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#### Abstract

In proportion as subscriptions come in we will increase the size ofour paper. Friends desirous of more reading matter know what to do in order to secure it. We have the material, all we need is the space ; and each dollar will help in procuring that.


## BDITORIAL SUMMARY.

In an e:ry issue we will commence an original and heretofore unpublished Canadian story. It is a tale of Canadian shanty life; a record, halfromance half history, of a period and of men that, will somn be forgotes. The pioneer days should not be allowed to $\sin k$ into ollivion.
, We are exceedingly grateful to the many friends who have so far encouraged our venture. . It could scarcely be expected that merchants would sign advertising contracts with only a prospectusand a blank sheet of paper - before ham: jot a glance at our columns will show how heartily the mere idea of such a publication has been received. The timid and careful, those who feared it might not be a suncess, and helped to realize their own fears by witholding assistance when mosi needed, will soon lie glad to enjoy the henelits of 'liae Pen's circulation.

As the subscriptions are what we mosily: depend upon for a fair start, and as they aice payable in advance, . we would once, and for all time, beys of our frients to forward whem to owr address and to do so withont further
$p$ solicitation. 1 a careful note will be

- taken of all who promply conne forward at this juncture to aid in firmly establishing our review; and they may rely that their generosity will not be forgotten as the months roll on.

We do not wish that this number should bee considered as a regular sample of Tue Pun. The firs isur of The PEN. The first issue human appetite of the masses become has its many difficulties, that once mastered re-appear no more. The amount of mater that each column contains, the division of the sulbjects, the arrangement of the pages, the
trimuaing, cutting, adjusting and refixing that forbid a perfectly systematical review must all vanish for the future It is easily understood that much has to be omitted in this number that olherwise wonld appear in proper place ; some features of the publication are more extended than is consistem with space ; others are too curtailed to suit the editor's views and aims. But "Rome was not built in a das"; Eternal City.

As it is practically impossible for us to write to all our friends throughout Canada, we beg of each one to accept a copy of The Pen in place of a letter, and to lend us at once a friendly hand by sending us all the subscriptions that he, or she, can secure. Timely help will always be remembered. We also ask that our friends read our advertising columne and note the various cards, ths addresses and names, so that they may know where to bestow their patronage. In future no references will be made on this page to ourselves or our business.

Tae Pen commences its career almost at the eve of Christmas. It is a season of enjoyment, peace and "goodwill." In again addressing the public of Canada we wish to convey the sincere expression of our most kindly sentiments, and to unite with each household in a full participation in all the joys and blessings of the $b$ time.

A boxing match, or prize-fig! it, betrieen two "sporting characters"Barry and Croot-took place the other day in London. Croot was killed by Barry. Columns of the press had details of the twenty rounds fought; a few lines only announced the fact that the life was beaten out of one man. Are we gliding back to the days of barbarism? or has the inso ravenous that a great and
most influential institution of this century-the press-finds it necessary to pander to its brutality? O, Tompora! O, Mores!

Chief Justice Davie, of British Columbia, and County Judge McDougall, of Ontario, hold very different views on the question of divorce. The former would have it restricted to the Senate; the latter would have it under the jurisdiction of the County Courts. It is difficult for us to see how any two opinions could exist in the minds of learned and Christian men upon the subject. The incorporation of the Mormons is objecred to in the Northwest, on account of their belief in poligamy; divorce, carried to its logical results, is merely the door to the temple of poligamy. The age will yet learn this truth, at the expense of domestic happiness and family security.

Shade of Louis Kossuth 1 How the old patriot would rejoice to witness the disgraceful scenes that recently took place in the Austrian Legislature! But if the revolutionist of ffty years agn has vanished from the scene, Herr Francis Kossuth, his son, succeeds him, and is as ready as ever was the father to stir up the spirit of independence in the breasts of Hungarians. The compact between Austria and Hungary seems to be drawing to a close; statesmen of the former country are standing over a volcano. That a crash is coming needs not the eye of a seer to perceive. What will be the result of the up. heaval none can predict.

It is remarkable that alout twice in each hundred years some political earthquake rocks the nations of the old world, and in the vibrations and convulsions that are feit, thrones totter, crowns fall, systems vanish, and new combinations arisc. 'lowards the close, and about the middle of the century are these shocks experienced. One hundred years ago - :797-98-France, Austria, Italy, and almost every continental Country passed through the fiery ordeal of revolution. Fifty years ago- 18.47 .48 -Italy had an insurrection, France has a revolution; the ffects of these out-bursts were felt tion from end to end of the continent. We standpoint except that of Instruction? are now approaching the close of the Instruction is only a factor in educa-
nineteenth century: are there signs along the horizon that indicate a repetition of what fifty, and of what one hundred years ago was the order of the day? It would be unwise, to say the least, to ignore, to under-stimate the present uneasiness and insecurity.

An extraordimary character is the Emperor of Germany. It may not be "according to Hoyle" for humble mortals to criticise a personage of such exalted rank; but, with all due respect, we can only conclude that he is either a genius or a madman. If the former, he must have some wonderful plan in his brain, and the omnipotence of his kingdom must be its aim ; if the latter, it is time that the serious and solid elements of the country combine to prevent him from making her a laughing-stock abroad and a wreck at home. His last move regarding the navy is in keeping with all his other flights of fancy, or ambition. It is easy to draw up gigantic schemes as iong as the peopied pay for the experiments. It would seem as it Germans were getting weary of so much bombast-it is costly and dangerous.

There is still some serious talk about the Manitoba school question. Many are under the impression that it will again occupy the public atten. tion; Hugh John says it will not be taken up by any party. A section of the press has declared it to be "a dead issue," and has chanted a Libera over it. But where a vital principle has existed no obsequies can prevent a resurrection. That the minority purposes carrying on separate schools is evident from the fact of collections being made for that purpose on all sides. And as long us the Catholic schools will have to depend upon subscriptions, so long will the ques. tion be kept alive.

How comes it that statesmen, writers, and legal lights, who have busied themselves with the study and explanation of this Educational ques. ion, have not considered it from any
tion; instruction simply means the imparting of knowledge to the mind. vice given by a clergyman in MandeThe question has been discussed in regard to this one phase alone. What books should be used, what kind of instruction should be given, what hours might or might not be set asider at whe Klon. dike. There is something very prac or the other branch. Never do they tical in this sermon. This rush for go beyond the circle of instruction. gold will result, in thousands of cases, Still it is called a question of educa- in poverty, untold misery, madness, tion. Education includes instruction; and death. Homes will be abandoned but instruction is only a portion of and asylums will be filled ; plenty and education. Instruction fills the mind contentment will be replaced by with certain information or knowledge; penury and unrest; many a vacant education moulds the heart, inculcates chair will stand by the deserted pronciples, develops the physical as hearth, and many a lonely grave will well as mental parts of man; educa- be filled amonst the passes of Alaska. tion has to do with the forming of character, the preparing of man for the battle of life on earth, and for another life for not satisfied with President McKin ane the present. It is because this dis- ing severely criticised in m.ny tinction has not been grasped that quarters. It contains so very littie the question has presented so many that the criticism seems throwil away. difficulties; considered as a matier of As a Canadian statesman once reeducation, and not merely of teach- marked, concerning another question, ing and learning, the solution should "there is nothing to it." However, be very easy-if people wished to they should be satisfied in England; reach it.

It would be interesting to know the cause of so much friction between the Commanders-in Chief of the Canadian militia and those who come under them. It cannot be possible that the home authorities purposely select generals who are caiculated to create unpopularity for themselves. Nor is it at an Tike efy that cinance could have sent us men who were all unfortunate enough to be misunderstood. Not being of the military school, we are not competent to judge ; but certainly more or less trouble surrounded and criticism followed the three last commanders. The Guisa, the slaughter of the desired law passed it wou'd have a whole garrison, the wiping out of been interesting to note how it could be eight hundred Spaniards by General enforced, or, rather how it was likely Garcia and his rebel army may have to remain unenforced. The other day widespread effects both in the Old complaint was made to a city officer World and the New. The terrible about certsin posters; he is reported to struggle has, however, proven the have said that he did not consider courage and patroitism of the them immoral. Perhaps he did not; Spaniards, and goes to show that all ard maybe, as far as he was indivithe brutality is not on their side. dually concerned, there might be nothing in them of the dangerous or Premier Haultain wishes to have immoral kind. But, would that officer the North-West Territories recog. feel inclined to call the attention of nized as a Province of the Dominion; his wife, or sister, or even any lady but he does not want to have any sec- acquaintance, to those pictures or tion of the Territories detached from posters? If passing along the the whole. From the gold fields of street in the company of any lady
the Yukon to the wheat fields of the would he notinstinctively feel inclined the Yukon to the wheat fields of the would he notinstinctively feel inclined East, he desires that the ner Pro- to draw her attention to something on vince shall extend. Such a Province the other side of the way, or at least must sooner or later become the most to become suddenly so interested in important part of the Dominion-at some topic that no time would be least as far as size is concerned.

We hoticed in a recent issue of a generally well informed publication the beautiful poem, entitled "Forewarned," attributed to the late lamented Thomas D'Arcy McGee. poem opens thus:-
"In the thys of my chithlhom I hand a strauge fieling,
That I was to die at the noon of my day;
Not quiedy into the silent grave stealing,
But torin, like a liastoel rock, sudten alw:
Although the sentiment and gloomy foreboding might well apply to the sad ending of the gifted orator, statesman, poet and historian; still the poem was not penned by McGee. It is one of Gerald Criffin's early productions. The author of "The Collegeans," whose works are a delight and were at one time most universally read, closed his beautiful and useful life, as a member of the Christian Brothers Community. McGee was a great admirer and lover of Griffin, and this poem was one of his favorites; hence, perhaps, the error in attribut ing it to him.

The following despatch from Dublin, dated roth December, is very peculiar:"The evening Telegraph says that the War Office has sent an order to Dublin for the sharpening of all sword bayonets in the possession of regular troops in Ireland. The order is unprecedented and a perfect mystery to both officers and men." This would make one think rather of the year 1797 than 1897. That was the time when they knew how to sharpen bayoncts and to use them when they were properly sharpened. There does not seem to be any apparent cause for such fa peculiar proceeding at this juncture in the history of the British Isles. If there is reliance to be placed upon reports, the opponents of Home Rule would do better to sharpen their wits for the coming session. They may find that wit will serve them better than cold steel in their cause,-but likely neither one nor the other, nor both combined, could prevent the triumph of the principles that they, wish to smother.

## A KINDLY WORD.

Pefore a number of The Pen had appeared, and when only our prospectus was circulated, the Catholic Record, of London, Ont., paid us the following generous tribute. We only rust that our little paper will be ever up to the standard that such a friendly criticism would demand.
"The Pen is the title of a new literary venture which will make its appearance in Montreal the present month. It will be published by J. K. Foran

Lit. D, LL. B. Our readers will recollect that this gentleman was for some years editor of the True Witness, of Montreal, and while he hrld that position the paper showed a marked improvement. Mr. Foran is also widely and most favorably known throughout the Dominion as a writer of whom our country may well feel proud, his volume of po: ms, published a few years since, being a valuable and highly appreciated addition to the literature of our young country. From the prospectus of Tus: Pen, we notice that in the initial number will appear a continued story of Canadian backwoods life; atticles upon the various historical epochs and conspicious figures of the past and present centuries, and those will be enhanced from time to time by contributions from the pens of eminent Canadian uriters. 'In Canada,' the editor truly says, 'there is ample scope for the exercise of a truly patriotic and sincerely frank pen We have a land of vast proportions, unlimited resources, and boundless liberties; the streams of nationality coming from varioue sources should blend in the great ocean of our Canadian nationhood; harmony, mutual forbearance and Christian tolerance should reign supreme. It will be the duty of Tile Pen to propagate as far as its influence may extend, sentiments in accord with this statement of our actual position.'"

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* History.

FRANCI; I. AND C+NADA.

Spain, Kugland and Portugal had already taken possession of seciions of the new World, before France was stiren into the activity that resulted in the disonvery and colonization of Canadı. Under the patronage of Spain. Christopher Columbus-in 1492--discovered America. In $549^{6}$ Henry III., of England, fitted out an expedition for a British merchant, John Cabot, who, with his son Sebastian, was the first European to set fool on the main land of this continent In :500, a Portuguese navigator -Gaspard Cortereal-visited New foundland and entered the Gulf of Si. Lawrence. The Breton and Nor man fishermen frequented the coast of Newfoundland as early as $150 .+$ and for nearly twenty years plied their trade without exciting any special interest in lirance.
Fully ten years before Jacques Cartier set sail for the New World, Francis I., King of France, had conceived the idsa of participating in the discoveries that other powers were making. About 1513 , having heard endless stories of the wealth that Spain, England and Portugal were reaping in the almost unknown regions beyond the great Allantic, the French monarch resolved to keep pace with them in this new line of national development as well as every other one. One day, when told by a scientist how rapidly the great continent, so recently discovered, was being

would like to see the clause in Adam's will which gives them the right to divide the New World among them selves ?"

The following year the monarch commissioned a Florentine navigator -Jean Verazzini--to explore the northern porion of the continent, and to make a fithful report to him.

That same year Verazzani sailed across the ocean and visited the eastern coast of America, from the 3 oth degree of north latitude to Newfoundland. He claimed all that vast region, in the name of the French King, and made a report to Francis I. of all he had seen and found. That report was couched in terms calculated to stir into a flame the enbers of desire that smouldered in the royal breast. However, it was only in 1534 , ten years later, that, in spite of the European conflicts then raging, Francis decided to establish a colony in what was already called New France. It was then that Jacques Cartier was commissioned to carry the standards of Christianity and of France into this land of promise. Although it is generally accepted that Cartier was the first to discover Canada, still we see that he had been preceded by Verazzani. In succeeding issues we will deal briefly with a few of the most important events that mark the period of Cartier's three voyages of discovery. For the pre-友的 we simply wish to draw atten-
tion to the fact that the French monarch had conceived the idea of establishing a colony in New France long before the date of Canada's discovery.

There is now no doubt as to the motives that actuated Verazzani in presenting the elaborate and glowing report of his wonderful voyage. That his report was somewhat exaggerated, Francis I. himself discovered, years afterwards, when Cartier had succeeded in laying the foundation of a great colony. But it suited the Florentine's purpose to make the most of the opportunity. On the other hand he was naturally proud of bis own achievements, and his vanity led hiun to paint such a picture as would awaken the admiration, for himself, of all his acquaintances and friends. But, more important still, was the desire to be again commis siored by the French King to visit tbe New World. He imagined that a glowing report would secure him that privilege, and he knew that wealth and fame awaited the one so commissioned. In the first case he was possibly successful; that is to say, he succeeded in becoming a hero in the eyes of thousands, and of being looked upun as one of the great men of his time. However, he failed in securing his second and mere imp ortant objecr; namely the advantage of paying another visit, at the expense of France, to the land beyond the seas. Possibly had not Francis I. been, at that time, in trouble with his neighbers, were peace declared throughout Europe, and had not France to contend with foreign and domestic enemies, Verazani might have gained his point, and Canada might have been discovered by him and not by Cartier. But during the ten years of indecision on the part of the King, the Florentine navigator passed out of public notice, and even out of actual existence. So that, when the dream of establishing a new France came back to the King, and circumstances permitted him to put his plans into execution, other men were required, and another leader was in demand. Times had changed, and in their mutations a different generation had sprung up, and to that generation belonged the famous founder of Canada, Jacques Cartier.

## Shooilig THe DEVIL.

A STORY OF THE UPPER GATINEAU.
(By' the Editor.)

The Desert is a less rapid and less turbulent river than either the Galineau or the Eagle. Ascending its waters in an Indian canoe, one is forcibly struck with the mild aspect of the surrounding country, which forms a marked contrast with the rocky wildness of the regions to the north, east and south of that valley. It was on a beautiful evening in September that I first ascended the Desert. Six Indians of the Tettede.

Boule tribe had come down from their camping ground, some twerty miles up stream, to secure provisions and enjoy a few hours "sight-seeing" at Maniwaki. After spending the day with their fellow-Indians in the village and making several purchases at Logue's general store, they were about to return to their families at the Small Chute, as the place of camping was called. They had two canoes, into which they packed bread, pork, tea, sugar, tobacco, powder, shot and all the results of their primitive "shop. ping." I was standing on the shore when they were about to start. Tenneketti, one of the crew, whom I had known upon the Black River, recognized me and invited me to accompany them to their camping ground. He told me that they were going to have a special celebration that would interest me greatly. I hesitated at first, but, on condition that they would "paddle me down" the next morning, I agreed to accompany my old friend.
"Iwas an evening that Florene migh riny,

## So rich wist the temom-humb air,"

The sun had gone down in a sea of glory, the distant peaks of the Laurentians were still bathed in a crimson llush, the shadow of the hills grew deeper on the valley and the river, the green meadows on boih sides of the Deseri faded in the gathering twilight; along the eastern horizon, like a spectre of the sky, the harvest moon crept gradually zenith ward, one by one the stars came out from their hiding places and twinkled, like diamonds, in the blue of the dis tant concaye, a arantle hroeze fanned the brow of nigh! and her sable garments, decorated with innumerable jewels of light, fell upon the land sape; no sound broke the stillness of the surroundings, save the cry, mournful and ghaul-like, of a lone loon upon some distant lake, and the regulor splash of the six Indian paddles in the transparent waters of the stream. No one spoke; nor would I have relished any intrusion upon the solemnity of the scene. I felt alone in the wilderness, with scions of the primeval race as guides, the glorious works of the Creator on all sides, the voices of nature whispering inexpressible and delicious things to my soul, and nothing earthly to dis turb the musings that once were the delight of my being. I'en miles were passed and the stars became more brilliant and numerous; the milky way spread its arch of light across the firmament; the orb of night rolled higher and shed a more silvery flood upon the hilis and valleys and cast a track of glory along the surfuce of the placid stream-a liquid gleam of soft splendor, like the path of the just to heaven; the meadows undulated into hills; the hills swelled into mountains; the mountains became more wild and rugged; the panorania was chainging, when I was startled from my reverie, and my visions of delight vanished at the sound of Temneketti's voice, as he called to the front canoe to stop and wait for us while we landed at the mouth of a small creek.

They say that there is but one step from the sublime to the ridiculoas; here was an illustration of that inct. I had heen up amongst the stars. dreaming of glories that are ant of this earth, building castles in the ble of the vast empyrean, away an the wings of imagtation, sainisg beso realms visited only by the somls of poets, when, whack! whiz! dun!! came, heels over head, smack apon the rough plane of the most common place and vulgar reality of l'emneavti. taking up a jar of highwines, from behind a huge stone at the mouth or the creek, and, witn a grunt of seeming satisfaction, lifing it into the cano: The eld Romans sind that thene oras only a step from the Capiol io tian Tarpian Rock--so was this; fact ilustrated in that night's adventures but I must not anticipate. The haw of Canada inflicts a heavy penalty on any person ho seils or procures far the Indians intoxicatung liquor. It is not to be had on the rescre. But Tenneketti and his gang were equal to the otcasion. A friendly (or unfriendly) biacksmith of Manizaki purchased the whiskey, and placed is at the point indicated; the Indians, on therr way home, secured the " lirewater," and were happy in their triumph over the law and in their long expected "pow-wow." Once the liquor was secured, Tenneketti in. formed me that they were going to "shoot the devil" that night at the camping ground. I had heard of this ceremony, but had never witnessed its performance ; very probably I will never again either hear of or see that pecuitar operation of shooting bis Satanic Majesty. In fact, I never want to be a spectator at any repetition of the drama of that night. In truth, for a tume, I had an idea that the indans nad mistanea myseli tis the devil, as they seemed to have coll ceived a very strong desire of practis ing their rifle shooting skill upon my body. Hat we will first reach th" camping ground before commencing a description of the war dance around the elfigy of the Evil Onc.

When we came within sight of hio birch-bark wigwams of the 'fobedeBoule band, I perceived that there were extraordinary preparation: beins made for the nigh's carousal. i lire blazed on a billock near tane shore; the sq aws and papooses; moved around in all the feverish eagerness that the knowicdge of an approaching camival cerams. When our canoes toncheo the buk and wo jumped ashore, there was en evident surprise in store firme, as we!l as fira the women and chitdren. The equaws had not anticipated a winte strange: being present to whaees their anthed of the night; mosever. the ladi... women are most bashful by ather: Had I been the Old Nack himsei?, come for the purposs of giving thems an opportunity of shooting at him, a wilder stampede could not have rake:a place. The squaws gathered their blankets about them, and ran off, cackling, like old hens that had seen a hawk, and the young ones, like frightened chickens, got uade: their mothers' wings and peeped out to catch a stealthy glimpse of the new:y arrived ljeelzzibub.


## $=$ The $\mathbb{P c}$ en $=$

A Literary, Historical and Critical Review, Published Weekly.
J. K. FORAN, LIT.D., LL.B., Editor and Proprietor.
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## THE "RAISON D'ETRE."

Apart from what has been stated in the prospectus, which we issued last week, it may not be out of place to launch this little publication by giving the principal reasons for its coming into existence. In other words, we feel it our duty to make the public a ware of the motives wnich actuated the Editor when he resolved Commence, alone anà पnaloced, this undertaking.
Firstly: he wished to make use of his pen-the only implement that he can pretend to wield-and journalism -the only sphere in which he feels at home-for the not unworthy purpose of earning an honest livelihood, meeting all his obligations, and securing his own future and that of his family. Not finding a suitable opening, or rather being cut off from the desired opportunities, possibly by the fact that more able, more learned, and more competent editors were to be fousd in numbers, he determined to carve his own way to success, and in doing so to be indepent of all external influences.
Secondly : for almost twenty years the Editor has contributed, in one way or another, to the growing lite cover any line from his pen-be it in the details of each system; but we sequence can become law.
racure of Canada. Much of his work bodies are not exactly similar; yet until it has received the sanction of has appeared in migazines, news. as portions of a whole system, there the Crown. Thus we see that the papers, or in book-form; but the is no doubt of a very striking resem. Crown, on the one hand, can never greater portion of his writing has blance existing. The Canadian dictate in an arbitrary manner the never seen light, principally on ac- Federal Government is modeled after laws that govern the people; and the count of lacking the means of placing the Imperial one. In either case we people can never revolutionize the it before the public. In glancing back have a trinity of legislative powers, institutions of the land, since the over two decades, it is with very all constituting a real unity. We sanction of the Crown is necessary legitimate pride that he fails to dis. have no intention of entering into before any measure of legislative con
essays, editorials, verses, pamphlets, desire to indicate the stability and or volumes-that is calcu'ated to perfection of our Government, by shock the feelings, or grate upon the drawing attention to the general plan sentiments of even the most exacting: of that upon which it has been knowing that the same characteristics modeled.
mark the unpublished products of his labor, he felt that he owed it to his fellow countrymen to no longer keep from them that which might, even in a very humble degree, prove of benefit to them.

Thirdly: having experienced so often the lack of encouragement which young writers, timid literary aspirants, encounter, the Editor resolved, if ever the opportunity offered, to deal with others as he would have wished that others should have dealt with him. Consequenlly, The Pen will be, as far as is practicable, an aid, a true friend for all those of the younger generation who feel a desire and the capacity to write, yet who fail to reach the great pablic with their effusions. In a special manner are these untried writers invited 10 submit their compositions; and we promise them, in return, the most frank and kindly consideration - encouragement when it is likely to lead to future success, honest criticism and advice when the contrary result is inevitable.
Having now stated, in as clear and brief a manner as we are able, the reasons which gave birth to this enterprise, we desire to impress upon our readers the fact that every line which shall appear in the columns of
 Of course we do not include correspondence signed by the writers, or contributions and selections credited in the proper manner. Therefore the Editor is, and will be, alone responsible for the opinions and expressions in this organ. Having received neither advice, suggestion, nor assistance from any organisation, political, social, or otherwise, the indeperdeace which will mark the utterances of The Pen cadnot fail to be most natural and sincere.

HOW WE ARE GOVERNED. Recently the new Minister of Jus- laws, are obviated by the fact that parison between the House of Lords people's representatives is without parson betw the It is true there are numerous distinct- Upper House, where it is sifted and

Nothing is more dangerous, both as regards the permanency of a state and the freedom of a people, than extremes. We have a few remaining examples of the autocratic power that concentrates all authority in one in. dividual, and several samples of the ruinous system that ignores all legitimate authority. In Russia we find the former; and it is the fruitful parent of nihilism, anarchy, rebeilion. In France, on more than one occasion, we find the latter; when the so-called liberty and equality of men were proclaimed, and "in the deluge of human blood that succeeded, not a mountain top was left for the Ark of Liberty to rest upon."
Under the British constitution, with its limited monarchy, we discover a system that renders either extremes practically impossible. Perchence few of our political economists-and certainly very few of our critics-have carefully studied the wonderful per fection of that legislative, administralive and executive combination. It might not be a loss of time for them were they to seriously reflect upon the following few and brief paragraphs.

We called the Imperial Govern ment system a trinity that constitutes a wonderful unity. We have the three all important branches; the Crown, the Lords and the Commons. While each one of these is distinct from the others, in its attributes, sphere of action and purport, yet they are so linked together that they depend entirely upon each other. In the first place tyranny is rendered almost impossible, since no law can originate with either the Crown or the Lords. Every enactment must spring from the people, through the freely chosen representatives in the Com. mons. In the second place un. bridled licence or popular passion in
t past, the living present the far away vening years, there is subject matter for many volumes of most interesting history. That the occasion will call forth grand orations, patriotic poems, and widespread enthusiasm we have every assurance ; if, however, it were to result in a stronger spirit of union between the various elements in Irish politics, it seems to us it would be a still more "glorious event." It is yet too early to dwell at any length upon the subject ; but when we read some of the reports of organization for the celebration, one man, one
figure, one poet, and his one great when playing with companions, on the to awaken a desire to combine the real is, in many sensts, one of the poem irresistibly arose before our shores of Bantry; but she must have mental vision. If Professor John K. failed to catch the exact wording of Ingram is spared another twelve the third line above quoted. For a months he will have the satisfaction, time we thought it might have been: accorded to few poets, of hearing and reading his " Memory of the Dead,' in every key and in every tone imaginable.

This unisue poem, or song, may be well styled the "Marseillaise IIymn" of the Irish people. When Ingram penned it-now almost fifty years ago-it fell upon the National car like the trumpet blast calling an army into action. Few are ali e to day who can recall the eff.cts of that one composition. There are some, perhaps, who may remember the rapidity with which it was wafled from ead to end of the land. Although its autior never wrote anything else of impor. tance to literature, and although his views, from a national standpoint, became subsequentiy very modified, still he immortalezed himseif then; and next year there will not be a meeting, a concert, a procession, a celebration of any kind that will be considered a success if the "Memey of the Dead" be not either played, recited, or suag. When some seek to cri icise the spirit :hat calls forth such demonstrations they will hear in answer the words of the poet:-
"Wha fenus tr sipak of Nimety-Fight?
Who blasties at the name !
When onwads minck lie putriots' fitte,
Wha hangs his head lou shame!

Who slights his emuntry thus;
But a true' man, like you, wan,
Will till : glass with us."
And certainly the last stanza cannot be omitted, either as a portion of the whole, or on account of the lesson it teaches:-
"Then here's thrir memory - maty it he"
For us a guiding light,
To cheer our strife for itherty,
Auml larest as to mita.
'Through gooul and ill, he hre:and's still,
Though suld as dicir's your fate ;
And true men be you, men,
Like those of Ninety. Vight."
When a cmild we remember a peculiar song that an old nurie used to a word expressed regarding a second sing for us; during long years one anniversary that should be rememexpression in its chorus was a puzzle bered next year. Fify years will to us, nor could the good woman give have elapsed since the events of r 848 us any explanation beyond repeating stirred the Irish people into abnormal it over and over. It ran thus:In the year Ninety. Fight,
When our tronbles were gront,
II wa treason to be a milibin."
It was the meaning of this last line vation were carrying off thousands of that we could never grasp; and being the people, either to exile or to the of an inquiring turn of mind, we tried grave; the story is one that for dramfor years to discover whether or not atic interest and tragic horrors can the old nurse's words were those of scarcely be duplicated in modern the ballad. She had heard it, long times. Possibly the hint, coming years ago, in the days of her youth, even from an humble Pen may serve
excitement. The terrible famine of 1847 was over, but its deadly effects were still felt on all sides; the emigrant ship, the convict ship, and star-
" It was treason to be a Mrd xim."
This certainly would be a kind of explanation, yet we could not see how the descendants of Melesius were any more liable to be considered forgotten.

## NOTES AND CRITIOIMS.

When we make use of the word "critical" in the title of our publication we desire that our readersshould remember that there are two kinds of critiscism-destructive and consirnctive. There are some who imaqine that to criticise means to find fault; but fault-finding is only the inferior action of true criticism. We hope to have more occasion for the constructive than for the destructive.

What a jumble of political parties in Fhape! It is bewildering to read the accounts pubiished in Cdnada of the stirring events in France, span, Austria and other continental connthes. Here we have iwo parties, very distinct from each other and tho:ongh ly recognised. It is true the hiderals may be divided into as many camps as are the Conservatives; but on all important occasious. whether a general election, or a vote in the House, or a question of patronage, we find only two colors, two partes. There are latrons of industry, who ollen setk the patronage for themselves and leave the industiy to others; there are Equal Righers, who cunsider that ever) person must be in accord with their ideas or else be ostriacised; there are Liberals of the English, French and oher schools; Conservatives of the old Tory, of the the Liberal-Conservative, of the Cisthe and of various other classes; but when it comes down to actual politics we have the whole mass reduced to two bodies-Liberal and Conservative. It is easy to grasp the situation in Canada; but would that some writer learned in the political jugglery of the continent would give the world a clear and condensed explanation of the aims, principles, methods, ideas, of the Right, the Leit, the Centre, the Extreme Right, the Extreme Left, the Republican, the Imperialist, the Legitimist, the Or. leanist, the Radical, the Communist, the Socialist, the Clericalist, the anti. Clericalist, and the score of other " ists" that have each a special principle to forward or the lack of any principle to support.

The voyage of Mgr. Bruchesi, recenty recently chosen Archbishop of Mont confident that were he to sciupy the


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high office of Lieutenant-Governor of ations, has taken up the cause of exthe North-West Territories, we would Captain Dreyfus. The accusation somo day enjoy a regular sojoum in brought so suddenly against Dreyfus, that new land-and enjoy it without his hurried and secret trial, his exever stirring off our chair cr leaving traordinary sentence, and the dramaour library. deal of "jingoism" in the very savage ment and excitement. But the move attacks that a number of American ment of late to have the whole matter writers are now making upon Spain- re examined, the suspicions cast upon especially in connection with what they ancther oficer, the doubts created recall "Spanish savagery in Cuba." garding the justice of the condemnaWe think that we know the secret of tion have revealed something more this war of words and may ret let it out.

There is silence at last, but oniy for a time we expect, upon the ques tion of harbor improvements. Dur ing the whole summer the public was treated to a regular course of instruction, illustrated by various plans, now the winter has come and we will have ample sime-if interested-to reflect upon the many conflicting opinions set forth. One argument, against the plan offered by the Hon. Minister of Public Works, seemed to us to be very peculiar. It was contended that the hon. gentleman was not a civil engineer, and conse quently could not give an expert's reasons for his suggestions. However, it never struck the advocate of other plans that a number of the Harbor Com. missioners are not civil engineers, and that they are not even united in their opinions. Perhaps it will be said that
 mer fimes when à man, or ; so has the Minister a genuine found guilty the result was hanging. civil engineer; and a staff of engineers Of recent years the accused is generbehind him. But the members of the ally considered to be insane, or rather Karbor Commission represent various insane at the time of that special great commercial interests; yes, and deed, and is therefore sent to an the Minister represents, not conflict- asylum. It is wonderful what an ing interests, but those of the whole amount of dangerous insanity has Dominion from Atlantic to Pacific. been thus developed. However it The different Commissioner; are might serve the purposes of justice bound by their interes!s in the com- and the interests of society better, if mercial bodies they represent to secure the world were taught that this the most they can for those who send kind of mania would in future be conthem to the Board; but the Ministeris sidered no more an excuse than is bound by his oath of office to protect drunkenness. Crimes, such as have and further the greater intercsts of all darkened the history of this Province Canada and of each particular section duricg the past few months, might of the country. The Commissioners not be encouraged as they now seem are responsible for their action to to be. The Nulty, the Laplante, and their respective irganizations; the the Puirier cases are pretty striking Minister is responsible to the people examples. In this connection it is of Canada in general, to Parliament wonderful how fashionable it has and to the Crown. It seems to us become for murderers to confess their that on the face of it the Minister's guilt. This too may some day be plan should therefore command the construed into a sign of insanity and greatest degree of considersion; and used as a weapon of protection for the that the views of practical pilots and perpetrators of such deeds. Then
navigators shculd not be ignored.
there is the suicidal mania that ap. parently has developed to an alarming
Emile Zola, the infidel writer of extent. "There is a screw loose"
ders of public opinion and of individual lives should take the matter into serious consideration. Ths press should rellect, and, examining honestly the results that are to be often traced to its sensationalism, question itself as to the justice of its course. Perchance when some fresh tragic sensation arises it might feel the necessity of repeating the met cul/ut

The municipal elections are not very far off. There are signs that never fail to indicate the approach of that eventul civic event. What a splendid barometer is the Alderman, or the would-be Alderman! He is certainly one of the most polite, attentive, interested, kindiy fellows in the world; he knows almost every person and has, as the old song says:

## a A smile for those who love him

Aull a sigh tor those who
-well, who don't vote for him. We never could understand how the public could possibly ignore and neglect to honor in a worthy manner the great virtue of aldermanic patriotism. A man spends hundreds of dollars to get elected ; then he neglects his home, his office, his business to devote himself to the interests of hir rellow citiyens; he draws no salary : goes to the City Hall at all hours, at the beck and call of every body; and gets abused instead of thanked for his self-sacrificing life. This must be what is meant by " man's inhumanity to man." Surely in some other sphere, and at some other time the disinterestedness of the Alderman will be rewarded! For we can see no possible way-at least any that is apparent to an ordinary observer-whereby he can recoup himself for loss of time money, health and even friends, in this woild Richard Dalton Williams parody on Moore's "Bower of Sweet Roses" does not and caunot apply to any of our civic fathers :-
"'There's a temple of haubug by liffy's dark strean,
Where the vietints of greatuess sit all the day long;
In the days of my boyhood at was like a gruald drenim,
most delighlfully constructed abomin- some place. It is time that the moul. 'ro hear tho paid patriots pitching it stroug."

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FELIX POUTRE.
an amusing and historicat، incident of the canadian rebeldion of $18373^{8 .}$
(Bre the Editire)
A. few weeks ago a number of Montreal's leading citizens met at the last resting place of the late lamented Premier Mercier, to honor the memory of a truly patriotic Canadian. Of the hundreds then gathered in front of the imposing vault, in Cote des Neiges Cemetery, perhaps there was not one who was unacquainted with the story of that old "patriot" of $183 \%$, Felix Poutré! Yet I doubt if there was one there present who was aware of the fact that in Section "P."--about half an acre away from them-the ashes of the famous rebel reposed in an almost unknown grave. Rambling through the "City of the Dead," I came across an old, weatherbeaten, half rotten, and miserably inscribed wooden board, which stood over a grave that had become level with the soil, and from which, in a short time, the remains-if any-will be dug up to make room for some new comer. In the centre of the board is a hole covered with glass, and containing the photograph of an aged man. Around this faded picture, in black paint, is the following: "Ici repose le corps de Pelix Poutré - (Yatriote), décide le 22 iécenure, 1884, a l'ige de 70 ans. Parents et amis priez pour lui.-R.I.P." "Here lies the loodl' of Telix I'outri' (Putriot), dital 22ad Hecmlthr, 18s., used 70 wems. lichimes and friends, firul for him. R.I.I.'"
As I stood over the temporary and neglected grave, I recalled the story of those young and enthusiastic leaders who had been arrested in 1838, after the rebellion, and condemned to death. I thought how few of the hundreds who pass, sll unheeding, this lonely grave, are aware that it contains the dust of one whose name figures on the pages of Canadian history. Who was he? What did he do? questions that it may interest many to have answered.

Felix Poutre was the son of a farmer and rebel leader. Young Foutré was conspicious for more reasons than one. That he left his home in Chambly County and donned the " red bonnet" and shouldered the musket would have sufficed, in the eye of martial justice, to entail a prompt condemnation. But Poutré had personally sworn in over three thousand of his fellow countrymen, and helped in other ways to swell the ranks of
the insurgents. Besides he was a noble-souled poet, who has sung in man of more than ordinary acquire- such touching and perfect songs the ments, both intellectua! and physical. glories of the former and the great Although of a quiet and most unas- ness of the latter. Since Mr. Reid's suming disposition, Poutri was one "Kirkbride" won for him the palm whose anger was to be feared. He of triumph, it may not be out of place stood six feet one inch in height, was -it certainly is never out of time-to as nimble as a deer, and possessed the strength of a Sampson. So modest was he, however, that few, if any, of his companions really realized his wonderful physical power; often, when working in his father's fields, he would amuse himself by holding the plough so firmly that the horses could not stir it in the furrow; or in grasping the handles and keeping the plough suspended, at arm's length, for a fraction of a minute. These feats taught him his own strength, but he never boasted of it, nor made any display in presence of others. Little did he dream that one day his phenominal corporal power would save his neck and cheat the hangman.
In the winter of $1 \$_{37} 38$, Poutre, with other leaders, was arrested and placed in the old Montreal prison to await trial-and an almost certain condemuation. It was then that he conceived the idea of playing the madman, and so perfectly did he carry out his plan, that he was eventually expelled by force from the prison. In 1882, with the winters of neariy three score and ten years on his head, the venerable old "patriot" made a tour of the country, delivering a series of lectures upon the events of the rebellion Perhaps the most graphic, as well as the most interesting, of those able conferences was that in which he related the story of bis own escape from the scaffold. Even at that advanced age, Poutte looked the very incarnatiou of physical strength. His powerful form stood erect, like a pine of the forest that had weathered the tempests for half a century or more. When memory conjured up the scenes of the past, the aged eye sparkled with the fire of youth, the voice grew stronger, and the whole man became transformed ; the enthusiasm he felt so keenly became contageous, and for an hour his audience would sit and listen, now convulsed with laughter, anon melted to tears.
It would be impossible to tell the story of Felix Poutré's escape more eloquently than in his own simple and graphic language. It may lose much of its force in the process of transla. tion; but none of the incidents which he relates, and all of which are historically authentic, need be sacrificed, even for the sake of brevity.
(Cimbinutel in our wext.)

## WANLOCK

(a poem that will live.)
The name of Robert Reid (Rob Wanlock), author of "Moorland Rhymes " and other beautiful produc. tions, deserves a two-fold place in the hearts of patriotic lovers of genuine poetry. Scotland, the land of his birth, and Canada, the land of his adoption, join hands in showering honors upon the head of the kindly,
-it certainly is never out of time-to his work in another strain. Perhaps no poem from his gifted pen expresses more truly and more touch ingly the sentiment of deep-rooted affection which links the Scotch.Canadian to the "Land of brown heath and shaggy wood," certainly not one of all his brilliant offusions tends more to make the reader participate in the poet's feelings and love the man for the soul and heart that speak through his verses, than the one addressed to his mother, after the death of his father. We take the liberty of repro ducing it, both to show how deeply We appreciate the author's merits, and how much our Canadian literature has gained in the fact that Rob Waplock has made this Dominion his home.

How blythe it was in Waulock, when summer shies were fair!
How sweet to roam the Wanlock hills when those we lov'd were there
Now skies are cold, and hills are bare, and those we lor'd are gone :
sud, oh, 'tis sad in Waulock, for these that sit alone.

To sit aloue in Waulock, when all its charm has fled,
To think upon the happy days that all too swiftly apeed;
Huth life a sadder thought than this--borne iu on heart and brain
Thut thiugs have been in Waulock, that

(H) ne'er again in Waulock, beueath the old roof-tret,
Can such a season come to us, so full of life and glee ;
No more, iu undiminish'd streugth we'll gather proudly there-
That joyous board in Waulock has now a vacant chair.

A vacaut chair in Waulock, that never can be lill'd,
A noble presence gone for aye, a life forever still'd;
Denth's disunal shadow lies across the threshold of thant door
Ihat stood so wide in Waulock, to welcome us of yore.
'l's welcome us in Wanlock, how eager were those cyes-
That now are closed to earthly thinge, and opie but in the skies!
How kind the manly voice of him that bude the wanderers come
Back to his hearth in Wanlock, their childhood's hapyy home !
'Ihat wappy home in Wanlock-where are its inmates now !
In other lands ther're wundering, with saduess ou eaci brow ;
the gloom that shrouds that homestead o'er is in each heart as well,
Aud far away from Wanlock, it is their lot to divell.
But far away from Weulock, and parted though we be,
There's still a tio that binda us to the home of infancy ;
Though something of the charm hath pans'd that grac'd each stream and hill,
Oh, louely glen of Wanlock, our hearta are with you still!
nd, Mother, denr, in Waulock thy pres ence is the spell
Ihat draws our hearts to those old hills we long have known so well;
The memories of the vanish'd days, the dreams of those to be,
And all that hallows W'anlock, are centred now in thee.

The spring will come to Warnook as in the years gone by,
And smiling summer
aud mountain chothe in beauty moor he heather's burstigh,
he henther's bursting bloom will thing their fragrance on the air-.
at what were these, or Wanlock, if thou wert
wanting there?
Be strong! sad heart in Wanlock, thou mourn'st the hapy past;
Be happy / knowiug Love will tend thee foudly to the last;
God send His peace to drunfort thee and cheer thee with our love,
in that dark day for Wanlock, when thon art call'd above!

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IN MEMORIAM.
THE LATE DR. ROBERT CHARLEG Kirkpatmick.

The press of Monday contained lengthy obituary notices of the late Dr. R. C. Kirkpatrick, who, after a very short illness, passed away on Sunday evening the 5 th December. The deceased was a scn of Mr. J. E. Kirkpatick, of Messrs. Kirkpatrick \& Cookson, produce merchants, bro: ther of JJ. Kirkpatrick and brother in-law of Captain Reid, the port warden of Montreal: Born in ${ }^{1863}$, he was educated in this city, and took his degrees in arts and medicine at McGill Unive-sity. He had been Isuccessively house surgeon, medical superintendent and surgion of the General Hospital staff. As lecturer in clinical surgery, and demonstrater of surgery at McGill he was winning his way to a high place in the profes sion. He was also an associate editor of the "Medical Journal." A few years ago he commenced practice for himself and had acquired a very high reputation as a surgeon "His unfailing courtesy won him universal esteem," says a contemporary. To this we have a few words of humble tribute to add.

Wherever he went his genial and kindly nature won him the confidence and affection of all who came in contact with him. In his practice he was more a friend than a mere physician; he seemed to sympathize with every suffering and appreciate every sentiment of those under his treatment; he became, as it were, a member of the household and with words of encousagement or consolatiou brought peace where the tempest of sorrow swept over the hearts, and shed light
 Tarkened the hearilis. We could elate many an interesing and edifying incident that would illusirate the loveable character of the young physician; one will suffice.
He is now beyond the reach of praise, at least such praise as our feeble pen can offer; we, therefore, do not feel that we are intruding upon his professional carear, nor do we dre ad any shock to his great humility, in recalling a simple event. It was mid-winter; the storms of January and February were fierce and unrelenting that year. Dr. Kirkpatrick was summoned to attend an minint, the only child of an adoring mother. He knew from the first that the tiny being could not remain long in this cold world, and he set before himself the two fold task of prolonging as far as possible that young life and of soothing the heart of the mother that so cherished it. At all hours, day and night, on the slightest evidence of change he was summoned, and he answered that call as promptly and as pleasantly as if he had been sent for by a prime minister or a prince. At last the angel-spirit of the child took wing, and the gloom of bereavement fell upon the home, while a great tide of grief rushed over the mother's soul. The physician had fulifilled all his dutics, he was no longer required; but the man, the friend, the Chrisian felt that he was still needed. The
night was far advanced, the snow was heaped in hillocks without, the storn raged in boreal fury; within the lont mother watched over the faded blos. som that she so cherished. A knock at the door, it was Dr. Kirkpatrick. He had come to watch for an hour ol two, to talk of the dead baby, to con sole the grieving mother, to whisper memories of that Foly Mother whr had effered up the sacrifice of her Son as a submission to the will of God, to speak words of great and deep consulation, and to leave - ray of peace where all had been darkness. before. Tnat was the late Dr. R.C Kirkpatrick, the joung, generout, fine-natured character, whose early death so many deplore.
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