Bill this session, he has with happy inconsistency put his name to another measure of the greatest importance as a means of securing electoral purity. This Bill, aimed against open and covert bribery, is very stringent. Following the excellent English precedent, it requires every candidate who is voted for in any public election in the State to file within ten days after such election "an itemized statement showing in

detail all the moneys contributed or expended by him directly or indirectly, by himself or through any other person, in aid of his election." This statement must be sworn to and filed with the proper officers. Combined with this are clauses providing for the punishment by imprisonment of convicted bribe-givers and bribe-takers. As we have often maintained, such a law is required in Canada as the necessary complement of our present Acts. Until these two features—the candidate's sworn statement and the imprisonment of both the briber and the receiver of bribes as criminals—are embodied in our statutes, our legislators will not have done what reasonable legislation can do to put down corruption and secure pure elections.

ONE at least of President Harrison's friends does not hesitate to use the true friend's privilege of plainness of speech. Mr. Henry C. Lea, the well-known Philadelphia publisher, who wrote a scathing review of the Cleveland administration, and who was an active and influential supporter of Mr. Harrison during the last Presidential campaign, has written an open letter to the President, in which he sets before him some homely truths in vigorous English. After dwelling upon the disgraceful political methods followed by Mr. Quay, the Pennsylvania Republican "boss," to whom the President has given control of the Federal patronage in that State, Mr. Lea goes on to remind Mr. Harrison of the favourable auspices under which he entered the White House, and the grand opportunities he had for winning the confidence and gratitude of the people and a second term for himself by a wise and upright administration. This faithful mentor then proceeds as follows:—

"Look back now and reflect upon your work. You have sedulously devoted yourself to the distribution of 'patronage'; you have turned out nearly forty thousand Democratic office-holders, and in this ignoble business you have filled vacancies thus made by giving 'recognition' to the worst element in the party. You have thus degraded it to the lowest level, till it no longer deserves or enjoys the public confidence, and its interest, as well as that of the Nation, demands its purification by defeat."

Mr. Lea goes on to predict defeat for the party in the coming November elections, and even goes so far as to say that "were the Presidential election to take place to-morrow, there could scarce be doubt of Democratic success." Be that as it may it is undeniable that President Harrison has been conspicuously unfaithful to his ante-election promises in the matter of Civil Service reform, and has put the unworthy dictum, "To the victors belong the spoils," to practical use with an energy worthy of a better principle. It will be, to say the least, not at all surprising should the election of 1892 find enlisted against him a stronger Civil Service Reform element than that whose defection from the Republican ranks gave Cleveland the Presidential chair in 1884.

#### MONTREAL LETTER.

##### SOMEBODY'S BOYS.

THE Superintendent of the Boys' Home has just presented us with a business-like statement of the work for the nineteenth year of this worthy institution, a statement which seems entitled to more than the customary waste-basket reception. The boys have been for a few years enjoying their pretty new Home on Mountain Street, and the watchful and intelligent care of Mr. Superintendent Dick and his wife. Nevertheless it shares in the imperfections of most things, as Mr. Dick suggests that a gymnasium, a swimming bath and a reading room would relieve the pressure on dormitories, dining-room and passages in the long winter evenings. Mr. Dick is right in regarding these as co-labourers with him in his work, and the directors will show a short-sighted policy if they do not supply them before another annual statement.

The admissions during the year have been 134, the largest number of whom appear to stay only a short time, although several have remained for two or three years, and one or two have been wise enough to make their abode with Mr. Dick for eight or nine years. A balance of 74 brought forward from last year makes up the family circle to 208. Of these the Superintendent has been compelled to expel only 9, the majority of the rest having proved themselves more or less worthy of the advice and help bestowed. The sum of \$6,135 was contributed to the support of the Home by the boys themselves.

A glance at the year 1888, when the largest number were in the house is full of suggestion as to the origin of these boys, and presents a phase of our political life which should surely find its place side by side with our voluminous Emigration Returns. Of 199 boys in that year only 51 are entered as Canadian, 4 are American, 14 Scotch, 20 Irish, and 106 are English. An examination of the fate of the boys shows this fact in still more striking colours. From the Superintendent's Report we gather that "the most numerous class of all with whom we have to deal with are English boys, who, having been sent out under the auspices of certain institutions from the old country, had been placed on farms without regard to the boys' taste

or aptitude for such a life; tired of the hard work, drudgery, long hours, little or no pay and little or no clothes, they either run away or are shipped to the city, with only their railway ticket, and sometimes not that; these generally find their way to the Home on arrival, or, in some cases, after a few nights in the Police Station, Refuge, or some friendly doorway, or, after walking about several nights on the streets. In time, if these will settle down to patient, industrious work, be content to do the best they can, without having much money to spend on collars, neckties, etc., generally turn out good fellows, and leave us with employment at which they can make an honest living. Of course, amongst these are a shiftless class for whom we can do little or nothing to reform, but even these need a home with its comforts, helps and restraints. We give them a trial."

From this it would appear that first we induce and pay these boys to come out from England; second, we have to support them after they come; and third, we have the certain knowledge that after all that is done for them a large number of them are roaming and lurking over the country in a state of helpless shiftlessness, if not of actual crime. The analogy may be carried still further if we remember that the Boys' Home is but one of the host of institutions which might tell the same tale. Without analysing the contents of our jails, and our penitentiaries, we have only to look at our St. Andrew's and St. George's Homes, our Irish Benevolent, our houses of refuge, filled from the same source. The Dean of Montreal made an appeal from his pulpit last Sunday, that the presence of sickness and the absence of employment had practically emptied the parish purse; and the Board of Out-Door Relief tells us, in begging for more aid, that relief has been given out for fifteen weeks, that during that time over 2,260 families have received assistance, at the rate of 150 families per week.

To return to our own Canadian boys in the Home we find material for a year's sermons in the causes that bring them there. After accounting for the most of the boys as *English* (most distinctly not *British*) emigrant wanderers, if not vagrants, the remainder are there because of "brutal fathers," "homes broken up by death," and "second marriages." Many of them are helped in an upward and onward path of life, though some have to be left to return to the evil of former days. Some return to visit the Home and others write to tell of gratitude. Among the letters are some from jails and penitentiaries, where the writers have had time to reflect. "I write these few lines with my hole heart I got 3 years for breaking into a jewelry store forgive me for what I have done to you you have been like a mother to me but I thought I knew every thing." "I (in Kingston Penitentiary) received your letter on Sunday my heart jumped right up into my mouth with joy to see that I had one more friend in the world." "When I lie down (in the same doleful quarters) in my gloomy cell at night my thoughts go to my old sins I pray to God I do try my best to do what you tell me. This is my last stamp I am using, please send me some more." "(St. Vincent de Paul). Before I came here I thought I could go through the world of my own strength your good advice was all thrown away upon me, especially about staying out at night if I had taken your advice I should not have been here I should have had a good situation with good clothes and money in the bank instead of being a convict with God's help I will lead a different life when I go from here. I wrote to my father he was very sorry, I was so head strong I would not take even his advice take me for an example. I remain your humble servant."

The boys have a Band of Mercy to cultivate and encourage kindness of disposition. Their pledge is "I will try to be kind to all living creatures, and try to protect them from cruel usage." Strange that a class of the community so superlatively given to the love of horses, dogs, birds, and pets of all sorts, should also be the class that is most strongly tempted to such cruelty. A touch of the poetic is given to the simple life in the Home in the reference to the cemetery lot which the little fellows have railed in at their own expense.

Their Penny Savings Bank has increased in business so that a larger office is needed for it. It is open every Saturday evening and the customers are interesting and numerous. They have saved and banked during the year \$253, and have reaped \$138 of interest. Since December 140 new accounts have opened. The number of deposits last year was 6,864, and of withdrawals 778. Sixty-six boys deposited \$521, averaging \$7.89 per boy; the highest being \$78.63, and the lowest 2c. The sum of the deposits was \$6,120, and that of the withdrawals was \$4,448, a disparity which seems to invite an investigation on the part of the directors.

VILLE MARIE.

ROMANCE is the cry of the time, and the few cynics of the press may deride it as much as they like, but romance is going to be once more the tendency of literature, and the sum and substance of its critical orthodoxy. The world now feels exactly the same want as it has always felt. It wants to be lifted up, to be inspired, to be thrilled, to be shown what brave things human nature is capable of at its best. This must be the task of the new romanticism, and the new romanticism can only work through idealism. It can never be the task of the old realism. The realists are all unbelievers; unbelievers in God, or unbelievers in man, or both. The idealist must be a believer; a believer in God, a believer in man, and a believer in Divine justice whereon the world is founded.—*Contemporary Review.*

#### HOMAGE À ALBANI.

(Rhapsodie d'un Vieillard.)

ALOUETTE du ciel, prima donna des anges,  
Dans leur cœur seraphique, au service du Seigneur,  
Lui témoignant, sans cesse, leur hommage et louanges,  
Jouissant, pour eux mêmes, d'un éternel bonheur.

Benissant sur le jour quand, par grace, le bon Père,  
Désirant nous accorder une joie extatique,  
Albani delegua descendre sur la terre,  
Pour enchanter le monde de sa voix magnétique.

Née du ciel, elle se rendra au Père qu'elle adore,  
Et les croyants fidèles, amateurs de musique,  
Iront jouir aussi des harmonies, encore,  
De leur cher alouette et son chœur angelique.

AMICUS. (Actat 81.)

Toronto, April 21st, 1890.

#### FRENCH FISHERY CLAIMS IN NEW-FOUNDLAND.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Pinsent, of Newfoundland, reviews the fishery dispute with the French in the *Nineteenth Century*:—

It is only at the point, he observes, where interruption by competition or molestation comes in that the French possess any right to resent the presence and operations of the British; and if the French privileges are confined to cod-fishing, it would require the action of a wilfully aggressive spirit on one side or on the other to create a case of disturbance of French cod-fishery by English Lobster-fishing upon a coast so extensive, and where there are so few French cod-fishery stations, or rooms, as they are called. Now the only fishery originally contemplated by the high contracting parties, and to which by agreement between them the French were to be admitted, was the cod-fishery; this was the "fishery" of the treaties. Moreover, the language of the treaties not only did not include, but by express and significant terms excluded all others; and therefore I directed the juries, as to the assertion of right by the French to make an industry of lobster-catching and to erect lobster factories, that it was a right never contemplated or intended by the treaties, because—

1. It was declared by the Treaty of Utrecht that it should be unlawful for the French to erect buildings except those "necessary and usual for drying of fish."
2. The Treaty of Paris (1763) restricted the liberty to "fishing and drying."
3. The Treaty of Versailles (1783) speaks of "the fishery assigned to them by the Treaty of Utrecht."
4. The declaration speaks of "the fishery," and that "the method of carrying on the fishery, which has at all times been acknowledged, shall be the plan upon which the fishery shall be carried on there." (The method of carrying on the fishery meant, in my opinion, the prosecution of the industry in all its stages).
5. The French king's counter-declaration speaks of "the fishery on the coasts of Newfoundland which has been the object of the new arrangements."
6. The Treaty of Paris (1814) declares that the French right of fishery "shall be replaced upon the footing on which it stood in 1792."

There was no such industry as a lobster-fishery in Newfoundland at any of these periods, and no such thing as a lobster factory heard of until within a few years past. Moreover, the language used to describe "the fishery" the French were entitled to pursue is utterly inapplicable to lobster-catching or the erection of factories for preserving and canning lobsters. The prescribed modes of fishing and curing could have no possible relation to such an industry. With regard to the French claim to fish in and bar the rivers and lakes of the island, and to erect weirs, it seemed to me to be in direct violation of the sovereign and territorial rights of Great Britain, for reasons which would be apparent from the comments upon the treaties above made, and from the further fact that all the treaties and declarations uniformly speak of the right of fishing allowed to the French (whatever it may be) as being "on the coasts." That, finally, it appeared to me to be a sound principle of law, applicable to the territorial as distinguished from the maritime status of this part of Newfoundland, its ownership and usufruct, that, while the French should as grantees enjoy every facility for the exercise of their temporary fishery, there is by necessary implication reserved to the grantor all reasonable means essential to the enjoyment of the property remaining in the grantor, such as the right of access to and from the sea, and the use of the shore for ordinary purposes of intercourse and business not affected by the treaty.

I have thus, as concisely as the subject would admit, set forth in this article the history and terms of the treaties which, as might have been anticipated, have been a *questio vexata* between France and England for generations, and will be an ever-recurring source of disagreement and danger as long as they subsist. They form a barrier to the natural settlement of a large, and in some respects the most favoured, part of the great island of Newfoundland. They are, in view of this British possession having long ago taken the status of a large and wealthy colony of British subjects now numbering 200,000, utterly unsuited to the conditions of the present time. As the *Times* has recently observed in one of its articles upon the "French

Treaty" question in Newfoundland—"If the altercations about bait and lobsters should be pacified, others on fresh subjects would speedily leak out. The final result must be as evident to Frenchmen as to Englishmen. In the nature of things it is plain which will have to succumb, a transient company of foreign fishermen or the entire body of inhabitants whom the strangers shut out of the improvement of half their coast. French statesmen cannot be blind to the certain determination of such a dilemma, and should be anxious to devise an arrangement for cutting the knot painlessly and advantageously."

Any Newfoundlander must have observed with much satisfaction the large interest and the favourable hearing recently accorded to the case of the colony by the English press, and the unanimous sympathy and support extended to it. It has very shortly disposed of the absurd claim to "veritable sovereignty," and "right to exercise jurisdiction" within the treaty limits set up in the French Chamber by some of the more ardent advocates of French claims, happily not the responsible ministers. There seems to be little or no difference of opinion upon the construction to be placed upon the treaties with regard to the issues just now particularly pending. A quotation from the *Standard*, in commenting in a leader upon a letter of mine, perhaps gives voice to the general pronouncement of the press as fairly as any excerpt I can make. "But we defy any fair-minded student to read the various provisions, without being forced to the conclusion that the right was carefully and deliberately limited. What, in short, French fishermen were entitled to do was to fish for cod and for nothing else, and to erect only such buildings on shore as were necessary for drying cod. They were definitely debarred from putting up anything that was not essential to fishery—as the fishery was practised at the time of the Treaty of Utrecht." The *Daily News* advocates the buying out of the French claims by England as the simplest solution of the difficulty, and this wise suggestion has been favoured by several other leading English journals. With the support of the English press as the exponent of the opinions and sympathy of the people of the mother country, with a Government able and willing, as well as bound in honour, to protect its colonial subjects in the possession and enjoyment of such rights as, itself possessing, it has transferred to the dominion of the colony, and solicitous to set it forward on the path of that progress which has been retarded by the diplomatic blunders of the past, as well as desirous for the nation's sake to be relieved of a chronic source of difficulty and danger,—it is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when means shall have been devised of forever getting rid of the miserable anomaly of the French Treaty Rights in Newfoundland.

The British Government, says a correspondent of the *Morning Post*, will never seek to deprive Frenchmen of any right to which they are entitled in Newfoundland under treaty, but the Government of the Republic would do well to make early recognition of the fact that, as against the Colony in regard to its own territory, it is taking a losing side in this policy of resistance to elementary principles of public right. The immediate withdrawal of the bounties given to its fishermen to favour them in ruining the trade of those on whose concessions their industry depends, ought to be the first step towards an honourable adjustment of the matter. Our neighbours should not forget that during the 176 years they have had the advantage of treaty rights in Newfoundland, they have succeeded in obtaining more than the treaty ever meant to give them. They can afford to be generous, but in order first to be just they should without delay discontinue the hostile bounties which are starving the industry of those whose property they enjoy.

The remarks of Sir James Ferguson in the House of Commons on Friday evening do not indicate a near prospect of a reasonable consideration of their rights by the French. The "energetic denial" by the French Minister of the right of the colonial fishermen to catch lobsters on the French shore is preposterous. It amounts simply to this, that, from a restricted permission to use certain parts of the Newfoundland coasts during the fishing season for the catching of cod, the French have advanced their pretensions to what is practically a claim to exclusive territorial sovereignty over those parts of the island. An arrangement even temporarily authorising a *status quo* based on such a monstrous assumption could hardly fail to be exceptionally exasperating to the colonists. Diplomacy has allowed the evil to grow to such proportions, that in whatever way it is put an end to, the French will be gainers and the people of Newfoundland the losers. The granting of bounties by the French Government favouring its fishermen at the expense of the colonists, drove the latter to the desperate measure of retaliation, or rather self-protection, known as the Bait Act. Under the prohibitory action of the law the poor colonial fishermen suffer very severely, being deprived by it of their means of existence; but if they were able to continue its operation the bounty-fed French rival industry would eventually be starved off the banks.

If the French claim to carry on the lobster fishery and erect factories on the shore be resisted as it must be, and if it appears that the temporary territorial rights granted them under the treaty have lost most, if not all, of their legitimate value through the exhaustion of the coastal cod fishery, then a case will have to be considered for the abandonment, once for all, of rights which can no longer be used except for purposes of encroachment. The discontinuance of the French bounties, and in return the opening of Newfoundland waters and harbours to French fish-

ermen for all those necessary purposes relating to the deep sea industry, for which the American fishermen are contending on the Canadian coast, ought to afford a fair basis for an agreement between the parties. We have little faith in the value or permanency of any settlement which does not finally put an end to the anomalous and unfortunate condition created by the Treaty of Utrecht and continued to the present time. As the value of the right given to the French under that treaty appears to have almost entirely vanished, it should not be difficult to determine the compensation which would be adequate for the final surrender of what is left of it. There must be a question of compensation or equivalent, and, as before pointed out, the enlargement of their original rights made by the operation of a century and three-quarters will have the effect of securing to the French considerably more than they can justly claim.

#### A CARTHUSIAN MONK IN HIS CELL.

THE shutters are closed, and the bars  
Let the light through in such quaint angles  
That it seems like the twinkling of golden stars,  
And the jingling of silver bangles.

'Tis a quiet place although  
I can hear the blackbirds chatter  
In the tower above, in the garden below  
The old Monk repeating his pater ;

But these are but parcel and part  
Of the atmosphere of the cloister,  
Long ago gotten by heart,  
And pat as his shell to the oyster.

I've watched the sun, sly conjuror !  
At his tricks and quips and crinkles,  
Paint rainbows and gems on the dingy stone floor  
Out of holy water sprinkles ;

And the Father to bless or to ban,  
Being both priest and logician,  
May banish the tricky elves if he can,  
So he leaves me my magician.

But I lie in my pallet bed,  
And muse and ponder the problem,  
Why the very jackdaws talk overhead,  
And I walk mute as a goblin.

When even the beasts are blithe and glad,  
And the butterflies sport and are merry,  
Man hides from the sun in a cell of stone,  
As if his soul he could bury  
From God's pure sight who made the light  
To gladden all creatures living,  
And who is so good that he must delight  
In mercy and in forgiving.

The good Saint Anthony shrive my soul !  
I doubt my wandering fancies  
Come into my head as I lie in my bed  
With the sunbeams frolicsome glances.

For still the devil who tempted the saint  
Knows how to bait for a sinner  
Who is only a poor monk sick and faint,  
And in want of his lentil dinner.

Confession will make all right no doubt,  
And Father Antoine will truly  
Parcel all the sinfulness out,  
And apportion the penances duly ;

But after the fasting and sorrow—  
Absolving that's purchased with pain  
Would the Father could shrive me to-morrow  
From sinning and penance again !

KATE SEYMOUR MACLEAN.

#### PARIS LETTER.

Since many years the custom has been extending to close the theatres on Good Friday, and replace their performances by concerts of sacred music. It was only inviting pleasure-seekers to accept, "for positively one night only," an entertainment of a serious, of a solemn character. *Stabats* and selections from Beethoven, Berlioz, Wagner, chiefly compose the programme. But the "unities" were not always observed. Concert halls quickly discovered that their bills must have intercalated some pieces of sacred music if they wished to retain their customers on that evening. It is thus, that one singing saloon on Good Friday last alternated the *Stabat Mater* with *Traviata*. Other establishments mixed up the *Agnus Dei* with the *Damube Bleu* and Mozart's *Requiem* with a Glück *gavotte*. In fairness it should be stated that the spectators listened respectfully, while applauding the execution, by striking beer goblets on tables and rattling spoons in empty coffee glasses. Prices had been raised, due to the engaging of special musicians, and during the solemn halts in the singing, etc., "Chuckers out" vociferated that "those who renewed their drinks would be allowed a reduction in price." At one hall the *Ave Maria* was succeeded by the comic singer Paulus, and a ballad of his best.

Oddly enough, the Good Friday, or as they are called *Concerts Spirituels*, were founded 170 years ago by a courtesan, Agnès de Berthelot, better known as the Marquise de Prie, whose father at one time was "the biggest bankrupt on earth," but later made an enormous fortune by the Famine Pact. The Marquis, who had neither lands nor cash, was married to Agnès, aged 15, whose fortune backed up his title. One morning he presented his wife to the young King Louis XV., and that evening he was appointed ambassador to Turin. Feigning illness, the young wife soon returned, called at Versailles to see the Regent, and—became mistress of the Duc de Bourbon. As he refused her nothing, her first care was to lock up two of her bitterest enemies in the Bastille. One was the grandson of that financier Fouquet, that boasted he knew to a franc the amount of taxes yearly plundered, and the price of every conscience in the country. Agnès took to piety, but found Lenten sermons dry. She devised a plan, as monumental as her head-dress; she organized concerts in her mansion during Lent, where only sacred music was executed. The idea pleased those religious epicureans who held that faith could never be made too amiable nor penance too mild. Subsequently when Agnès was banished to her estate for her Bastille proceedings and corn speculations, she tried to console her disgrace and isolation by spiritual music. It failed. Next, the little marchionness poisoned herself, as one morning she was found on her bed writhing in death contortions, aged 29.

On Good Friday last at the Winter Circus, the concert of religious music given by M. Lamoureux, a kind of "Passion Play" was recited, where Sarah Bernhardt was the *Virgin*, and M. Garnier, an actor, *Jesus*. Paris is not exactly Oberammergau, nor Parisians quite Tyrolese peasants. A row was anticipated: the Atheists went to applaud *Jesus*—represented in 1890 evening dress, and Sarah—who has become quite religious since she has appeared in "Tosca" and "Joan of Arc"—with face well painted, wore a toilette of white lace and tulle. Very religious persons went to protest. When the artistes appeared on the horse-box stage in the middle of an arena, and commenced to recite the poem—composed by M. Harancourt—the storm broke. Sarah Bernhardt fell to crying—moist arguments are not difficult for her. Then a gentleman rushed wildly from among the spectators on to the stage. Sarah Bernhardt extended her wrist to him to kiss; next he shook hands passionately with M. Garnier, then waving his hat frantically announced that he was a poet, had written the piece, and if spectators wished to have the worth of their money, they ought to remain quiet and listen.

This lecture was not pouring oil on the troubled waters. The poet afterwards scuttled to his seat, where the members of his family commenced to embrace him—gave him a family ovation for his bearding the Zoo garden. Some spectators withdrew, others jeered and jibed, while several called for "music." When an audience expressed dissatisfaction at one of Scudery's dramas, the author drew his rapier and made for the Philistines. "Place" is one of the chief unities to be observed in a representation. Sacred music is out of place in a beer saloon, and a circus is not the home for a mystery or a passion play, although Materialists raise their hats in the presence of a funeral, and Atheists send their children to church to be confirmed.

The Emperor of Germany has thrown another trump card in his bid for popular support, by opening the avenue to the officer-grades of the army to competent members of the middle-classes. In time, he will extend the reform—as in France—to every young man irrespective of social condition, who has brains. The days for official caste are dead, and no fever efforts of social coteries and sets can revive it. At the rate William II. is advancing, he will soon be qualified for the presidentship of Hugo's United States of Europe. The plucky resolution his majesty has just taken removes him another stage from the junkerism of Bismarck. In a short time he will like Cortez and Pizarro have burned all his connecting boats with the relics of Scandinavian feudalism. His new departure will do more for civilization than an improved smokeless powder or a revised edition of a repeating rifle. He keeps his powder dry, not the less; he augments his big battalions, knowing, he being a religious man, that Providence leans to such.

It is noteworthy and satisfactory to record, the enthusiasm for Russia in France is becoming more measured. Since the Russian Embassy here humbugged the French press by a *communiqué*, that the unfortunate Madame Tsherbrikova was never in prison, but in Paris with the Nihilists, when the Czar at the moment was studying her release—the Paris journals hint that all is not the best in Holy Russia. The republicans commence, perhaps, to feel ashamed of the union of Siberia with liberty, equality and fraternity. The Orleanist journals take up the running, and eulogize the system of government by the Czars. The Duc d' Aumale's organ even calls upon Frenchmen to show their political love for Russia by preparing to figure at the Centennial Exhibition of 1894, to celebrate the foundation of the city of Odessa, the Marseilles of the Black Sea. It is further urged that Odessa has claims on France, as the city was founded by the Duc de Richelieu, whose memory is for Odessians what that of Theseus was for Athens and Quirinus for Rome.

Louise Michel, at her "chat-soirée," just held at Havre, asserts she does not attach much practical importance to Universal Labour's Annual Holiday next May-Day. But the democratic socialists, she affirms, are marching on, and are more than ever determined to play

out the rubber, game and game, with capitalists. The latter she hopes to see ere she dies—she is 46 years old—“broken in pieces like a potter's wheel,” and as for princes, she would “bruise them with a rod of iron” to the last man.

The Gingerbread Fair opened on Easter Sunday, and was thronged by a multitude of people, dressed in their light spring toilettes and costumes. Although the day was one of Nature's finest for the season, Parisians preferred to remain faithful to this biggest of children's fêtes, than to indulge in trips to green fields. Then there is ever something to amuse bigger folks in the gingerbread skits at celebrities. Rheims, famous for manufacturing kings as well as gingerbread, only turns out the latter now; but the designs were not witty—while the young folks pronounced the material to be excellent. No public man was apotheosized in gingerbread, not even the Duc d'Orleans received that mild form of plébescite, and yet he had claims on the nursery world. The prominent novelty was a pig, with Christian names in coloured confits on its flitches. In classic times the pig typified good luck; in modern days it symbolizes repulsion, and so is a crucial test for an amiable temperament.

The fair extends over a distance of three miles; all the raree-shows and penny gaffs line the roadway, from the Boulevard Voltaire to Vincennes. It is the opening of the Crummies season, when theatres on wheels are freshly painted—

Thespis, the first professor of our art,  
At country wakes sung ballads from a cart;

the canvas of circuses, spick and span new, and the plank seats scoured with freestone; the costumes elegantly patched and darned, and the spangles and bangles polished as bright as a first representation could exact. The artistes looked happy that the hibernation season had terminated, as, from November till the close of March, this Bohemian population accepts the humblest occupation to tide them over the “close time.” The men find employment as waiters, scullions, shop-runners, and jacks-of-all-trades; the women hawk about vegetables, fruit and flowers, or are engaged in toy-making. There are some of these ambulatory shows that rank themselves in an Upper Ten category, and that are run by associated capital; they include tragedy, comedy, screaming farce, operetta, and circus talent; their admission tariff varies from six to forty sous. Many an excellent actor has won his spurs in this *milieu*.

The wild beast shows are numerous; and those that boast of a tamer or a tameress, who has had the honour to be mangled by a lion or a tiger, and that can exhibit the scars free of extra charge, is certain to draw. The menageries are well stocked with tenants. The mechanical amusements—merry-go-rounds, and merry-go-ups; car-colling steeds, circular railways, etc.—are very much improved. One shooting gallery boasts to use “smokeless powder”—the joker employs air guns. A toy railway company announces it is worked on the “block” system, because it pulls up at its terminus; and that no collisions are possible, as one train comprises all its rolling stock. It has its sleeping carriage, where curtains are drawn over the windows and the inside illuminated with night lights. It has, also, its “dining saloon,” where the public can buy gingerbread or lollypops pending the circular tour. No charge is made for the music during the repast—the engine's whistle supplies that gratuitously.

One numberable feature in these humorous gatherings—the number of fortune tellers, and which attest the briskness of their trade. Frenchmen, who vaunt themselves on believing in nothing at all, will secretly call on these divinatresses and pay them handsomely for reading their future. Napoleon I. never undertook a great step without consulting his oracle, Madame Lenormand. The police inspector of fine arts should exercise a severer censorship over the subjects of the penny peep shows, where blood and murder are the stock attractions. Loathsome surgical operations vary the exhibits of the dissecting rooms. Their success would make the coming Academician, Zola, jealous. Z.

#### FUTURE RELATIONS OF THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.

ON the 15th of November last, at a meeting at the Mansion House to receive Mr. Parkin, who has recently spoken for the Imperial Federation League in all parts of Canada, as well as in Australia and New Zealand, Lord Rosebery and other speakers adopted a more moderate programme than that which has been sometimes put forward in the name of the League. Lord Rosebery, indeed, receded from at least one suggestion formerly made by himself. He explained a “fatal” objection to his own scheme for introducing colonial representatives to the House of Lords, as well as the “double objection” to the idea of introducing such representatives into the House of Commons—an idea, however, which he, in common with Mr. Foster, the parent of the League, had been consistent in condemning. He showed that the extension of the Privy Council by the exclusion of the Agents-General, as proposed by Lord Grey, was a matter of extreme difficulty, and that the project of the Zollverein, or customs union, was by no means a practical proposal towards the consolidation of the Empire. On the other hand, Lord Rosebery (followed upon the point by Lord Carnarvon) maintained that we already possess a form of Imperial Federation inaugurated by the Colonial Conference of 1887.

One of the chief speakers, declaring that the conference had made recommendations upon matters which concerned the common good of the Empire, exclaimed, amid the cheers of the members of the League, that “if that was not Imperial Federation” he did “not know what is.” At a later period in the meeting a resolution was carried to the effect that a series of such gatherings as the conference of 1887 would tend to the consolidation of the Empire, and that it was undesirable that a long interval should elapse before another conference was summoned; and Lord Carnarvon, in seconding the resolution, declared in the name of the League that “all they claimed and desired was that the question” (that of Imperial Federation) “which was excluded at the last conference—formally and deliberately, and no doubt wisely, excluded—should not be excluded in the future.” The resolution was supported by Mr. Parkin, the orator of the League, fresh from the triumphs of his eloquence in Canada and Victoria, and from his total failure in New South Wales; but not one word did Mr. Parkin say of that which those who went to hear him most expected—the willingness of the Australian colonies to act upon the principles formerly suggested by Mr. Foster and other officers of the League, or even to support the moderate platform of Lords Rosebery and Carnarvon.

In the face of the limited programme now put forward by the authorized exponents of the views of the Imperial Federation League, it is useless to discuss at length the projects which have been sketched by ingenious persons for the reconstruction of the Empire. The League now asks only for a series of conferences at which the subject of Imperial Federation is, though not proclaimed as the chief matter of discussion, not to be actually tabooed. The conferences cannot be frequent if colonial Prime Ministers are to attend, or even colonists of the second political rank. Moreover, Sir John Downer and Sir Samuel Griffith did not improve their position in their colonies by their visit to England in 1887; and it will be difficult indeed to persuade the statesmen of Queensland and New South Wales and South Australia to attend at all in London.

Again, the exclusion of the subject of Imperial Federation from the debates of 1887 was made at that time an actual condition by New South Wales and some other colonies; and it is by no means certain that those colonies would be represented, even by their Agents-General, if they were not again excluded. As matters stand it is almost certain that Queensland, for one, would not attend a conference called upon a Carnarvon base, and it is possible that she would decline to attend a conference of any kind. It may, however, be conceded that a fuller form of Australian Federation must soon come, and that the Dominion of Canada, Newfoundland, the United States of Australasia (to use the Victorian and South Australian name), or British States of Australia (to use Sir Henry Parkes' name), the Cape and New Zealand, if she were still outside the Australian federation—that is, all the self-governing colonies possessing responsible institutions—might, after Australian confederation, be willing to attend.

One of the most difficult of the subjects which I have named in my list is that of loans, and I cannot but think that the fact that the mother-country (which has the fewest public assets to show for her heavy debts) has the best credit, in itself points towards a general financial federation of the debts of the whole Empire.

This matter has been sometimes raised in connection with the subject of defence, because the savings which could be made for the colonies by means of a consolidated debt resting upon the credit of the whole Empire might be used for defence purposes. No means so sure could be found of popularising in the colonies the connection with the mother-country as that of giving them the direct advantage of cheaper money; and although our own credit stands immensely high at the present moment, it rests upon a less sure basis as regards the future than does that of many of the colonies to which we still deny the right of obtaining trust fund investments. Even the most heavily indebted of all the colonies has been shown to possess a substantially sound financial position, as well as magnificent prospects for the future. No doubt the giving of control to the whole empire over the borrowing of a colony is difficult, but I cannot believe that it transcends the resources of our statesmanship. Mr. Gresswell has discussed this matter with ability, and has powerfully put forward the advantages of financial union, which is further recommended to us by the fact that the colonial debts are mainly in British hands, and are more and more becoming one of the chief resources of the investors of the mother-country.

Although the President of the Imperial Federation League now puts aside not only projects for close political union, but even those for the creation of a customs union or Zollverein, many of his supporters by no means reject the possibility of a customs union. It is, however, necessary to point out that most of the colonists who agitate for what they call a commercial union or customs union mean something very different from what we call by the same names. When our merchants ask for it they express their wish to secure a better market for our goods by getting rid of colonial tariffs, and for this end some of them are willing to adopt protective measures against the outside world; but the colonists repudiate the idea of relying largely upon direct taxation to make up a deficiency in their customs revenue. What the Canadians ask for is that we should concede advantages to colonial goods over the goods of foreign countries, and many of them dis-

tinctly explain that they would not admit British manufactured articles into Canada without duties. They propose, however, to subject them to duties somewhat less heavy than those which would be levied upon foreign goods. Two schemes have been put forward, which are in fact the same, one for an additional duty throughout the British Empire upon all foreign goods—the money to be spent upon imperial defence; the other for a reduction of duties upon British and colonial goods in colonial parts, accompanied by differential treatment of foreign as contrasted with colonial goods in home ports. Both these proposals involve protection in England in a greater or less degree, and as they have been repudiated by Lord Rosebery, the President of the League, they possess little importance for the moment except that it must be understood that they lie behind the Canadian suggestions for a conference upon imperial union. There was a debate in 1889 in Canada upon commercial intercourse between the mother country and the colonies. It was introduced by the Canadian advocates of Imperial Federation, and their proposals met with considerable public favour, although there was a disposition on the part of the leading men to avoid committing themselves to a somewhat indefinite movement.

The crux of Imperial Federation lies in this tariff question. The British Empire for customs purposes consists of a great number of foreign and almost hostile countries, and it is as difficult to conceive the whole of the colonies becoming free trade communities as to expect the mother country to become protectionist under such temptation as the Canadians could hold out to her. We have not yet been able to reduce to harmony, or to found upon a base of principle, the tariffs even of those Crown Colonies in which we are all-powerful; and there seems indeed but little hope of the adoption of a common system for the Empire as a whole. In declaring that a Zollverein is by no means a practical proposal towards the consolidation of the Empire, Lord Rosebery no doubt thinks that any commercial union tempting the mother country into the paths of protection is impossible, just because colonial protectionists are more anxious to keep out the goods of Great Britain and of India than those of any other portion of the world; but he, perhaps, also feels that, were it possible of attainment, such a Zollverein would be opposed to our best hopes for the future of the world. Instead of doing our utmost to break down the barriers between peoples, we should be setting up new ones which would help to parcel the globe into three or four great systems of the future, shut off from, and hostile to, one another.

The conference of 1887 was merely consultative, and, distinguished and powerful as were its members, its decisions were not binding until they had been ratified and adopted by the Parliaments of the various colonies which were affected by the arrangements made. Sir Samuel Griffith took a leading part in the conference, and he was Prime Minister of Queensland; but it will be remembered that the Queensland Parliament rejected the Defence Bill and turned out the Ministry. This seems an additional reason, besides others which have been given, why the extension of the federal system throughout the various groups of which the Empire is composed should precede the series of frequent conferences looked for by Lord Rosebery and Lord Carnarvon. It matters perhaps but little, from this point of view, whether Newfoundland should join or should continue to refuse to join the Canadian Dominion, or whether New Zealand should permanently stand aloof from Australia; because the more detached are New Zealand and Newfoundland from the colonies in their neighbourhood, the more certain are they to lean steadily upon the imperial connection. But the case is different with the colonies of the Australian mainland, and little indeed can be done in the direction of consolidation until New South Wales has joined, under one system or another, the colonies which send representatives to the Federal Council of Australasia. It took Switzerland 557 years to grow from a league of perpetual alliance into a confederation, and progress in such matters cannot be rapid; and it is difficult to say that Lord Salisbury's letter of July, 1889, declining to summon a meeting of representatives from various parts of the Empire to consider the possibility of establishing a closer union, was at the time unwise, although its form was open to misconception. The previous declarations of Mr. Smith and Mr. Stanhope in favour of Imperial Federation, and the paragraph pointing to it in the Queen's speech of September 1886, are to some degree in conflict with the later declarations of Lord Salisbury. While the Conservative Cabinet have toned down their opinions in favour of Imperial Federation, the Imperial Federation League itself, although it has never changed its official programme, has, as we have seen, also shown a tendency towards some modification of its views. Nothing can be more catholic than the tone which has always been exhibited by its official organ, a paper which has been conducted with an impartiality which might with advantage be extended in political discussions. *Imperial Federation* has, however (while it has always given fair play to all sides), sharply criticised the writings of those who have asked disagreeable questions bearing upon the possibility of the adoption of a close union, such as the question how the Federation would deal with customs, or, if taxation was to continue to be treated locally, with the refusal of a member of the confederation at any future time to provide money for imperial defence? Then, too, some of the Executive Committee of the League have put forward elaborate schemes for close

union diametrically opposed to the views now enunciated by others among their number. Sir Frederick Young, for example, has written strongly in favour of colonial representation in the Imperial Parliament—a scheme which Mr. Forster, the first President, discouraged, and which Lord Rosebery, the present President of the League, has condemned. Sir Frederick Young, writing before Home Rule had been taken up by the Liberal Party, frankly admitted that true federation would necessitate the creation of local Parliaments in the various portions of the United Kingdom; and that "Viceroy" "in London, Edinburgh and Dublin" must be supplied with executives composed of advisers taken from the Local Houses.—*Sir Charles Dilke in Problems of Greater Britain.*

#### APRIL.

WHILE others hug the fire, I gladly go,  
Blown along beneath April skies to one broad path  
That winds away from the town and drops below  
A rude plank bridge, to glades that soon shall glow  
With violets velvet sheathed, op'd full rath.

April—the opal month of all the year,  
With pearly skies, and blue, and sudden snows—  
The opal April of my thought is here,  
And I am happy when a star doth peer  
From the brown bed of leaves wherein it grows.

I would not touch one downy drooping bud!  
The fingers of the wind, alone hath power  
To give such, life, and soon its peers shall stud  
The greening bank that now is caking mud.  
I go, return, and wait that magic hour.

The eager children throng about the glade,  
They do not know the signs, they falter—doubt  
There will be flowers, mistrust the cooling shade  
That meets them on the wood's edge, note the fray'd,  
Crisp curl'd last winter's leaves the winds still route.

Indeed, it asks for faith, when all the road  
Is furrowed deep in slowly drying ruts,  
And farmers gently urge with sparing goad  
Their morning teams, conscious of pressing load,  
And squirrels count their yet full store of nuts,

And frosty films on tree and sward are cast,  
And rivulets run cold, nor yet too free,  
And the old grass is sodden, lump'd and mass'd  
On either side the fence, while a March blast,  
Blows April's trumpeter in triumphant key.

Afar stretch fields exceeding grey and wan,  
Of sterile stubble; here are flying leaves,  
And clouds of dust the wide highway upon.  
It seems some mid-October morn; all gone  
The splendour of the gay autumnal sheaves,

And only left, the longing for the snow  
To veil defect and compensate for loss.  
But not a blossom ever seeks to blow  
Until the time be ripe. Let rains but flow,  
And stumps shall cushion'd be, with emerald moss,

And every bank shall wear a coronet  
Of azure stars and yellow bells; pale plumes  
Of slow uncurling green be rootwise set,  
And higher, where the forest parapet  
Its fringe of faint new foliage assumes.

O! I have felt the high poetic mood  
While lingering there, far from the troubled ways  
Of duty and desire; have lov'd to brood  
For hours in the open air—my faith, my food,  
Until there clung around my brow the bays!

And I have felt, too, like the vagabond,  
Who knows no duty, has but one desire—  
To keep within the pale of Nature's bond;  
Who sleeps beside the edge of some clear pond,  
And sees each morn the scarlet sunrise fire

Bleak hill and budding forest—I would give  
Much, in such moods, to drop the life I lead,  
All ties, all dear expectancies, and live  
As carelessly as that poor fugitive  
Of all demands which now I daily heed.

Must heed—for dreaming is not doing. Base,  
Base should I be to dream my days to death  
In this sequester'd glade, where shadows chase  
The chequered phantom. To each man his place—  
He who neglects his, curses with latest breath

The trend and disposition of his life.  
Yet spells, dew-laden, odorous, warm and soft,  
Like these sweet April omens, purely rife  
With soothing promise of an end to strife,  
Are dangerous. No more then, high aloft,

I lift ecstatic eyes to sheer bright blue,  
Or seek the curl'd cup beneath my foot.  
I wander homeward, longed for by the few  
Who love me, loving, too, the work I do—  
See—I have brought them one arbutus root!

SERANUS.

#### MY BROTHER'S MURDERER.

A MAN may deliberately set himself to pick and choose his profession, his opinions, his course of life, but he will find it to profit him more to discover, as far as possible, what destiny intended him to think and to be, and to trim his bark to that determining gale. It is not of my own doing that I am a democrat at heart, a lover of the common people, and that my breast swells with hot indignation when I hear such a phrase as "the lower classes" pronounced in my hearing. For this feeling I have always held responsible my fraternal grandmother, a gentlewoman of extreme delicacy and refinement of mind and manner, who married a butcher for no other reason than that she loved him. What arts he used to win this modern Desdemona, "what drugs, what charms, what conjuration and what mighty magic," I have never learned. But I can imagine that when points of resemblance were discovered by members of her family between the fine specimen of animalized humanity she was about to marry and the other animals that he handled for a living, the keen edge of her retort was as murderous in its way as the meat axe of her chosen husband. The mingling of such opposite strains of blood in our family has produced some queer results, as, for instance, my brother Jeremiah and myself.

My name is Lucien Aimworthy, but I was said by my family to be "a true Lawton." Lawton was the maiden name of the wilful grandmother who bestowed her pretty hand and gentle heart upon a commonplace butcher. A picture of her, painted in her girlish days, hung in our old parlour, and it gratified my youthful vanity to stand before it and note the unmistakable signs of breeding in the delicate features, the curve of upper lip and lift of chin. But what is grace and refinement in a woman may easily degenerate into effeminacy in a boy, and I was the object of ill-concealed contempt on the part of my brother Jeremiah. Though two years my senior he was large and strongly built, and was pronounced to be "all Aimworthy." It was considered a pretty sight when he first began to walk and talk to see him brace himself on his sturdy baby legs, double his fists, throw back his head, and say, "I—will—not." It was very pretty, and very amusing at first, but as years went on, and the habit of assuming this attitude and repeating this speech became fixed, it lost its charm. The boy grew up to be rough, course and self-willed, with a liking for associates of the same sort. He enjoyed going to school, because it gave him a daily opportunity for the pugilistic encounters in which he delighted, but he regarded school-books as unworthy the serious attention of any normally constituted human being. He was scarcely more than ten years old, but unusually large and vigorous for his age, when my father, to punish him for an insulting remark, had resource to a cane appropriated to that use. The boy took his chastisement calmly—it lacked the force of novelty—and at its close deliberately turned and repeated the offensive remark that had caused it. My father in a fury punished him a second time, with additional severity, and promised him a repetition of the same next day.

"Oh, John!" said mother, pitifully.  
"It's no use talking, Martha. One or other of us is to be master in this house, and I shall not yield my authority."

Up in our bed-room, my brother Jeremiah, with a face like a thunder-cloud, was getting together his few belongings preparatory to running away from home. I pleaded with him not to go.

"Oh, no," he said, "don't go. Stay here and take a whipping for nothing, and be a humble toady and boot-licker. I think it's likely."

I said nothing more, but tossed miserably till nearly morning, when I crept into his bed, and clasped him round the neck. For a moment he put his cheek on my arm, and gave a long, shuddering sob, that shook him from head to foot. My own tears began to flow. Then he firmly unclasped my arms, and slipped out at the other side of the bed.

"There, gosling!" he said, "there's enough of that. By George," he muttered, as he groped about for his clothes in the darkness, "Father thinks I can stand any amount of licking, and mother and you think I can stand any amount of molly-coddling, and I'm not going to put up with any more of any of it."

He went away, and I did not see my brother Jeremiah again for fifteen years.

In that time my mother died. She had never loved me as she had the reckless ne'er do well, and her last words were of him. My father did not long survive her. Apparently I was the only member of the family left, for there was no tidings of my brother. Then I studied for the ministry, married and settled as pastor of a church in a thriving town. I seldom thought of Jeremiah. He had relapsed into a memory of boyhood days.

One Sunday evening, fifteen years after his abrupt departure, I preached a sermon that did one hearer good at any rate, and that hearer was myself. I hold that if a minister does not benefit himself by his sermon he will not benefit his congregation. The text was that aggrieved expostulation of wounded self-love, "Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?" The fervor that I unwittingly threw into my treatment of the theme was heightened by the concentrated attention of my people. I could not help seeing in their eyes that I was excelling myself. I exhausted all my resources in setting before them the central truth of Christianity, that our

treatment of the lowest and meanest of mankind is identical with our treatment of Christ. I received congratulations on all sides after service was over. It was very sweet, very delicious. I had the sense of exaltation that comes from the sympathy of numbers. Suddenly I heard a queer, coarse voice behind me say, "And so little Lucy is a preacher! Well—gracious sakes!"

"Don't you know me?" continued the speaker, taking my hand in a strong grasp; "why, I'm your brother Jeremiah. I spotted you the moment I come in. Says I, that's the Lawton chin, as sure as guns, and the Lawton nose. All the time you were piling it on about everyone being brothers, thinks I to myself, Old boy, you needn't bother your head about the rest of your brothers. There's only one of them that has any real claim on you. Well—put it there!" and he crushed the fingers of my right hand in another giant clasp.

My first feeling at this unexpected encounter was excessive surprise, tinged with annoyance, and a dim foreboding of trouble. Brother Jeremiah as a memory, seen through the long vista of the past, was not unpleasing. The sturdy, uncompromising little ruffian had a positive charm in my recollection. But Brother Jeremiah in the flesh, and also in a suit of ready-made clothing, not too quiet in colour, was quite another thing. I welcomed him as warmly as I could, while surveying his gaudy cravat, fastened with a pin that was quite too dazzling to be genuine. There was something indescribably vulgar about his look and air, his smile and movement. I began to hate my brother Jeremiah. His sudden appearance was rapidly turning me into a hypocrite, and, so far as my sermon was concerned, into a liar. Some of the more select members of my flock began to inspect the new arrival with a degree of attention that quickened my movements, as I put my hand through his arm, and drew him out into the semi-obscurity of the side-walk. Here we were joined by Featherfew, a young gentleman, who, not having any more brains than were contained in the head of his walking-stick, could not be expected to know that his presence at that moment was not desirable.

"Intend remaining in this part of the county, Mistah Aimwothy?" inquired Featherfew.

"Well, you bet I'm going to stay long enough to make acquaintance with the other branch of the family," returned Jeremiah. "When a fellow's been kicked about the world from Billy to Jack and from pillar to post as I've been for the last fifteen years, he begins to have a realizing sense that he might have saved himself a heap of ragged edge by staying quietly at home among his own folks."

"A heap of wagged edge?" repeated Featherfew, thoughtfully and inquiringly, glancing at me.

"A great deal of trouble," I explained, with perhaps an unnecessary show of dignity. Jeremiah looked down at me approvingly.

"You're right, sonny," he remarked; "trouble's the word. If you ever have as much as I've had, you—well, your sermons won't be quite so slick, but there'll be more blood and bone to 'em."

"We considah ouh pastoh a vewy able man," interposed Featherfew.

"Oh, Lucy's a good little preacher," said Jeremiah, with brotherly pride in his voice, "and no mistake. But what I like about him better than anything else is that he's not stuck on himself."

"Not stuck on himself?" queried Featherfew, again in perplexed inquiry.

"Doesn't think more highly of himself than he ought to think," interpreted Jeremiah, with a touch of irony. "The trouble with people of that sort is that they never tumble to themselves."

"Ah—nevah tumble to themselves?"

"Never see the joke of themselves," shouted Jeremiah, with a loud laugh, as we reached my gate. Featherfew bade us good-night, with the puzzled look of a man who has involuntarily absorbed more information than he can readily digest.

I took my long lost brother into the house, and presented him to my wife. At her warmest she is not a very sympathetic woman, and the chill that succeeded her first astonishment on hearing that Jeremiah was my brother, gradually hardened into a severe frost before he left us. The children would have got on with him better, but they were both in bed. He seemed quite unaware that the social temperature of the room had lowered to freezing point since his arrival, but was easy, loquacious, slangy and patronizing to an extent that was literally awful. At any rate it filled my wife and myself with awe. No other word could express the consternation and dismay that overflowed our intensely respectable souls, when this outlaw, who was next of kin, told us the story of his questionable adventures in the language of the bar-room, and filled in the pauses by whistling and cleaning his nails. When he at last said, "Well, so long!" and banged the door behind him; my wife gave a little gasp. Then she softly opened all the windows in the room. The atmosphere was reeking with the abomination of chest perfumery. Then she sat down and shuddered.

"Lucien," she said, "your brother! It isn't possible. Your brother!" and she shuddered again.

"I know, Anna," I replied. "I know all you can think or say on the subject."

So we did not discuss it at all. In whatever shape it presented itself to my thoughts it was always galling. We could not drop him—he was my own brother—but how could we associate with a rowdy, who was unacquainted with the rudiments of civilization? Would the idea have

been presented to his mind that his behaviour was not quite so free from objection as was that of "Little Lucy," it would certainly have produced the loud, hoarse laugh that, in his presence, we momentarily expected yet dreaded to hear. Had he been cruel or sneaking, mean or even untidy, that would have afforded us some excuse for neglect, but he was in no degree a rascal. Were he wretchedly poor he would have been content to remain an obscure figure in the background, or had he been a hired "hand" from the country, with fingers as rough and dry as his own corn cobs, after they are stripped of the grain, he might have had that saving touch of humility and reserve that would have saved us all our trouble. But what could be done with this loud-voiced braggart, with his insufferable airs of patronage, his horrible personal habits, his ever present coarseness and vulgarity? He became a living nightmare to me. His very name was a source of exasperation. Jeremiah! It sounded like a freight train taking an unconscionable time to rumble past that part of the track one is impatient to cross.

He was a frequent visitor at our house, but by some chance had escaped meeting any members of my congregation there, and as he was not a church attender the sensation he had created among my people had merely attained the proportions of a perceptible curiosity. Rumors of his peculiarities had reached them through Featherfew, and though, no doubt, there was honest sorrow expressed for the pastor under this new and peculiar affliction, still human nature is human nature, and a sense of humour can be found in a score of one's acquaintance where a feeling of sympathy exists but in one. In matters relating to one's own personal dignity, a small man is naturally sensitive, and I confess that the idea of being called Lucy, or Lucy Ann, before any members of my Sunday school, filled me with a cold horror. The subject of the Church Social had begun to weigh heavily on my mind. This was usually held at the parsonage, and was always considered a great success; that is to say more people came than the house could conveniently hold, and there was much conversation, music and games of the milder sort, all of which were kept up to a late hour. There was no reason to suppose that my brother would reject the opportunity to make acquaintance with my people, particularly as he had determined to depart from our town to more congenial scenes in a few days following the date of the social. As this thought entered my heart the devil came in with it, and said in a tone of quiet, good sense, "Why subject yourself to the needless mortification of your brother's presence during an entire evening, when, by the exercise of a little tact you might prevent him from coming?" No sooner was this suggestion presented than I bent all my energies upon the question How is it to be done? With what device or excuse can I make a way of escape? It was out of the question for me to turn my own brother from the door.

"That is true," said my wife; "but on the other hand it is impossible to have him here. Not only yourself but the church will be brought into disrepute by admitting into a gathering of its members a low, slangy, boorish fellow, who holds nothing sacred. Fancy the half concealed smile on the faces of the Bible class when they hear you called Lucy Ann. Think of the sneer on his own face when we are singing gospel hymns. Picture the unintermitting annoyances and humiliations, each as small as the sting of a wasp, and as unbearable and as needless. It is not right nor just that we should suffer and be lowered in the estimation of those who are nearest us for a fault that is not our own. Get rid of him in some way, Lucien. You can manage all sorts of disagreeable matters without hurting people's feelings."

The thing resolved itself into a terrible problem in my mind, and yet at the last it was easily solved. The house was filling rapidly on the evening of the social, when there came the two or three imperative peals from the door bell that invariably proclaimed the approach of my brother Jeremiah. I stepped into the hall, and opened the door myself, greeting him as cheerfully and naturally as possible.

"I'm sorry I shall not be able to see you this evening, Jeremiah," I said, still standing in the doorway. "I've got some of my congregation here talking over church matters—a subject that wouldn't interest you in the least."

I expected that he would push past me with a brusque rejoinder. Instead he stood quietly looking at me.

"Of course you understand," I added, "that I would infinitely rather spend a quiet evening with you."

Still he said nothing. I fancy that he turned a little pale. There was something in the expression of his eyes, that, if his flaming cravat could only have turned pale also, would have induced me to ask him in. But I nerved myself with a mental picture of the effect upon my Bible class of repeated patronizing reference to Lucy Ann. As he turned, still speechless, to go away, I called after him with assumed heartiness, "Good night, old fellow!" At the foot of the steps he turned and looked at me, and at the corner of the street it seemed to me that he turned again to look at my closed door. In fact I was haunted during the entire evening by a series of turnings and lookings.

But I did not suffer this to destroy the intense relief and comfort of his absence. The disappointment of the lighter-minded of my flock, who had looked forward to some amusing developments from his presence there, was sweet to me. We had, as my guests declared, a very enjoyable evening. "After all," I said to my wife, after

the last one had departed, "I am very glad I did the only right and proper and reasonable thing."

The words had scarcely left my lips when we were startled by a sharp pull at the door bell. It was nearly midnight. Two men stood on the threshold, supporting between them the bleeding and senseless body of my brother Jeremiah.

"Drank himself half wild," explained one of the men, "and then got into a fight. We saw from the address on a letter in his pocket that his name was Aimworthy, that's why we brought him here. Look out, Ben, don't jar him any more than you can help."

"How unfortunate!" breathed my wife, "and to-night of all nights." I said nothing, but as I helped the men to carry my brother upstairs, my heart felt like lead. The poor fellow was in a pitiable condition. His face was terribly bruised, and a little stream of blood, flowing from a wound in his head, mingled with the mud that besmeared his torn garments. I despatched one of the men for a physician, while I bound up the ugly gash in my brother's throat, and began to bathe the almost unrecognizable face. He moved at that, and asked faintly, "Where am I?"

"With me—Lucien—in your brother's house," I said. He turned his head and glared at me. "My brother," he cried, "I have no brother. That cursed little white-faced sneak is no brother of mine. Go away from me! Let me get out of here! I shall choke to death in this infernal house. He struggled to a sitting posture, and fell out upon the floor. He was too weak from loss of blood to stand, and I feared that he would faint again. But he began to crawl away upon his hands and knees.

"Oh, Jeremiah!" I cried in mingled horror and pity, remorse and shame, "don't, don't do that! Dear old fellow, let me help you back to bed, and make you comfortable."

"Damn you, get out of my way!" half groaned, half roared my brother, as he pushed painfully along the hall, like some savage animal furious with its wounds. "Oh, I know you," he cried in response to my fascinated stare. "You are the palavering little ass that works the gospel mill. You can spout beautifully about the brotherhood of humanity, and then turn your own brother from the door. You're a precious follower of the meek and lowly Saviour, aren't you? Yes, you are! A sweet Christian, warranted to love all the world and hate his only brother. No, you shan't come near me—you shan't touch me. I'd rather have the blackest devil in hell lay hands on me than you—you hypocrite! you whited sepulchre! you piece of rottenness!"

"Oh, why won't he be reasonable!" exclaimed my wife. My wife is a very reasonable woman.

With oaths and groans and personal abuse that had the terrible sting of truth in it, my brother felt his way in a blind helpless trembling fashion down the stairs. In his uncontrolled rage he had torn off the bandage round his wounded throat, and every step of his descent was marked with blood. I dared not follow him for fear of increasing his fury, and yet it was barbarous, it was brutal, to let him leave the house in that condition. The arrival of our family physician settled the ghastly question. The poor fellow, who had sunk again into a dead faint, was conveyed as speedily as possible to a hospital. "You must not go with us," said Dr. Allan, decidedly. "If he gets another glimpse of your face in his present state of mind, I cannot be answerable for the consequences."

I sat down on the lowest step of the stairway, and dropped my head in my hands. Somewhere out of the stillness a clock struck one. I heard my wife come out of her room, and stand for a moment at the head of the stairs looking down at me. Then she went softly back again. I was sick to the very soul, sunken in my own self-loathing. To hate one's self, to be wrathful with or contemptuous of one's self, is a common experience—but this! I could only shudder and cower. To be conscious of my own existence was a punishment greater than I could bear. Presently the doctor returned.

"See here," he said, "you are taking this matter entirely too much to heart. There's some old grudge at the bottom of the business, I suppose. Lord bless you, brotherly feuds are nothing. Family quarrels are as common as—as families. That lunatic we took to the hospital to-night has the temper of a hyena. 'Twill do him good to lose blood—tone him down."

I could only stare at him, without response, and go heavily upstairs to bed. I could not sleep. The darkness was shaped into fiendish faces that repeated my brother's words all about me. At the break of day my wife startled me with a nervous scream.

"Oh, Lucien," she cried, "your forehead is red with blood." Unconsciously, after binding my brother's wound, I had passed my hand across my heated brow; but as I gazed at it in the glass I felt that I was branded with the curse of Cain. I bathed and dressed, and went at once to the hospital, but the nurse had received strict orders not to admit me. Many times through the day, and on several succeeding days, I went—to receive the same repulse. He was light-headed, and very low, but, except during brief snatches of sleep, he had not ceased to rave against me. The good nurse answered my questions frigidly and curtly, drawing herself away as she spoke. To her I was a monster in human form. I could neither eat nor sleep; I was half dead with anxiety and remorse. At last Dr. Allen came to tell me that there was a radical change. The high fever and harsh words were all gone. He was rational and very quiet, and had begged to see his brother.

At that word *brother* the terrible weight that had

crushed me to the earth was lifted as by magic. I seized my hat and rushed through the streets like a madman. I pushed past the frigid nurse, and went panting into the room where my brother lay, with face as white as his pillow.

"Jerry!" I cried, using for the first time his old boyish name, and kneeling down beside him, while the bitterness and misery of the past few days overwhelmed me like a flood; "oh, Jerry—Jerry—Jerry! He gave the long shuddering sob that I remembered from the night he ran away from home. The weak tears broke from his eyes and ran down his wasted cheeks. I laid my own haggard face beside his, and putting my arms around his neck I kissed my brother. The blessedness of being at peace again kept us in heavenly silence for a few moments, and then with his hand on my cheek he said:

"You're a good fellow, Lu., and I'm a bad lot—that's what's the meaning of all this trouble. If I didn't have the devil in me I wouldn't have got into a row for nothing, and I wouldn't have piled it on so thick that night at your house. But when I say you're a good fellow, I don't mean that you're as good as you ought to be, because you're not. Of course you're part of the power that makes for righteousness, but you don't work that racket for all its worth—that's the trouble. He sank from sheer weakness into a half trance, with his head lying on my arm, and I thought of the home-sickness, the yearning for family affection, and the brotherly love that had lain latent in his heart all these years.

He died in my arms, and I told my wife afterwards that I considered myself my brother's murderer. In response to her expostulatory horror I explained that it was not so much because I had driven him from my door on a single evening as it was that I had shunned him, neglected him, despised him. I had treated him exactly as though the Master had said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto the devil." I feel that I have grown more tolerant of late. It is impossible for me ever to detest that class of people whose vices most resemble my own. When I see a man who considers himself to be intellectually or socially or morally the superior of any other man I do not look at him with contempt. I say to myself, Ah, well, poor fellow! it is probable that he has never known what it is to be his brother's murderer. ETHELWYN WETHERALD.

#### THE RAMBLER.

I HAVE been accused—anonymously, but that does not matter, since I am an anonymity myself—of being unnecessarily harsh in some of my remarks bearing upon the Higher Education and the female situation generally.

I am very sorry. I am far from entertaining, like some people Sydney Smith knew, "a vague, indefinite dread of knowledge." I have stated my reasons and declare anew that the reaction upon men of this craze for University careers and diplomas and the rest of it is unfortunate and undeniable. I do not say, or even imply, that the state of Denmark is not what it ought to be. Let women by all means have everything they desire in the way of education; the result is just this—Men must be taught to understand the inevitable consequences in the augmented self-respect and poise of the women.

There are one or two directions, social ones, in which the fullest and highest education of women would have, if persevered in, my excessive sympathy. Conversation—there is a wide field in itself. Says Sydney Smith again, as you may remember, "A woman must talk wisely or look well. Every human being must put up with the coldest civility who has neither the charms of youth nor the wisdom of age. Neither is there the slightest commiseration for decayed accomplishments; no man mourns over the fragments of a dancer, or drops a tear on the relics of musical skill. They are flowers destined to perish"—and so on, and so on, for the famous wit was also one of the soundest thinkers of his time, and although his careful essay upon the subject of female education (embodied in a review of Thomas Broadhurst's "Advice to Young Ladies on the Improvement of the Mind") is mainly affirmative of the wisdom of increased facilities for the sex, it is characterized by cautious and generous statements with regard to the closely allied subjects of arts and accomplishments.

The *Spectator*, not very long ago, drew attention to the state of things pictured in an article upon "Women of Today" as being actually serious. "If life is choice," said the *Spectator*, or something like it, "women must soon choose which they will be—women, or men. They can't be both."

This is what some women are trying to be, although I do not go so far as to hint that many of them will desert their infants for quadratic equations (Sydney Smith again).

And now, just to show that I bear no ill-will towards a very numerous and constantly-increasing-in-popularity section of the community, I will transcribe in this column a certain portion of a Young Lady's Diary, which has been sent to me for inspection, and which is very timely, and, on the whole, very prettily written, I think. It is not in Marie Bashkirtseff's erotic style, but it is a comment upon our Canadian *flora* so I insert it here, thinking it will fit the season. (Do you recollect Wordsworth making havoc of the half of a Cheshire cheese at Coleridge's cottage, and saying of Monk Lewis' "Castle Spectre" performed at Bristol, from whence he was just arrived, that "it fitted the taste of the audience like a glove?")

*Apropos* of the season, you may also remember Christopher North's remark, that "Lamb has been exquisite for weeks, and, when enjoyed at the table of a friend, not expensive."

"The *caltha*," commences my young friend—and I interrupt her to say that she is speaking of the marsh marigold, *caltha palustris*—"the *caltha* soon became as a tale that is told, although when we went next time great masses of its golden yellow blooms were carried home in triumph and plunged into big brass bowls for the hall table. Acquisition, for the first hour, was sweet. After that, on stumps and fences were here and there to be seen the cast-off trophies that had cost us damp skirts and damper boots.

For a finer and a rarer species had perverted our too fickle and impressionable minds, in the shape of the delicately hung *uvularia*—three faint yellow bells of which we suddenly saw at the root of a rough old beech. The curious thing about wild flowers is, that even to a practised eye the moment you enter a wood you actually see what you want to see, and what is not there to be seen at all. For instance, if you should happen to have trilliums on your mind, you immediately see scores of trilliums all around you. That nodding skeleton leaf, that moving scrap of paper, that gleaming underside of a sappy stalk, that lightish and whitish stone upturned to the sun—each looks like a trillium. If it be the *erythronium* you are in quest of, a distant upstart dandelion, a warm oak-leaf with the sunshine on the other side of it, or a brilliant new Whit-suntide fungus, smooth and tall, supplies just that shade of rich yellow you look for in the dog's-tooth violet. So it is with us to-day. We find myriads of the pale-green, mottled leaf, *erythronium*, but not a single blossom, though dozens of times we have bounded off in all directions, only to discover stones, fungi, leaves, and other apparitions—well enough in their way, but now manifestly *de trop*. We are fain, therefore, to be content with the swaying *uvularia*, which belongs to the same family, the *liliaceae*, and has a similar bell-shaped perianth. Its colour is not so rich as that of *erythronium*—also called "yellow adder's-tongue"—being fainter and inclined to green, but its graceful hanging head and its pretty sessile leaves are still very delightful and precious.

So, with our three latest trophies in one hand and big bunch of the yellow marigold in the other, we lead the way to fresh fields and pastures, new and deliciously green—for it is a fortnight since we were here, and that hard cake of earth is greatly softened and broken up by generous suns and gracious rains, and ground is green in all directions. Here is one fine specimen of the large yellow violet, its lower petals veined with purplish-black, and its whole bearing atrociously upright and presuming for a violet. Instead of hiding in the grass, like the recumbent pale-blue or the dwarfish white varieties, it rears a clump of fine large green leaves, quite eight inches high, and its brilliant little blossoms are actually conspicuous. *O tempora! O mores!* and where are all our preconceived ideas about the retiring nature of the type! This is the splendid *viola pubescens*, or downy yellow violet, and it is capable of growing as high as twelve inches—its stems devoid of leaves at the base, but abundantly green at the top, which is pretty in a way, but renders the making of a nosegay difficult, as the green preponderates over the yellow, and if we strip off the leaves the flowers are apt to come too.

The dark, violet blossoms of another variety are everywhere under our feet, side by side with incipient, rolled-up ferns and this most exquisite little plant, the *Trientalis Americana* or "Star-flower." Yet another *alias* hath it, the "Chickweed Wintergreen," but there is no reason why the children should fight shy of the Latin names. They all mean more than the vulgar ones do, so we divide them up and they learn them accordingly. We gaze upon its almost frosty, white, little star-like corolla, seven clear petals, seven pale green sepals, and the whorl of veiny leaves underneath the blossom. Can anything be more beautiful? It is like some materialized vision of the stars above—seven spiritual uniting to form one earthly. And over it waves the fine, delicate, black wire of the first maidenhair, tipped with tremulous green, fit canopy for a thing so fair. Now what should make this maidenhair—this *adiantum* with the polished stem—so early? Hardly a sign of the other and more common ferns is visible. It has clearly risen to bear the star-flower company, for, look as carefully as you may, you shall not descry either flower or fern elsewhere in the wood, these two alone appearing as heralds of those to come. Now we advance to a kind of open dell, bordered with maple, elder and birch, and in the hollow see a vast colony of mandrakes. Those that are up may be attractive already, and soon will be more so with their handsome white flowers on the lateral branches, but the young plants are the ones we like best. Push away all this decomposing matter—sticks, leaves and wood—and now you see the quaintest little folded umbrellas—moist, rich, green—plaited around a moist, white stalk bent on making its way through the strata of six months' accumulation to the pure, upper air. For the *Sanguinaria*, alas! we never look. It thrives best in the colder woods of Lower Canada where its gleaming petals seem to be made of the same snow that surrounds their orange red roots as late as the first of May. For the noble leaf of the Hepatica we have looked, but in vain—a leaf, which if it might be massed, like the ivy leaf, would be equally beautiful in colour and design. Yet before we leave the wood we descry two large clumps or patches of the *hepatica triloba* or the round-leaved variety, the flowers, of course, all missing, for they come long before the leaves;

and just underneath or rather between them are five gorgeous fungi, of the tint of the orange field-lily—superb and arrogant bits of colour, out of place among the tender, pulsing gradations of veiled green that hang over in the trees, and rear waveringly in the grasses, and even hover in the distant sky where sunset is just over and twilight has not yet come.

The author of the above is a trifle pedantically inclined, perhaps. Otherwise, the little offering is well meant, and I am grateful to the sender. Assuredly we should do very dully without the "Minerva press," including Mistress "Rebecca Sharpe," who does me the honour to quote from my poor periods, I see, in Saturday's *Mail*.

### THE RECOMPENSE.

To the greatest of living poets.

THE world still juggles with its pleasure; feigns  
Wherein it lacks, and lives pretentious days,  
Spurning calm joys, truth, beauty, simple ways—  
These old inspirers of the poet's pains.  
O solitary! still be these thy gains,  
The harvest of thy thought, the things of praise,  
The solemn chords of thy remembered lays,  
The notes which live when worldly mouthing wanes!  
Nor these alone thy guerdon and reward:  
For inspiration hath a sexless joy  
More sweet than lovers' dreams. Thy flights afford  
Fairer nativities than love's employ;  
The offspring of a spirit set apart  
Yet knit forever to the human heart.

Prince Albert, N.-W. T.

C. MAIR.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES.

To the Editor of THE WEEK:

SIR,—In your editorial, "What can Newfoundland do?" in THE WEEK of April 11th, the question is asked:—"Would the United States accept the proffered allegiance (of Newfoundland) and undertake the quarrel with France? Would a quarrel be inevitable, supposing Newfoundland should become a part of the United States?" As is well known, the French have asserted, under the Treaty of Versailles, an exclusive right against the British to the fishery on the west coast of Newfoundland. But do they claim anything more than a concurrent enjoyment with American fishermen? By the Treaty of 1818, Great Britain granted to the United States forever the right to fish on the western coast of Newfoundland, the Americans receiving the concession without explanation. The French, however, having successfully repelled the claim of Great Britain to the concurrent use of the fishery, attempted to administer the same rule of law to Americans. But the United States proved of a less yielding disposition than England had shown herself to be. Immediately, upon the report of this aggression being communicated to Washington, an armed force was despatched to the coast of Newfoundland to vindicate the rights of American fishermen; and ever since that time Americans have enjoyed rights in the debatable coast, from which the people of Newfoundland have been excluded.

It seems strange, but it is nevertheless true that under the declaration which accompanied the Treaty of Versailles, England may admit all the world to fish on the French shore with the exception of her own subjects. The words of the "declaration" are worth quoting, for it is upon this instrument that the French mainly rely. It reads as follows:—"To the end, and in order that the fisheries of the two nations may not give cause for daily quarrels, his Britannic Majesty will take the most positive measures for preventing his subjects from interrupting in any manner by their competition, the fishery of the French granted upon the coasts of Newfoundland, etc."

This language the French have construed to imply an exclusive right against the English. Neither the "declaration" nor the treaty itself, however, stipulate that England shall defend the French fisherman from the competition of other nations who may desire to participate. England has already by the Treaty of 1818 conceded the privilege to the Americans. Would there be any ground for a quarrel, then, between France and the United States, if Newfoundland were to change owners?

Pictou, N. S.

DAVID SOLOAN.

### A COMMON AND FOUNDATIONLESS FALLACY.

To the Editor of THE WEEK:

SIR,—Those theorists who endeavour to explain the wonderful progress Canada is making, by pointing to her ever-increasing import trade, should, at least, be able to back up their arguments by facts that have a bearing on, and are a testimony to the correctness of their ideas. It is all very well for them to say:—"For instance, Mr. Smith exports to South America \$10,000 worth of lumber, which he sells there for \$12,000. With the \$12,000 he buys hides, and sets sail for England, where he sells his hides for \$15,000. He then invests his \$15,000 in dry goods, and fetches them to Canada. Endeavouring by such lame argument to show that Canada has paid for \$15,000 worth of imports with \$10,000 worth of exports. Now, such theorizing as this is all right, if practicable;

but, is it practicable? And, is it ever done? If it was, I am afraid we would all want to be Mr. Smiths, as there is no other business in Canada paying such handsome profits.

These ideas appear to be entertained not only by those in the ordinary walks of life, but by men in high position, which, no doubt, accounts for them being so universally accepted. When men like Sir Richard Cartwright, Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, and others at the head of large business enterprises, entertain and give expression to such misleading theories, is it any wonder that the rank and file fall in?

Now, I contend that all the facts that have any bearing whatever on the question are directly opposed to such a false idea. In the first place, we all know that since Confederation there have been millions, yes, over \$200,000,000 of money borrowed and brought into Canada, not saying anything about that brought in by foreigners who have settled in Canada. Our foreign debts, both public and commercial, have steadily increased, the public debt from \$77,000,000 in 1867, to \$235,000,000 in 1889. If we add to that the commercial debt we find that we are owing over \$600,000,000 to Britain. Does that speak well of Canada's productiveness for the last twenty-three years? This debt all represents borrowed money, and where is it to-day? If the contention of our theorists was true, the money would still be in Canada, or, our debt would be reduced, as the merchandise account, according to them, balances itself. So the money, if it has left the country, must have gone towards paying back borrowed money, and thereby reduced the debt. But the very contrary is the case, our debt has steadily and largely increased, and still the money is not in the country, for by turning to the last Banks' Statement from Ottawa we find that the specie reserves of all the banks doing business under charter in Canada, only amount to about \$6,250,000; which is a long way short of \$200,000,000. So far, I think, I have made it clear that this immense amount of money is not in Canada, nor has it gone towards reducing our foreign debt. What has become of it? If our exports had paid for our imports the money would have been here, or our foreign debt would have been reduced. But, I contend that our exports have most miserably failed to supply sufficient "exchange" to meet the demands of foreign drafts on our importers; and our banks, in consequence, have been compelled to drain off our country's specie, which they have sold as "exchange" to satisfy the demands of foreign creditors on our importers. In other words, our enormous debt virtually represents overstock of imports that our exports fell short of paying for; goods that consumption actually did not require, as testified to by the large proportion that annually has to be slaughtered through bankruptcy. I further contend, that if stocks of goods in Canada were not far in excess of requirements, it would not make any difference in value to a merchant's stock even although he should become bankrupt, and the stocks of other merchants in the neighbourhood would not be affected one iota by a failure under such circumstances.

These theorists who are so anxious and well-pleased to see large and excessive imports will invariably point to Britain in support of their argument, and will tell you that the opposite idea has been exploded years ago! They do not appear to comprehend the difference in business situation between a debtor and that of a creditor country. They treat them as analogous; when, really, they are anything but so. For instance, if England does import, say £50,000,000 more than she exports annually, it does not lessen the specie reserves of her banks any, as England is receiving from her foreign investments a far larger amount of specie than what she pays out for her excess of imports; in this way England's specie is steadily replenished and kept up; there is no danger of it being drained off as in Canada; in consequence, British banks have no difficulty in keeping up their specie reserves. England is the banker for the rest of the world, and the amount of specie she receives from other nations and her colonies, as interest on loans, and from other foreign investments, is something enormous, and far exceeds what she has to pay out in consequence of her adverse merchandise account. In that way England's trade is kept upon a capital basis, and values are steadied by the large specie reserves that the Peel Act makes it imperative the Bank of England shall hold. How different with Canada, a country with no foreign investments, a debtor country that has to rely upon the sale of the products of its fields, forests, mines and manufactories, and then not able to produce enough to pay for her imports, but is compelled periodically to visit the London money market to obtain the "wherewithall" to pay for the excess of imports that are really not required, but that have to be annually slaughtered to the detriment of every honest merchant in the country. I do not mean to infer that the money is actually borrowed for the purpose of paying for the excess of imports, but a weakness in our Banking Act admits of it being put to this nefarious purpose, and thus destroying not only the mercantile, but every other interest of the country. Can Canada afford to over-buy to such an extent as compels her to mortgage her property to the tune of \$600,000,000, merely for the sake of flooding the country with a surplus of goods that consumption does not require? If not, then let her put on the screws by restricting her banks to capital, by compelling them to carry specie reserves sufficient to protect their depositors' money, and thereby improve the securities held by themselves. Another fact in favour of my opinion, that I might mention, is this: at almost all

the annual meetings of shareholders of our principal banks, the managers take particular pains to impress upon importers the necessity of curtailing imports. Showing at once where the shoe pinches; it is the difficulty they have in furnishing specie, when "exchange" is scarce, to their creditor accounts—the importers. If our theorists' contention is correct, why should bank managers concern themselves about other peoples' business!

April 19, 1890.

MERCHANT.

## ART NOTES.

THE summer exhibition of the new gallery in London opens on May 1st, and G. F. Watts, R. A., Alma Tadema, R. A., Sir John Millais, and other eminent artists have promised some of their best works.

ON Thursday the 24th the Royal Canadian Academy held its annual assembly of members and honorary members, and private view of the Exhibition at the Gallery of the Art Association, Phillips Square, Montreal. We expect to give a report of the Exhibition next week.

THE life size statue of Pandora by H. Bates, which is to appear at the Royal Academy Exhibition is considered a successful new departure in the treatment of this subject, as the artist has chosen a young maiden for his model instead of the usual voluptuous female form that has hitherto been considered appropriate.

MUCH praise has been given to Ford Madox Brown for his wall painting recently finished for the Town Hall of Manchester. It is the tenth of the series of twelve and represents John Kay, the inventor of the flying shuttle, being rescued from the mob by his wife and workmen. The subject is well worthy of perpetuation and especially appropriate to Manchester.

JOSEPH PENNELL'S pen-drawing and pen-draughtsmanship seems to have proved a success with the art-loving public in spite of Mr. Hamerton's criticism in a late number of the *Portfolio*. It is considered an attempt, to a large extent successful, to do for pen-drawing what Hamerton has done for etching. At the same time the attempt to belittle English art and artists seems to be charged against him by others as well as Hamerton; and the assertion that he makes that English sculptors cannot draw, would lead one to infer that he had never seen Flaxman's famous drawings or those of Stevens, Thornycroft, Birch or Gilbert. Nor does he seem to know that many English drawings are reproduced in Vienna and Paris as well as in London.

FOR some years past the schools of the Royal English Academy (which by the way are not assisted by State aid) have been overcrowded by persons who commence too late in life to attain much success as professional artists. A change in the rules for admission has therefore been made, after due consideration, which it is expected will remedy this state of things. In future the limit as to age will be twenty-three years; and this alteration will, it is expected, very much curtail the number of female applicants; not many of whom will be able to pass the examinations at that age, as they usually commence serious art study much later in life than men. In future applicants must submit on 1st January or 1st July a finished chalk-drawing not less than twenty-four inches high of an undraped antique statue; also a life sized drawing of a head and an arm from life, besides drawings on imperial paper of an antique figure, an atomized one, showing the bones, and another the muscles and sinews named; then, from among these applicants, the Council or the Keeper will select probationers who will be required to produce similar drawings in a given time, as well as to sketch a design in black and white in one day of six hours from subject set by the Keeper. There is little doubt that after these rules are adopted the number of students will be diminished.

TEMPLAR.

CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—The Report of the last annual meeting of this Company, printed in another column, exhibits a statement that must be gratifying to all who are interested in its prosperity, whether as stockholders or policy-holders. In pursuance of a resolution passed a year ago, that the Company's books should be closed on the 31st December, instead of the 30th April as formerly, the financial statement only covers a period of eight months. In that time 1790 new assurances were accepted, amounting to \$4,070,598 and yielding a new premium income of \$135,035.14. The total amount assumed when the books were closed was \$49,519,558.18, the receipts for the eight months were \$1,377,618.74, and the assets were increased by \$744,513.94, bringing them up \$10,480,471.09. The total life policy liabilities are estimated at \$8,237,540, a valuation confirmed by the Commissioner of Insurance for the State of Michigan, showing a surplus of profit upon the operations of four and two-third years of \$1,859,043. Out of this the Directors have wisely set aside a special reserve of \$250,000 to provide for a possible change from the present Government basis of interest at 4½ per cent. to 4 per cent. Of the balance fourteen-fifteenths were allotted to policy-holders and one-fifteenth to stockholders. The amount thus distributed, although arising from the business of only four and two-third years, exceeds that of the last quinquennial distribution covering the full period of five years. By prudent and conservative management, and by its liberal policy to its insurers, the Canada Life has attained an eminent position and each succeeding year seems to increase its popularity as well as its stability.

## MISUNDERSTOOD.

'Tis hard when those we love misunderstand,  
And yet, we dare not give to speech the thought  
Which it may fail to utter, and in naught  
Lessen the breach, but widen,—ever banned  
In speech and silence both; when clasp of hand  
Too warm or else too cold, and service wrought  
O'er soon or else o'er late, and fond eye taught  
To seek or shun, win aye love's reprimand.

Could we but bare the heart, and so reveal  
The truth that word and action still restrain,  
Though much that love from love would fain conceal  
Thus seen should bring surprise and bitter pain,  
Yet soon if all were brought to love's appeal  
The loss might be outmeasured by the gain.

Benton, N. B.

MATTHEW RICHEY KNIGHT.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

LOHENGRIN, given in Italian, at Santiago, Chili, was enthusiastically received.

SIR CHARLES AND LADY HALLE will give their first concert in Australia on May 19th.

TERESA CARRENO played Mr. MacDowell's A minor pianoforte concerto in Berlin on February 13th.

AN organ which belonged to Marie Antoinette has been lately set up in the church of St. Sulpice, at Paris.

MADAME ALBANI has won a triumph as Desdemona, in Verdi's "Otello," and so has Tamagno, who proved himself a grand *tenore robusto*. There is also a splendid baritone in the troupe—Signor Marcassa.

AMONG the many presents received by Rubinstein on the occasion of his "jubilee," are two grand pianos of Russian manufacture, which he has dubbed "Ma brune" and "Ma blonde," referring to the colour of their cases.

THE grand march from "Tannhauser" was played entirely by banjos at a recent New York entertainment. This instrument is increasing in popularity, one American manufacturer makes them at the rate of 5000 a year.

THE advance sale for Emma Juch was very large. A string of men—and ladies—extended Thursday morning from Nordheimer's door to Yonge Street. Why did they not do this for Von Bulow, for Sarasate, for Otto Hegner, for Coquelin? Because there was no chorus and no ballet.

AT the annual dinner of the Royal Society of Musicians, the Lord Mayor of London presided. Various vocal and instrumental solos by different artists, with glees by the London Vocal Union, were performed between the speeches. The speakers included two noted Mackenzies, viz., Dr. Mackenzie, principal of the Royal Academy of Music, and Sir Morell Mackenzie, the physician who attended on the Emperor Frederick. The first named appeared at the Albert Hall on the following evening to conduct the first performance in London of his new Cantata, "The Cotter's Saturday Night," which was produced in Edinburgh in December. The words are from Burns' poem of the same name, which of course contains many Scotch words which are unintelligible to the majority of Englishmen without the help of a glossary. This, however, is supplied in the score published by Novello. The announcement of the concerts showed that the soloists would include three Macs—Miss Macintyre, Mr. McGuckin, and Mr. McB. Gibson—which led me to the false conclusion that they were engaged as best able to pronounce the Scotch words. An examination of the score, however, undeceived me, as it proved the work to be one long continued chorus, lasting some forty minutes, with many changes indeed of time and key, but unrelieved by any solo or lengthy instrumental interlude. It is hardly likely that any composer but a Scotchman would have regarded Burns' poem as specially suited for musical treatment, and therefore the mere fact that Dr. Mackenzie has been able to put a large and varied amount of orchestral colouring into his work, shows what a man of his talents can do with what would appear to many as unpromising material.

THE new improvement in organ construction recently patented by Mr. Romaine Callender, of Brantford, Ont., Canada, is exciting much interest among organists who have had the opportunity of testing the invention. Mr. Callender's idea, at which he has been working for several years, has been, to simplify the work of registration in organ playing. Composition pedals which exist in most organs seemed to him to fall far short of what is necessary in this field, for the simple reason that in most cases the feet are engaged with pedals; and when you add to that work the occasional work of manipulating the swell pedal, you have already given an organist all he can well do. A careful examination of recital work, etc., by our prominent organists has shown Mr. Callender that where composition pedals are used freely, the phrases are always broken, and a very unmusical effect is produced thereby. The same effect is produced when pistons are used. Organ makers claim that, where pistons are placed over the several manuals, the perfect control of the instrument is secured, and especially is it claimed in that form of piston known as the "Automatic adjustable." An organ of any size consists of two or more organs, each having its keyboard, etc. The whole organ being manipulated by one person it would seem proper to give him not only the means of changing rapidly the effects of each department of the organ, but also, when necessary, of changing

the whole instrument at once. In Mr. Callender's invention the mechanism for setting the combinations is easily controlled, and consists of a small hand-wheel, an indicator arm, and a consecutively numbered dial. The mechanism for bringing into effect the various combinations as they are required, consists of a small rail for each manual, extending nearly the whole length of the keyboard, and over the rear part of the keys so as to be within convenient reach of the fingers when playing.

TORONTO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.

Part 1.—Organ—Fugue, G Minor, Bk 4, Bach, Miss Lizzie L. Walker; Piano quartette—Danse Macabre, Saint Saens, 1st piano, Misses Milliken and Bustin, 2nd piano, Misses Sanders and Boyd; Vocal—"Sing, Smile, Slumber," Gounod, Miss Mabel De Geer; Violin—Air Varié, De Beriot, Miss Maud Fairbairn; Vocal—"Mariani, Gay Gitana," Levy, Miss Ida Simpson; Piano—Concerto, D Major, (last movement), Mozart, Miss Louie McDowell; Orchestral accompaniment, 2nd piano, Mr. J. D. A. Tripp, A.T.C.M., and the Conservatory String Quartette (Messrs. Bayley, Napolitano, d'Auria and Dinelli); Vocal—"Surprising! Surprising!" Verdi, Miss Lizzie L. Walker; Andante and Finale from Grand Sonata Concertante for four Violins, Fowler, Misses Ethelind G. Thomas, Lillie Norman, Maud Fairbairn, Lena Hayes. Part 2.—Organ—March in B Flat, Silas, Miss Alice M. Taylor; Vocal—"Three Wishes," Pinsuti, Mr. Alex. Cromar; Elocution—"The Charcoal Man," Trowbridge, Mrs. B. Emslie; Trio—Op. 26, (Serenade and Finale), Sterndale Bennett; piano, Miss Kathleen Stayner; Violin, Mr. John Bayley; Cello, Mr. Giuseppe Dinelli; Vocal—"Ernani, Fly With Me," Verdi, Miss Madge Barrett; Violin—Souvenir de Sorrento, Saltarello, Pappini, Miss Lena Hayes; Vocal—"Gentle Flowers," Gounod, Miss Maud Joy; Piano—Concert-Stuck, (last movement), Weber, Mr. Donald Herald; Orchestral accompaniment, 2nd piano, Mr. J. D. A. Tripp, A.T.C.M., and the Conservatory String Quartette Club. The above is the full programme of the third quarterly concert of the season which took place on Thursday evening last under the auspices of the Conservatory of Music in Association Hall. The capacity of the hall was taxed to its utmost to accommodate the large audience which assembled to enjoy the concert, and to show their appreciation of the progress which the various students had made. Perhaps this was the most successful concert of the kind which the Conservatory has yet given. Every number on the programme was rendered in a thoroughly artistic and musician-like manner. Several of the selections not only requiring good executive ability in their performance, but the intelligent and sympathetic grasp of a true musical spirit, all of which was displayed in no small degree by the performers. The concerted pieces, which have always been an attractive feature of these concerts, gave much pleasure to the audience. In several instances encores being almost insisted on which only the understanding forbidding such prevented from being responded to. There can be no doubt that such concerts are a very important factor in the musical studies of the pupils. They help largely to promote a healthy spirit of enthusiasm and interest in the work of the students, and by affording opportunities for individual performance stimulate them to more earnest work than might be possible otherwise. We wish the Conservatory every success in the carrying on of their concerts. On the 6th of May it has been arranged that Dr. Bryce will deliver a lecture to the students on "the maintenance of nerve force as a factor in the successful use of the organs of voice" which should prove both interesting and instructive.

## LIBRARY TABLE.

THE LADY OF LYONS AND OTHER PLAYS. By Lord Lytton. Edited, with Introduction, by R. Farquharson Sharp. The Canterbury Poets. London: Walter Scott; Toronto: W. J. Gage and Co.

This little volume contains "The Duchess de la Vallière," "The Lady of Lyons," and "Richelieu or the Conspiracy." The last two are well known and still hold the stage although it is half a century since they were first produced. "The Duchess de la Vallière," produced in 1836, was a failure on the stage, but in literary merit it is considered superior to its more popular successors. In his introduction Mr. Sharp gives a critical estimate of these plays and discusses the altered taste of the public with respect to dramatic representations.

THE "UTOPIA" AND THE HISTORY OF EDWARD V. By Sir Thomas More. With Roper's Life. Edited, with Introduction, by Maurice Adams. The Camelot Series. London: Walter Scott; Toronto: W. J. Gage and Co.

There are few books so often referred to and so little read as More's "Utopia" owing, no doubt, to the fact that it has not been hitherto accessible in a popular and modern edition. This difficulty is now removed, and any person who wishes may make the acquaintance of one of the most remarkable works of the age in which it was written. The text used in this volume is the second edition of Clark Robinson's translation published in 1556. The "Life of Sir Thomas More," by his son-in-law, Roper, is Hearne's edition published in 1716. The "Life of Edward V." is interesting as being "the first English historic composition that can be said to aspire to be more

than a mere chronicle." The editor's introduction is a brief study of More's life and character and of his principal work.

THE April number completes the LXI. vol. of *Macmillan's Magazine*. The contents are "Kirsteen," by Mrs. Oliphant, chap. 28 30; "Early Land Holding and Modern Land Transfer," by Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart.; "Work Among the Country Poor," "The World's Age," by Joseph Trueman; "In Classic Waters," by Rennell Rodd; "The Young Cavour," by Miss Godkin; "Conflicts of Experience," by H. G. Keene; "Poets and Puritans," by J. G. Dow; "The Man Who Was," by Rudyard Kipling, and "Inside the House," by A Spectator.

THE *Nineteenth Century* for April opens with two papers on the Labour Movement—a conversation entitled "A Multitude of Counsellors," by H. H. Champion, and "The Case for an Eight Hours' Day," by J. A. Murray Macdonald. Mr. Justice Pinsent gives a clear statement of the "French Fishery Claims in Newfoundland." In "Was I Hypnotised?" Hamilton Aide relates some interesting personal experiences which he submits to scientists for explanation. Mr. J. A. Crowe compares "Continental and English Painting," and Mr. Lees Knowles, M.P., gives some important information as to the extent to which "Horseflesh" is used for human food and the laws in force to regulate its sale. "The English Conquest of Java," by Walter Frewen Lord, is a striking chapter of history which, we fancy, will be entirely new to very many readers. Lord Ribblesdale writes of "Hunting at Gibraltar," and Herbert Spencer concludes his papers "On Justice." Michael Flürscheim replies to "Professor Huxley's Attacks." In "Ireland Then and Now" T. W. Russell, M.P., points out how vastly the condition of Ireland has improved since fifty years ago; and the number concludes with a spirited biographical sketch of Bismarck, by Sir Rowland Blennerhasset, Bart. The criticisms of "Noticeable Books" are by Mrs. Humphrey Ward, W. J. Courthope, W. S. Lilly and H. G. Hewlett, and the books reviewed are "The First Three Gospels, Their Origin and Relation," by J. Estlin Carpenter; "Appreciations," by Walter Pater; "An Epitome of the Synthetic Philosophy," by F. Howard Collins, and "Walpole," by John Morley.

#### LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

It is understood that Mr. Frith, R.A., has requested to be placed on the retired list of the Royal Academicians.

ROBERT BARRETT BROWNING intends, it is said, to give the most of his father's manuscripts to Balliol College, Oxford.

MR. IRVING will next autumn open a private theatre built by Madame Patti, at a cost of £12,000, at Craigynos, her Welsh home.

IN the death of Mr. Alexander Marling, Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario, Toronto loses a distinguished citizen.

LADY STANLEY of Preston, who is now on a visit to England for the benefit of her health, arrived safely in London from Canada, on Saturday, April 5th.

BRET HARTE will contribute the complete story to *Lippincott's* for May. The novelette is entitled "A Sappho of Green Springs," and depicts Western life and character.

THE Theosophists number many adherents in St. Petersburg and the other chief towns of the Russian empire. A new sect, called Paschkowzy, after the name of its founder, has also sprung up in Russia, bearing much resemblance to our Salvation Army.

THE Reverend the Provost of Trinity University sailed for England by the *Elbe* on the 5th instant, arriving at Liverpool on the 13th. He is to present in person the Trinity Memorial to Lord Knutsford concerning the Music Degrees. The Provost's visit will be a short one.

VIENNA has resolved to hold an International Musical Exhibition in 1891, extending over March and April. It will include letters and MS. of the great composers; will show the gradual development of the manufacture of musical instruments; reminiscences of first performances of great works, etc.

LONGMANS, GREEN AND COMPANY will shortly publish both in London and New York "The House of the Wolf"; a romance by Stanley J. Weyman. It tells the perils and bravery of three young brothers in the fortnight before and after the massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day.

MR. WILLIAM HENRY HURLBERT, the well-known American journalist, has been studying the present condition of France, and the result of his investigations will be published here shortly by Longmans, Green and Company, under the title of "France and Her Republic: a Record of Things Seen and Heard in the Centennial Year, 1889."

IN the *May Century* Joseph Jefferson will tell about his trip to Australia in the year 1861. He describes, among other things, a "Skeleton Dance" of the natives, a curious "Australian Tragedy" and a "Terrible Audience" of ticket-of-leave-men which he encountered when he played "The Ticket-of-Leave-Man" for the first time in Hobart Town.

THE Reverend Professor Boys, lately deceased, has presented his splendid collection of classical works to the library of Trinity University, Toronto. The collection,

numbering fully 1000 volumes, occupies a whole section of the Classical Department of the library. A handsome brass plate is to be affixed to this section, bearing the following inscription: *Hos libros huic collegio donavit Algeron Boys, literarum humaniorum professor.*

THE will of Mrs. Emily Pfeiffer, who died on January 23rd, was proved on March 11th by her sister, Mrs. Jemima Lamond, one of the executors. The value of the personal estate amounts to about \$315,000. By a codicil, the testatrix leaves the property of her late husband invested in securities to be applied to the establishment and endowment of cottage homes for destitute girls (preferably orphans), to be called "Jürgen Edward Pfeiffer's Homes."

THERE is a long article in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* on the novels of Mrs. Burnett, "un romancier Anglo-Américain." The writer, Th. Bentzon, expresses some fear lest the large prices which, according to the American newspapers, Mrs. Burnett is about to receive for her forthcoming books may not cause a deterioration in their quality. The days of Hawthorne and of Poe were not the days of large prices.

THE Marquis of Normanby, whose death has just been announced, was officially connected with Canada for some time in pre-confederation days. In 1858, when thirty-nine years of age, and while still Earl of Musgrave, he became Governor of Nova Scotia, and retained this appointment until 1866, succeeding to his father's title in the meantime. Four years later he again undertook Colonial duty, acting successively as Governor of Queensland, New Zealand, and Victoria between 1871 and 1884.

THE "silver jubilee" of the episcopal consecration of Cardinal Manning taking place in June, preparations are being made for the presentation of a testimonial to his Eminence, and a large number of subscriptions have already been received. The circular drawing attention to the proposal to celebrate the occasion in this way is signed by the Duke of Norfolk, Monsignor Gilbert, and Alderman and Sheriff Knill, to any one of whom subscriptions may be sent. The circular reminds those to whom it is addressed of Cardinal Manning's charitable work, of his efforts on behalf of orphans and other poor children, of his zeal in the cause of temperance, and of the attention which he has given to such matters as the housing of the poor and the education question.

#### READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

##### ENGINEERING FEATS AND THEIR COST TO LIFE.

THE opening of the Forth Bridge is certainly an engineering achievement of which we may legitimately be proud, but the piteous appeal to the Prince of Wales on behalf of the widows and orphans is evidence of the cost to life involved by these gigantic enterprises. In the present instance every conceivable precaution seems to have been taken to prevent accident, but in spite of these some fifty lives have been immolated to the steel juggernaut. Large as this number appears when viewed in the aggregate, it is in reality a small relative mortality for an undertaking which has taken seven years to carry out, and on which as many as four thousand men have been at work at the same time. Indeed, if one inquires into the conditions under which the work was carried on, the ultimate feeling is less one of surprise at the number than of satisfaction that no more were sacrificed. Apart, however, from direct danger to life, the damage to health must be considerable, though as to this we are not in possession of any accurate data. It would be interesting to know, for instance, something of the history of the men who work in the caissons—those gigantic representatives of the diving bell of our immediate predecessors. It seems that no great inconvenience was experienced until the pressure exceeded thirty tons to the square inch, but above that pressure the men all fell ill, sooner or later, some lightly, others more seriously. In fact, the men engaged in this hazardous work had to be replaced three times—a telling proof of the insalubrious nature of their occupation. The ill effects were not due in their entirety to the high pressure, which never exceeded three atmospheres, but to the emanations from the soil which formed the river bed. We are in ignorance of the chemical constitution of these gases, which are said to have been inflammable, though they did not give rise to anything in the nature of an explosion. The curious reticence of the French authorities in such matters prevents any comparison being instituted between the mortality attending the construction of the Forth Bridge and that entailed in the construction of the rival giant the Eiffel Tower. We are quite in the dark as to the blood tax levied by the latter, but ugly rumours were afloat while the building was going on. The surgical and medical history of these two undertakings would constitute a text-book of these two departments by itself, and it is to be regretted that no one has been found with the necessary enterprise and ability to place this information at our disposal.—*Medical Press.*

##### THE MALE WOMAN.

SHE lords it over all about her. Her eyes are ever on the alert. She would fain be the fate of everybody with whom she comes in contact. She has no scruples, no reserves; she makes no exceptions. She would fashion the whole world after her own model; and a very wearisome mechanical world it were—a mere reproduction of her own erect, full, impressive figure, and cold, calculating face, with its aquiline nose (more or less), its penetrating, steady, eagle-like eyes—not seldom made more penetrating

by eye-glasses—its firm chin, and somewhat broad, narrow-lipped mouth. She would level down all the wildness of nature, and trim the trees to an exact pattern; she would have no secluded nooks, lest things she objects to should take place there, but would let in the light that her eye from her window might freely sweep a wide circle. She has none of the weakness that encourages the "nestling down," which is so beautiful an element in life, and thinks this sort of thing a weakness unpardonable in others.—*Idle Musings by Econdor Gray.*

##### UNCONSCIOUS SOCIALISM.

OUR unconscious acceptance of this progressive socialism is a striking testimony to the change which has come over the country of Godwin and Malthus. The "practical man," oblivious or contemptuous of any theory of the social organism or general principles of social organization, has been forced by the necessities of the time, into an ever deepening collectivist channel. Socialism, of course, he still rejects and despises. The individualist town councillor will walk along the municipal pavement, lit by municipal gas, and cleansed by municipal brooms with municipal water, and seeing by the municipal clock in the municipal market, that he is too early to meet his children coming from the municipal school hard by the county lunatic asylum and municipal hospital, will use the national telegraph system to tell them not to walk through the municipal park but to come by the municipal tramway, to meet him in the municipal reading-room, by the municipal art gallery, museum and library, where he intends to consult some of the national publications in order to prepare his next speech in the municipal town hall, in favour of the nationalization of canals and the increase of the Government control over the railway system. "Socialism, sir," he will say, "don't waste the time of a practical man by your fantastic absurdities. Self-help, sir, individual self-help, that's what's made our city what it is."—*Socialism in England, by Sidney Webb.*

##### AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXPERIMENTS.

IN Victoria—the most progressive of the Australian colonies—telegraphs, railways and irrigation works, which in the United States, are in private hands, are owned and managed by the state. So far as telegraphs are concerned, this is true of England also, but the rates are much lower in Victoria than in the mother country. The Victorian railways now pay four-and-a-half per cent. on the capital expended, and would make much larger returns were it not the policy of the colony to continually lower fares and freights so as to encourage industries and render service to the people. This purpose is carried so far in New South Wales that school-children are conveyed free of charge on colonial railways, while in Victoria remissions of fare are made to special classes of students. The low fares of the Victorian railways are the more surprising because the wages of labour are about twice as high as they are in England, and coal costs nearly twice as much. We should add that street railroads in Victoria belong not to private corporations, but to the municipalities. The eight-hour labour day has been observed throughout Victoria since 1856, so far as artisans are concerned, and in 1886 an early-closing law went into operation, whereby male and female clerks in shops are relieved from duty at 7 p.m. on five nights of the week, and at 10 p.m. on Saturdays. Altogether, Victoria is a worker's paradise, high wages being combined with cheap food, cheap transportation, and leisure for culture and amusement.—*Ledger.*

##### HOW LARGE WAS ANCIENT ROME?

AFTER carefully examining all the data we have, all the statements and various ancient writers who allude to it, and all the facts which seem to bear on the question, I am convinced that in estimating the population at 4,000,000 I am rather understating than overstating it. It is much more probable that it was larger than that it was smaller. De Quincey also estimates the inhabitants of Rome at 4,000,000. I will only cite one fact, and then leave the question. The Circus Maximus was constructed to hold 250,000, or, according to Victor, at a later period probably, 385,000 spectators. Taking the smaller number, then, it would be 1 in 16 of all the inhabitants if there were 4,000,000. But as one-half the population was composed of slaves, who must be struck out of the spectators, when the circus was built there would be accommodation then for 1 in 8 of the total population, excluding slaves. Reducing again the number one-half by striking out the women, there would be room for 1 in 4. Again, striking out the young children and the old men and the sick and impotent, you would have accommodation for nearly the whole population. Is it possible to believe that the Romans constructed a circus to hold the entire population of Rome capable of going to it?—for such must have been the case were there only 4,000,000 of inhabitants. But suppose there were only 1,000,000 inhabitants, it is plain from the mere figures that it would never have been possible to half fill the circus.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

WESTERN BANK OF CANADA.—The Statement submitted to the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of this institution indicates stability and ever-increasing prosperity. The net earnings amounted to \$35,546.87, being something over ten per cent. on the paid-up capital of the bank, and enabling the Directors to pay two dividends of 3½ per cent. each. We heartily congratulate the Cashier, Mr. T. H. McMillan, and the President and Directors, on this gratifying result of their management during the past year.



PAYMENTS FOR EIGHT MONTHS, FROM 1ST MAY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1889

Table with 2 columns: Description of payments and amounts. Includes 'By expense account', 'By re-assurance premiums', 'By claims by death', etc.

(Signed) A. G. RAMSAY, President. R. HILLS, Secretary.

THE CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Hamilton, 9th April, 1890.

Audited and approved. (Signed) MAITLAND YOUNG, Auditor.

AUDITOR'S REPORT, 1890.

To the President, Vice-President and Directors of the Canada Life Assurance Company:

GENTLEMEN,—I have closed a minute audit of the books and accounts of your Company for the broken period of eight months ending 31st December, 1889. I have also examined the debentures, mortgages and other securities, representing the loans and investments of the Company.

(Signed), MAITLAND YOUNG, Auditor.

Hamilton, April 11th, 1890.

REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE, STATE OF MICHIGAN.

STATE OF MICHIGAN INSURANCE BUREAU, LANSING, March 19th, 1890.

I, Henry S. Raymond, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of Michigan, do hereby certify that I have caused the policies of the Canada Life Insurance Company, of Hamilton, in the Dominion of Canada, outstanding on the 31st day of December, 1889, to be valued as per the American Experience Table Rate of Mortality, with interest at four and one-half per centum per annum, as required by the statutes of this State, and I find the net value of said policies to be eight million two hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hundred and forty (\$8,237,540.00) dollars.

(Signed), HENRY S. RAYMOND, Commissioner of Insurance.

The President, Mr. A. G. Ramsay, then moved the adoption of the report. The motion was seconded by Mr. F. W. Gates, Vice-President of the Company. In making the motion Mr. Ramsay made very comprehensive and clear remarks upon the business of the Company during the year. He said:—

By the arrangement which met your approval at our meeting last year, whereby the date of the closing of the Company's books was changed from 30th April to 31st December, the business before you upon this occasion covers only the eight months between these dates, and I would ask you to bear that fact in mind in considering the figures which are contained in the Directors' report and in the statements now presented to you. If that be done, it will be found that the business of the eight months is proportionately larger than it has ever before reached, and it is very gratifying to be able to point to the continued undiminished success of the Company which the figures before you indicate.

The amount of assurances carried by the Company is within a trifle of fifty million dollars, the assets exceed ten millions, and the annual income is now about two million dollars.

The return of another period for the division of the Company's profits adds interest to the proceedings of the present meeting.

The important subject of the basis of the valuation of the obligations of the Company is one which has from time to time received very careful consideration, and the meeting will, I dare say, be able to recall that upon the original foundation of the Company in 1847, the basis of its business was that of the Carlisle rate of mortality, with an assumption of future interest at 6 per cent. per annum. Subsequently, in 1870, seeing that the rate of interest on satisfactory investments had somewhat fallen, and looking to the possibility of its becoming still lower, our interest basis was changed from 6 per cent. to 5 per cent. In 1880 the still further important change to the assumption of interest at 4 1/2 per cent. was made, and the more recent Mortality Experience Tables of the Institute of Actuaries of Great Britain were adopted, as being probably a more accurate criterion than that of the older Carlisle tables. Having last year, as you are aware, opened a branch of the Company's business in the State of Michigan, it became necessary, in compliance with the State laws, that a valuation of the Company's policy obligations should be made upon the basis of the American Experience Table of Mortality, with interest at 4 1/2 per cent. per annum, and as the results of that table would not be materially different from those of the other, and being based upon the actual experience of the duration of life upon this Continent, its results have been adopted upon the present occasion.

The previous divisions of profits in 1885 was for the full five years, to 30th April of that year, while upon the present occasion it is only for the four and two-thirds years to 31st December, 1889. As explained by the Directors' report, the valuation of the Company's liabilities of all kinds amounts to \$8,237,540, and the accounts therewith submitted show a surplus of profit upon the four and two-thirds years' operations amounting to \$1,859,043.25.

The fall in the rate of interest in Canada during the past few years, to which I have already alluded, and the possibility of some further reduction, have given us a good deal of consideration, the result of which is to let us upon the present occasion to lay aside out of the present profits a special reserve of \$250,000 as a preparation for such a change of our basis of interest as to 4 per cent. should that at a future time become expedient. The adoption of so wise a course, will, I believe, add to the Company's reputation for careful and prudent management, and still further increase public confidence in its stability and strength. After deduction of this reserve of \$250,000 from the surplus of \$1,859,043.25, there will remain \$1,609,043.25 for distribution, in which the Policyholders share to the extent of 93.35 per cent.

This enables us to declare a bonus addition at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent. per annum, on ordinary life policies, payable at death, where the profits are taken as bonus. Where they are taken otherwise, as in cash or reduction of premiums, the equivalent value thereof will be allowed, and after making this declaration of profits to Policyholders, there will remain at the credit of assurances on the with profit system a balance of \$94,583.82. I would here point out to you that as this profit arises from the operations of four and two-thirds years only, it exceeds that of the last declaration, which covered the full five years, and by this statement you will see that there has been no pause in the onward progress of the Company, but that it still continues to hold that successful position which has for so long a period distinguished it. The handsome profit just declared will largely increase the already considerable number of assurers whose policies are now self-sustaining and yielding their holders an annual income. For very much of the Company's success we are indebted to its agents and officers, and I gladly take the opportunity to thank them most heartily, and trust the present report and the favourable position which the Company occupies may induce all connected with it to continue their best efforts to retain for the Canada Life its honourable and proud pre-eminence. I shall be glad to supply any further information which may be desired, and conclude by moving the adoption of the Directors' report and accounts now before the meeting.

Mr. F. W. Gates, the Vice-President, in seconding the motion, said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—When I had the pleasure of seconding the adoption of the report last year, I ventured to express the opinion that the results of this year just closed would be equally favourable to those of last year. Mr. Ramsay, in his excellent report and remarks, has shown us that this is the case, and I now venture to predict that this year will also prove fully as favourable as the one which has passed. I think the results of the five years, on the whole, are favourable to the Shareholders, and will convince them that the affairs of the Company have been well and faithfully managed. The good old times when we could get township and other debentures bearing interest at 6 or 7 per cent. at a discount have passed away, perhaps never to return, and we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that money all over the world is very abundant, and that the interest paid a few years ago may never return. Unless there may be a great European war or some other thing to advance the rate the tendency will be still downward. I join with the President in welcoming as many of the agents as came to the meeting to-day. It shows that the agents have a live interest in the Company's affairs. It shows also that they appreciate the efforts of the President and Directors, and I think that the lever which we have given them to-day in the division of profits will be used by them in increasing the business of the Company. I have therefore very much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report.

The President then put the motion to the meeting and it was carried unanimously amid applause.

Major McLaren then arose to move a vote of thanks to the President and Directors for their attention to the interests of the Company for the past year.

Mr. J. S. Hendrie seconded the motion. In moving it Major McLaren said:—It gives me very great pleasure to move a vote of thanks to the President and Directors for the very able manner in which they have managed the affairs of the Company during the past year. The report we have just heard, I am sure, will be read with satisfaction by every Shareholder. It points out the fact that the profits of the Company are increasing. The fact that they have been increasing in the last five years speaks for itself, and shows the great care and attention that must have been given to the Company's affairs, and the President and Directors are entitled to our fullest thanks.

Mr. J. S. Hendrie made a few remarks in seconding the motion, which was put and carried amid applause. Mr. A. G. Ramsay, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said:—On behalf of the Board of Directors I have very much pleasure in thanking you for the motion you have just past, and for the complimentary remarks that have been made. It is always a source of much satisfaction to us to be able to present to you a favourable report, and I hope we will always be able to do so.

It was moved by Hon. Mr. Justice Burton that Messrs. George A. Young and C. Ferris be appointed as scrutineers of votes for the election of Directors in room of the three retiring, and that the poll shall now be opened, and be closed upon five minutes elapsing without a vote being tendered.

The motion was seconded by Mr. W. R. Macdonald and carried unanimously.

The retiring Directors were the Hon. Mr. Justice Burton, Col. C. S. Gzowski, A.D.C. to the Queen, and Nohemiah Merritt, Esq., of Toronto. It was moved by Mr. F. W. Gates, seconded by Major Henry McLaren, that the ballot for the election of Directors be cast by the President on behalf of the Shareholders.—Carried.

The retiring Directors, Hon. Mr. Justice Burton, Col. Gzowski, and Mr. N. Merritt, were then re-elected.

Mr. Adam Brown, M.P., then arose and moved that the thanks of the Shareholders be tendered to the agents and officers and medical advisers of the Company, to whose exertions in the interests of the Company its remarkable success is in a great measure due.

Mr. Brown said:—It is not necessary for me to go into details of figures in order to show you the position of the Company's business. This has been given to you very fully in the excellent remarks of the President. It is extremely gratifying to see such a good result of the year's business, and those results are in a large measure due to the untiring efforts of our agents. The safety and strength of the Canada Life Assurance Company give to it a reputation second to none in the country. The very name of the Canada Life is a guarantee of stability wherever that name is used, and on such a name the agents can work, knowing that their efforts will be appreciated, and that the Company is the best they could work for. I am sure the agents present here to-day will feel no slight at my naming particularly an old and faithful agent, Mr. Cox, who so faithfully looks after the Company's interests in the large district of Toronto. I am sure that the public and the Shareholders will agree with me when I say that we owe the success and the present high standing of the Company to Mr. Ramsay, our President; and it must be a source of great satisfaction to see every agent in the Company's service, as well as the staff at the head office here, so strongly attached to that gentleman. It speaks volumes for Mr. Ramsay as chief.

Colonel Gzowski said—I have very much pleasure, indeed, in seconding the motion. Before putting it to the meeting the President said—I will only add that I most heartily agree with every word that has been said in praise of our agents.

Mr. Cox, on behalf of the agents and officers of the Company, acknowledged in suitable terms the vote of thanks that had been proposed by Mr. Brown and so cordially received by the Shareholders—it would, he was sure, be fully appreciated. He was very much gratified to know that the quinquennial investigation and valuation of the Company's liabilities had resulted so satisfactorily, that they were enabled to allot the policy holders a bonus of two and one-half per cent. per annum on the sum assured and at the same time hold a special reserve of \$250,000 against the probability of finding it desirable, later on, to change the basis rate of interest at which the reserves are held. This he considered a very wise precaution in view of the constantly decreasing rate of interest at which the funds of the Company can be safely invested and was another evidence of the careful and conservative management that had so long been characteristic of the Canada Life Assurance Company.

Mr. Stone, of Guelph, was introduced by Mr. Ramsay, who announced him as having been in the service—and a faithful servant—for upwards of thirty years. Mr. Stone made a few well-chosen remarks, in which he also alluded to the dishonest tactics of the agents of other Companies, and that the Canada Life had nothing to fear, as the people were beginning to understand that the stories told were not true.

Mr. Ramsay then thanked the Shareholders for their attendance, and the meeting adjourned.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors Mr. A. G. Ramsay was unanimously re-elected President, and Mr. W. F. Gates, Vice-President.

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GENERAL ABSTRACT OF THE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1889.

ASSETS.

Table of assets including 'Cash on hand, \$278.39, and in Banks, \$74,447.96', 'Mortgages on Real Estate', 'Debentures—value in account (par value)', 'Bank Stocks', etc.

OTHER ASSETS.

Table of other assets including 'Cash in agents' and others hands, including receipts held by them for premiums which have since been accounted for', 'Half-yearly and quarterly premiums secured on policies and payable within nine months', etc.

LIABILITIES.

Table of liabilities including 'Capital stock paid up', 'Proprietors' account', 'Assurance, Annuity and Profit Fund', 'Reserve required to meet all outstanding policies by American Experience Table', etc.

(Signed) A. G. RAMSAY, President. R. HILLS, Secretary.

THE CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Hamilton, 9th April, 1890.

Audited and approved. (Signed) MAITLAND YOUNG, Auditor.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENTS.

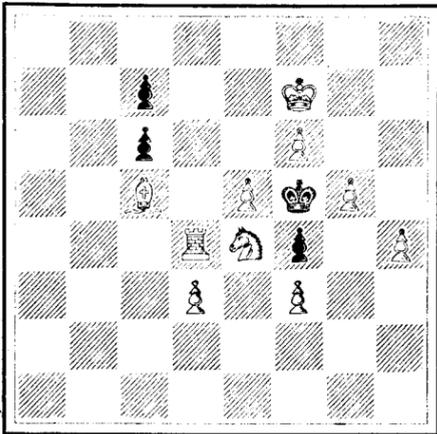
We hereby certify that we have carefully examined and passed in detail the several securities specified in the "General Abstract of Assets and Liabilities to the 31st of December last," and find the same to be correct, and have also verified the balance of cash.

(Signed) GE. M. INNES, N. MERRITT, F. W. GATES, WM. HENDRIE.

CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY'S OFFICES, Hamilton, 11th April, 1890.

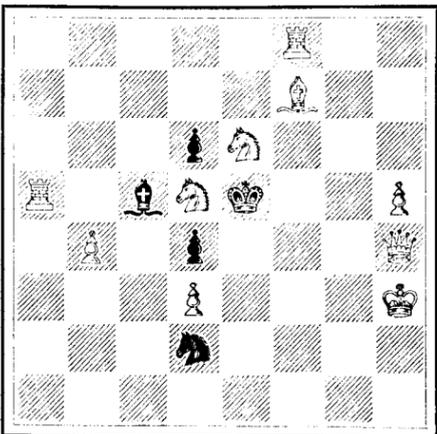
CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 455.  
By E. H. EDDIS, Orillia.  
BLACK.



WHITE.  
White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 456.  
By E. FORMSLOCKER, from Le Monde Illustré.  
BLACK.



WHITE.  
White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

No. 449.  
White. 1. R-R 3  
2. Kt-Q 3  
3. B mates.  
Black. P x B  
K x P

No. 450.  
B-B 8

GAME IN THE TORONTO CHESS CLUB TOURNAMENT FOR 1890, PLAYED BETWEEN MR. MCGREGOR AND MR. DAVISON, MARCH, 1890.

QUEENS GAMBIT.

MR. J. MCGREGOR.	MR. A. T. DAVISON.	MR. J. MCGREGOR.	MR. A. T. DAVISON.
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1. P-Q 4	P-Q 4	29. R-R 4	P-B 4 (e)
2. P-Q B 4	P x P	30. P x P	Kt x P
3. Kt-Q B 3	P-Q B 3	31. Kt-B 1	B-B 3 (f)
4. P-Q R 4	Kt-K B 3	32. R-Kt 4 (g)	R-Q 4
5. P-K 4	B-K 3	33. R-Kt 6	K-R Q 1
6. P-K B 4	P-K Kt 3	34. B-K 2	R-Q 7
7. Kt-K B 3	P-K R 3	35. Q-K 3	Q-Q B 2
8. B-K 2 (a)	B-K Kt 2	36. R x B (h)	Kt x R
9. B-K 3	Kt-Kt 5	37. Q x P +	K-Kt 2
10. Q-Q 2	Kt-R 3	38. R x P	Kt-Q 5
11. P-K R 3	Kt x B	39. Q-B 6 +	K-R 2
12. Q x Kt	Kt-Kt 5	40. R-K B 2	Kt x B
13. Q R-B 1	P-Q R 3	41. Q-K B 5 +	K-R 1
14. Castles.	P-Q Kt 4	42. Kt x Kt	Q-K Kt 2
15. B-Q 1	Q-Kt 3	43. Q-K 6	R x Kt P
16. Kt-K 5 (b)	B x Kt	44. P-B 6	R-Q 7
17. B P x B	Kt-Q 6	45. P-B 7	Q x P
18. R-Kt 1	Kt x K P	46. Q x P +	K-Kt 1
19. Kt-K 2 (c)	P-K Kt 4	47. Q-K 6 +	K-Kt 2
20. Q K-Kt 3	Kt-Kt 3	48. Q-B 6 +	K-R 2
21. Q K-B 2	Q R-Q 1	49. Q x P	R at Q 1-Q 4
22. P-K Kt 3	Castles.	50. Q-R 4 +	K-Kt 1
23. K-R 2	P-K B 4	51. Q-Kt 4 +	Q-Kt 2
24. P-K 5	P-Q Kt 5	52. Q-K 6 +	K-R 1
25. B-B 2 (d)	P-Q Kt 6	53. Q-K 8 +	Q-Kt 1
26. B-Q 1	B-Q 4	54. Q-K 3 (k)	Q-Kt 2
27. R-Q R 1	P-K 3	55. Q-R 8 +	K-R 2
28. P-Q R 5	Q-R 2	56. Q-K 4 +	K-R 1

Drawn game.

NOTES.

- (a) Kt-K 5 would have won back the pawn.
- (b) A move that loses another pawn, whites centre pawns are very weak.
- (c) P-R 3 seems better.
- (d) A lost move.
- (e) Q-K 2 is the better move.
- (f) Not good, Q-K 2 better.
- (g) A bad move which black should have taken advantage of to win the exchange by playing 32. B-Kt 4 followed by Kt-B 3
- (h) Playing for a draw.
- (k) A good move, holding the position tight.

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Cured

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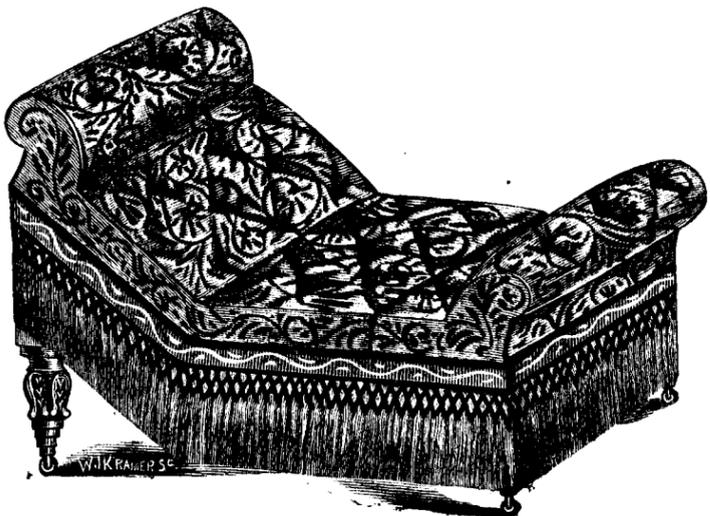
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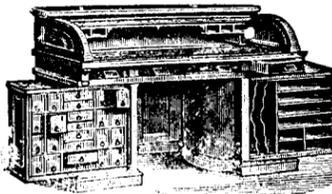
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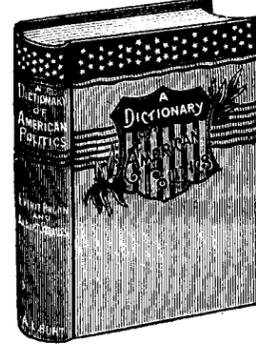
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