

THE WEEK:

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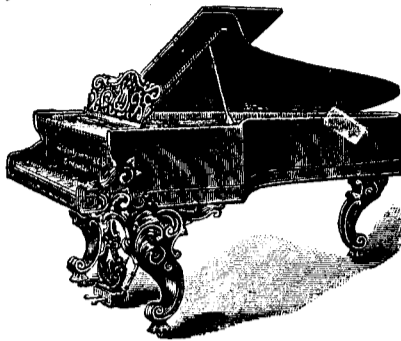
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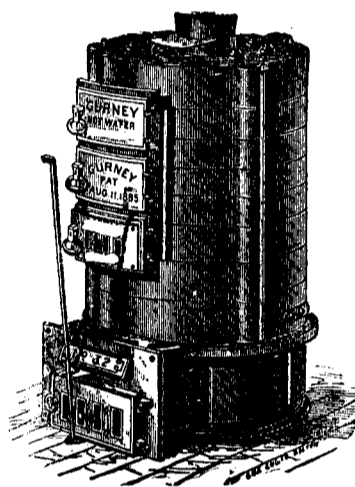
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TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITION.

THE recent discussion of Prohibition, under the auspices of the local Church of England Temperance Society, was conducted with such moderation on both sides that it will probably do less harm to the cause of Temperance than might have been feared. To those who have not considered the subject very deeply, this statement may seem paradoxical; but it is made quite soberly and seriously. It is by no means the case that so called Temperance meetings are always favourable to the cause of Temperance, even if we give to that word the elastic meaning of total abstinence, which was claimed for it by a speaker on the Prohibition side. On the contrary, some most devoted friends of the cause have been driven from co-operating with any of the societies by the violence and unreasonableness of many of its extreme advocates.

The Church of England Temperance Society has probably suffered most from this reason. Its dual basis and the reasonable nature of its original programme drew to it many, some of them total abstainers, some who were not, who could not join any of the previously existing societies. A few years ago it seemed likely that a vast majority of the English clergy and a great proportion of the educated laity would be active members of the Church of England Temperance Society. We are informed that the adherents of the society have diminished in number, and that its proceedings have lost the enthusiasm which was manifestly present in them some years ago. There can be no doubt that this is the case among ourselves, here in Canada. Many persons now refuse to take any active part in the work, although they may nominally remain members of it.

And the reason is very simple. There are persons so constituted that a stimulant taken in moderation is a positive benefit to them physically and morally. There are persons to whom it is virtually a necessity. These persons are not convinced that they are doing wrong by using God's creatures in moderation for their own health and comfort, and therefore they cannot feel that they are bound to give up using them. Now, it is not pleasant for people of this class to attend a meeting, perhaps to speak on a platform, when some of the speakers make it their business to sneer at moderate drinkers as "poor creatures," sometimes to hint that they are rather worse than drunkards, inasmuch as they use alcohol when they could deny themselves, whereas the drunkard cannot help drinking.

But we have now got a step still further on. The extreme teetotalers are no longer contented to insist upon total abstinence as a moral duty; they are resolved upon enforcing it upon all their fellow citizens under pains and penalties. No one shall be allowed to drink any stimulant; and, to make sure of this, no stimulant shall be allowed to be sold. It may seem hardly credible to the advocates of Prohibition, but it is nevertheless quite certain that there are many men, ardent friends of Temperance, not in the least inclined to excess or indifferent to excess in others, who are opposed to Prohibition, as an infringement of the liberty of the subject, as a means of bringing law into contempt, as ineffectual for its purpose, and as productive of greater evils than any which it is able to remove. There are men, honest and sincere, who hold these opinions, and

who greatly object to being considered on the devil's side, and favourers of immorality, because they refuse to abandon their convictions.

Indeed it needs a good deal of courage to be a Prohibitionist, if one wishes to be thoroughly consistent. For no one can be a Prohibitionist unless he believes that the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage is positively wrong. One of the speakers on the Prohibition side denied that he thought the use of stimulants wrong in itself. All that we can say to this is that he ought to think so, or he has no right to prevent people from using them. How can we consistently say to a neighbour: "I believe that you may quite innocently use a stimulant; but I will pass a law, if I can, to prevent you doing so?"

The argument derived from S. Paul's resolve about eating meat is excellent as a law of liberty for the individual, but it has no application whatever to prohibitory legislation. S. Paul's argument, in that case, ought to have run in some such form as this: "If I see my brother's conscience wounded by anything that anybody else is doing, I will try to get a law passed which shall prevent everybody from doing the thing which wounds him."

To speak of the evils of drunkenness is quite beside the question. We all grant them, lament them, want to put an end to them in every legitimate manner; but we object to abridge the lawful freedom of society at large because individuals abuse their liberty. The Scriptures are very strong in their denunciations of drunkenness; but they also condemn gluttony, and many physicians are of opinion that the evils produced by gluttony, whether physical or moral, are even greater than those produced by drunkenness, although they are less conspicuous and tangible. Indeed, it is said that persons who have given up the use of stimulants eat a great deal more; and it is generally agreed that most men eat too much.

One aspect of the question was not touched at the recent debate—the positive uses of wine, apart from its relation to health. Yet the Scriptures speak of wine making "glad the heart of man," and it is quite certain that this result was not produced by the unfermented juice of the grape. Is all conviviality a sin? Is the exhilaration produced by a moderate use of stimulants a thing wrong in itself? Shall we say that men may sit round a table laden with the richest food, and eat abundantly, but they may not drink any thing stronger than tea or coffee? Doubtless there are constitutions which can derive something like stimulus from a heavy dinner; but those who possess them might have a little compassion upon their weaker brethren who do not possess these Herculean powers of digestion and assimilation.

We are very glad that Mr. Goldwin Smith, in his admirable speech, as convincing as it was moderate and thoughtful, did not shrink from bringing forward the example and the teaching of Christ. We can quite understand the motives of reverence which deter many controversialists from using this argument. They do not care to provoke replies which, in their view, savour of blasphemy. But it is necessary that the truth should be told, and the truth is that the first miracle of our Lord was the making of water into wine, and almost His last act on earth the institution of a Sacrament in which wine is a necessary part.

In an ecclesiastical assembly held not long ago, it was gravely debated whether a manufacturer of any stimulant should be admitted to church membership. The good sense of the meeting rejected the proposal to exclude such persons. But the simple argument from the example of Christ was not brought forward. No one stood up, and said: "We cannot possibly do this, because Jesus Christ manufactured wine;" and yet that is the truth, and any one who can read his Greek Testament knows perfectly well that the wine used at the marriage of Cana must have been fermented.

One thing, indeed, may be urged with perfect truth as against the use of the liquors which are most common among ourselves. It may be said quite truly that the wines used in the East and in the days of our Lord were weaker than our liquors, and were generally drunk diluted with water. This is quite true; but unfortunately the argument could not be used by a Prohibitionist, because he almost compels people to drink whiskey by preventing them from getting beer. A few weeks hence some of the citizens of Toronto will be seeking refreshment amid the lakes of Muskoka, and there they will find the Scott Act in (very imperfect) operation. In some places, however, they will not get beer, which they would prefer, and

whiskey, being of less bulk in proportion to its power, will have to be substituted. As a matter of fact, the Scott Act has brought about a great deal of drinking among young men in their own rooms during the last two years, which would not have been if they had been able openly to get their glass of beer at luncheon or dinner.

Mr. Gladstone did a real service to Temperance in England when he made the duty on wine to depend upon the amount of alcohol in it, thus greatly reducing the price of common claret and other wines of the same kind. The fanaticism of our Prohibitionists forbids the hope of anything of the kind being done here. Claret is as dear in this country as sherry, and dearer than whiskey. What hope is there of the weaker beverages supplanting the stronger? Yet one might remember Germany, where there is hardly any drunkenness, and where light beer is drunk, and France, where the drunkenness is found chiefly in towns where the drink is *absinthe*.

Mr. Goldwin Smith dealt fully and effectually with the futility of these measures, and to his speech we may refer our readers as to that point. On every ground we believe that Prohibition would be injurious to the interests of morality and liberty alike.

EUROPE AND ENGLAND.

THE present position of European politics, so ably treated by Sir Charles Dilke in the *Fortnightly Review*, has been made still clearer lately by an article from the pen of the well-known writer, Mr. Edward Dicey, which appeared in the *Nineteenth Century*, and is now reproduced in an abridged form.

The idea of a general war at the present time seems, to ordinary apprehension, inconceivably foolish; this much, however, is certain, that whether we have a war this year, or next year, or not for years to come, war is on the cards, and must stay on the cards as long as Europe remains in a condition of unstable equilibrium. It may therefore be worth while to point out broadly what are the causes which disturb the equilibrium of Europe at the present moment, and how the removal of these causes, either by violent or pacific means, is likely to affect the policy and fortunes of England.

The phase of evolution through which the European world is passing tends to the amalgamation of adjacent States into large commonwealths, and to the obliteration of small communities whose only reason for existence is an accident of race, religion, or language. In any estimate, therefore, of the changes likely to be introduced into the map of Europe, the interests and ambitions of the smaller States—such as Denmark, Holland, Belgium, and Portugal—may safely be left out, and this in no cynical spirit of indifference for the rights and fortunes of petty communities, but simply as a recognition of plain facts.

In the consideration of the possible eventualities which lie before Europe in the remote future, it is the Great Powers—Russia, Germany, France, Austria, and Italy—that will be treated of in the endeavour first to indicate what are the permanent, as distinguished from the temporary, incidents which lead them to desire a revision of the map of Europe, and then to point out how this revision is likely to influence, or be influenced by, the policy of England. Turkey is left out of the discussion, because the plain truth is that in all future European complications the initiative does not and cannot rest with Turkey.

In any investigation of this kind the foremost place must be given to the vast Muscovite Empire. Russia is still, to a great extent, the unknown quantity of the European problem. The growth and development of this country constitutes a standing menace to the tranquillity, if not the safety, of Europe. For good or for evil, any concerted action by the European Powers, to check the advance of Russia, is out of the question. The last real effort to effect this end was made at the time of the Crimean War; the result of the experiment was not such as to encourage its repetition. In all human likelihood, Russia will be left to work out her own salvation without any serious opposition. She has an enormous population, united by a common language and common creed, governed by a paternal autocrat, whose sympathies, ambitions, and interests are in accord with those of the people over whom he rules. She has further arrived at that degree of civilisation which renders a nation apt to carry on war, and indifferent as to its consequences. As a matter of fact, Russia has far less reason to dread war than any other European Power. She has no practical cause to fear the invasion of her territory, even in the event of defeat; she has no trade of any consequence, except in the interior of Asia; she has no manufacturing industries to take into account; she is absolutely self-supporting.

Russia, no doubt, will never rest contented till she has reached the Bosphorus on one side and the Persian Gulf on the other; of these two objective points, access to the former is in her eyes the more pressing and the more important. Apart from the instinct of expansion, which has at all times driven the ice-bound inhabitants of the north toward the sunlit south, Russia is impelled toward Constantinople by her position as champion of the Greek Church and protector of the Slav races. The ambition to extend her frontiers eastward, and to establish her dominion over Central Asia, if not over India and China, is the wish rather of her official, military, and educated classes than of the great mass of her people. In the outset the advance of Russia towards Persia and Afghanistan was made with a view of facilitating the ultimate acquisition of Constantinople, and that object once achieved, her thoughts would, for some time at any rate,

be diverted from India and Central Asia, and turned towards Austria on the west and the Holy Land on the east. It follows, therefore, that there is no such thing as a condition of stable equilibrium possible for Europe until Russia has either obtained Constantinople or been crushed in her attempt to do so.

Germany presents in some respects a much easier subject of investigation than Russia, in others a more difficult one. The German Empire, as is well known, came into existence with the Franco-Prussian War. In the course of seventeen years it has become very strong and very formidable, not only as a military but as a political power. The Germany of to-day is, however, so completely the creation of a few men whose political careers are now all drawing to a close that it is very hard to foresee how far their handiwork may survive their own removal. Still, though it is probable there would not be a united Fatherland to-day without the individual exertions of Prince Bismarck, Count Moltke, and the Emperor William, it is absolutely certain that they would never have succeeded in their task if the desire of unity had not been impressed upon the Teutonic mind. This desire will survive the artificers by whom it was given form and substance, and the general influences which called the German Empire into being will operate to secure its continued existence. The extraordinary martial successes of this country, the immense efforts she has made to maintain her military supremacy, and the exorbitant burdens to which she has submitted for the purpose of keeping up her colossal standing army, have caused the outside world, and especially the English world, to lose sight of the great progress she has made of late as a commercial and industrial community, which has this signal advantage, that it is in the main the result of individual enterprise, not of State initiative and impulse. All that Germany requires to become a first-class mercantile power is free access to the seaboard and the command of a large seafaring population. Sooner or later the Austrian ports on the Mediterranean will probably be made available for the extension and development of her trade; this object would be easily attained if Austria could be induced to enter the German Customs Union. The natural outlets of her trade, however, are the ports of Holland and Belgium, which countries may eventually be annexed by Germany, as their acquisition must be an object of her desire. If this end were achieved, she would be rendered a formidable maritime as well as mercantile power.

As to the relations of Germany with France, it is obvious that the former cannot continue indefinitely the gigantic efforts she is now making to keep herself on an equality with the latter in respect of her military armaments. The German nation is convinced that France is on the look out for an opportunity to attack it, and in order to guard against this danger it is prepared to make any sacrifice; and, if at any time it can see its way to reduce France to a subservient position, it will willingly do so. In the event of a European war, therefore, the objects Germany will have in view, as a compensation for her sacrifices, will be the conversion of Trieste from an Austrian to a German port, the acquisition of the Dutch and Belgian seaboard, and the reduction of France to military impotency as far as her northern frontiers are concerned.

Austria has far more to lose than to gain by any possible revision of the map of Europe; she is nowadays even a "mere geographical expression," as Prince Metternich once described her. There is no such thing as an Austrian nation, or, in the true meaning of the term, an Austrian State. The Hapsburg Monarchy rules over a mass of disjointed and discordant races, united together only by the accidental tie of a common dynasty. Many causes have contributed to this result, the chief and most important being the dual system established in consequence of the successful demand for Home Rule on the part of Hungary. Austria has so much to fear from a general European war that no compensations she could hope to obtain from it would reconcile her to the prospect. The ascendancy of the German element, which forms the backbone of her empire, can only be maintained by the active support of Germany. In consequence, the foreign policy of Austria is necessarily directed by the interests and aspirations of her all-powerful ally.

She is also desirous of extending her territory to Salonica, and, as any disturbance of the general peace of Europe must result in a further advance of Russia toward the Bosphorus, Austria is unwilling, even if she is not unable, to resist that advance, and will strive to counterbalance it by an equivalent advance on her side toward the east. Consequently, Austria, though she will not initiate any European conflict, and will indeed do all in her power to avert its occurrence, yet looks to the expansion of her frontiers to the *Ægean Sea* as the necessary result of war whenever it may take place.

Italy, happily for herself, is in a position wherein she has little to gain from a European war, except in the highly improbable contingency of such a war restoring to France her lost supremacy. Upon any other supposition, Italy might gain by war, and could not very well lose; she is not likely, under any circumstances, to occupy the front rank among the possible belligerents. Her alliance, however, would be valuable to all parties, and if, as seems probable, her support should be given to the winning side, there are certain compensations to which she would naturally look as the reward of her services; one of these would be the rectification of the Austrian frontier, so as to bring the Italian Tyrol under the government of Rome. The Italians also cherish a strong wish to acquire territory on the African shores of the Mediterranean; but they have at the same time a large share of caution and common sense, and, though not wanting in martial qualities, they are not by nature a warlike people. Their minds at present are occupied with the organisation of their own country and the development of their commerce, and their influence will be exerted to preserve the peace of Europe; but if war should break out, Italy will be compelled to take sides, and, as the price of her adhesion, she will look first

to the restoration of Nice, secondly, to the acquisition of Tunis, and, thirdly, to the rectification of her Tyrolese frontier.

The real danger to the peace of Europe lies in the attitude of France. In her case alone the interests and aspirations of her people militate against the preservation of European peace. As a matter of fact, the dominant desire of the French nation is to undo the work accomplished by the Franco-Prussian War, and to secure for France the position she held in Europe previous to 1870.

It is perfectly true that she views the prospect of any immediate war with Germany with repugnance, if not with absolute apprehension. But the desire to bring about a state of things under which such a war might be entered on with a fair chance of success is one which is common to all parties and all classes in France, whatever her statesmen may choose to profess. France is arming with a view to war, is making herself ready for war, is counting on the contingency of war. It is only through war that she can ever hope to regain her lost provinces or her lost prestige. To speak plainly, France requires the rehabilitation of her *amour propre*, and the existence of such a requirement constitutes a permanent danger to the peace of Europe.

It remains now, therefore, to consider what should be the attitude of England towards the various aims entertained by the leading nations of the Continent. Of all the dangerous delusions held by the modern school of English Liberals, the most fatal is the theory that England has only a platonic interest in Continental affairs; she has played too great a part in the past, and occupies too great a position in the present, to enjoy the immunity of insignificance; she is, to speak plainly, an eye-sore to the world at large; her safety lies in the rivalries, jealousies, and animosities of the Continental Powers. If ever these causes of division should be removed, the danger of a European coalition against England would be imminent. Whenever a conviction gains ground that England is unable or unwilling to hold her own she will be attacked at once. No change of policy on her part can avert the danger; it has got to be faced, and the whole of England's relations with the Continental States ought to be based on a recognition of the fact that under certain circumstances a European coalition against England is not only a possibility but a probability. The paramount object of her foreign policy, therefore, must be the preservation of European peace. So long as she, rightly or wrongly, declines to entertain the idea of keeping up a standing army, commensurate with the size of her population, she must make up her mind that in any Continental war she must play a very secondary part; in fact, every one of the changes indicated in the map of Europe can now be carried out, if the other Powers are so inclined, without her having the power, even if she had the will, to oppose them.

As regards Russia, it is not England's interest to oppose her advance towards the Bosphorus; she cannot rely on any effectual support in resisting the partition of Turkey in Europe, and it is not worth while for her to resist that partition single-handed. The manifest destiny of Turkey in Europe is to be divided between Russia and Austria, and whenever such a division is sanctioned by Germany, England will have to accept it; and the calamity to her would be by no means so great as is commonly supposed. The opening of the Suez Canal and the altered conditions both of war and trade have very much diminished both the strategic and the commercial importance of Constantinople, and the advance of Russia to the Dardanelles would be infinitely less dangerous than her advance to Herat or the Persian Gulf.

The advance of Austria on Salonica would be a positive gain to England, as it would diminish the chance of Russia's occupying Stamboul. If Austria should advance to the *Ægean* Sea, she will do so at the instigation and with the support of Germany.

In respect of Italy, there is no reason, but the contrary, why her aspirations should run counter to England. She has probably more genuine good-will and sympathy for her than any other Continental Power.

The real danger to England lies in the intense desire of France to reassert her old ascendancy, and this being the case, it is manifestly her interest to keep on friendly, and even more than friendly, terms with the one Power by which France is kept under restraint, and whose influence is paramount at St. Petersburg. That Power is Germany. England can assist Germany in her colonial aspirations, and can secure the safety of her commerce at sea, in virtue of her maritime supremacy; Germany, on the other hand, in virtue of her military supremacy, can secure England against any risk she is exposed to by the hopeless numerical inferiority of her standing army to those of the Continent. England and Germany, if united by a cordial alliance, would be the arbiters of Europe; and to promote and facilitate such an alliance should be the main object of British statesmanship, in England's own interests and those of Europe at large.

THE IMAGINARY ART OF THE RENAISSANCE.

In view of the present interest in art matters in Canada, the following abridgement of an article by "Vernon Lee" in the *Contemporary Review* may be useful to our readers.

The painters of the late fourteenth and early fifteenth century, having exhausted the suggestions contained in the bas-reliefs of the Pisan sculptors and the medallions surrounding the earliest representations of sacred characters, produced a complete set of pictorial themes, illustrative of Gospel history and the lives of the principal saints. These themes became forthwith the artist's whole stock in trade, both traditional and universal; few variations were made from year to year, or from master to master, from the conventional ideals, and these, such as they were, had a tendency to

resolve themselves continually back to their original types, until the Italian schools finally disappeared, and those of France and Flanders arose.

At the end of the thirteenth and beginning of the fourteenth century, consequently, there existed just sufficient power of imitating nature to admit of the simple indication of events, without any realisation of details. Hence resulted such pictorial illustrations of the chief incidents of Sacred history as concerned the whole Christian world. From this time to the middle of the sixteenth century, the whole attention of every artist was engrossed in resolving the powers of mere indication into those of absolute representation, in developing completely the technicalities of drawing, anatomy, perspective, colour, light, and shade, and in elaborating those ideals which the followers of Giotto possessed only in their most rudimentary forms. This remarkable man, born in 1276, in the neighbourhood of Florence, was the first to free art from the dry Gothic mannerisms which prevailed at that epoch, and to give expression and action to his figures. He was distinguished above all his contemporaries by the nobility of his forms, by the graceful arrangements of his subjects, and by the broad majestic folds of his draperies; and his treatment remained unequalled until the appearance of Masaccio. Giotto's school embodied in their Scriptural representations an amount of logic, sentiment, and careful observation, sufficient to furnish material to three of the generations who succeeded it. Setting aside Giotto himself, who concentrated and diffused the vast bulk of imaginary effect, as well as of artistic penetration and skill, there is, in even the least of his followers, an extraordinary felicity in the realisation of detail.

The pictorial suggestions advanced by the Pisan sculptors and the painters of Giotto's school were as good in their way as they could be—simple, straightforward, often grand, so that the succeeding generations who followed them could only spoil but not improve upon their originals. These suggestions were also the only representations of Scripture history possible, until Art had acquired those new powers of foreshortening, of light, shade, and perspective, which were sought for only after the complete attainment of the more elementary powers which the Giottos never possessed. It is not wonderful that the painters of the fifteenth century were satisfied with following in the steps of this school; for, besides its traditions, it had left them a programme of great magnitude to carry out. The work of their predecessors was merely poetic, or at the most merely decorative, in the sense of a mosaic or a tapestry, and it is so satisfactory in the case of Giotto and one or two of his followers among the Sieneese that we are apt to overlook the fact that everything, in the way of detail as opposed to mere indication, remained yet to be done. Such realisation could only be achieved after a series of laborious failures. Giotto, in his finest work at Florence even, did not attempt to model his frescoes in colour, and the excessive ugliness of the Gaddi frescoes at Santa Croce is largely due to the author's effort to make form and effect depend, as in nature, upon colour. In the Peruzzi and Bardi Chapels, Giotto contented himself with merely indicating faces and draperies in dark paint, and laying on the colour (in itself beautiful) to fill up the lines, but not to create them. This is the one solitary instance of the first and most important step toward pictorial detail that the great imaginative thirteenth and fourteenth century inventors left to their successors. In many cases each man or group of men took up a particular branch, as perspective, modelling, anatomy, colour, motion, with the several subdivisions, usually with grotesque and painful results. The absence of individual imagination, implying the absence of individual creative power, is conspicuous in the works of Angelico. This very essential of illustrative art, the faculty of reproducing imaginary scenes, belongs completely to the German engravers of Dürer's school.

Throughout the fifteenth, and deep into the sixteenth century, the same conventionality prevailed, until traditional suggestions and creative powers mingled and produced a new artistic element; from this time each man could invent for himself, for each man had acquired that artistic knowledge which the followers of Giotto had indicated, and the design of that school being fulfilled, Art went abroad to seek for new methods and new effects for its developed powers. One of the peculiarities of rudimentary art—of the art of the early Renaissance, of that of Persia, Japan, and of every peasant potter throughout the world,—is to fill its imperfect work with suggestions of all manner of things that it loves, and thus try to give in the pleasure of general effect what it loses in the actual execution of detail. Upon this depends the balance of the Imaginary Art of the Renaissance, represented by the school of intellectual design and decorative art, which dealt in arabesques, not of lines or colours, but of associations and suggestions. The motive which influenced this school, a motive masked as religious symbolism by the old workers in mosaic, the carvers, and embroiderers, is the desire to paint agreeable objects, in default of painting a fine picture. The beginning of such attempts is naturally connected with the use of gilding, whether the gold grounds of the panel-pictures of the fourteenth century represented to the painters only a certain expenditure of gold foil, or whether the streakings and veinings of copper and silvery splendour, the stencillings of rays and dots, the fretwork, the magnificent inequality and variety of brown, yellow, or greenish effulgence, were vaguely associated in their minds with the glory of that heaven in which the Virgin and saints dwelt.

With the fifteenth century begins in Italy as well as Flanders the deliberate habit of putting into pictures as much as possible of the beautiful luxurious ideas of this world. The house of the Virgin, originally a very humble affair, gradually develops into a very delightful residence in the choicest part of the town. The Virgin's bedchamber in Crevelli's picture in the National Gallery is quite as well appointed in the way of beautiful carving, etc., as that of a lady in a portrait by Van Eyck. Crevelli not only gives us the Virgin's town house, but a whole street, where richly dressed and be-wigged gentlemen look down from terraces, duly furnished with flower pots, of houses ornamented with terra cotta figures, and

medallions like those of the hospital at Milan. In this street the Angel of the Annunciation is kneeling, gorgeously attired in silks and brocades, and accompanied by a nice little bishop carrying a miniature town on a tray. The Virgin seems to be receiving the message through the window or the open door. She has a beautiful bed with a red silk coverlet, some books, and a shelf covered with plates and preserve jars. This evident appreciation of jam as one of the pleasant things of this world corresponds with the pot of flowers in the window and the hanging birdcage. The Mother of Christ must have the tastes and luxuries of a burgher's daughter of the time. The cell of St. Jerome, painted by Carpaccio some fifty years later in the Church of the Slavonians, contains not only various convenient and ornamental articles of furniture, but a collection of *bric-a-brac*, among which some antique bronzes are conspicuous.

The charm in all this is not so much that of the actual objects themselves, as of their having delighted these people's minds. We are pleased by their pleasure, and our imagination is touched by their fancy. The great master of this style in the early Renaissance is Botticelli. He is one of those who most persistently introduce delightful items into their works—elaborately embroidered veils, scarves, and gold fringes. Being a man of finer imagination and more delicate sense of form than Angelico, or Carpaccio, or Crevelli, he does not merely stick pretty things about; he works them all into his strange arabesques. Thus the screen of roses behind certain of his Madonnas, forming an exquisite Morris pattern with the greenish blue sky interlaced, the beautiful, carefully-drawn lace-like branches of spruce, fir, and cypress in his "Primavera," and the fan-like growth of myrtles delicately cut out against the evening sky, do not merely print themselves as shapes upon the mind, but seem to fill it with scent and poetry. The search for elegance and grace, for the refined and unhackneyed, is frequently baffled by the ugliness of Botticelli's models, still more by his very deficient knowledge of anatomy and form. This Imagination of pleasant detail and accessory, which delights us by the intimacy into which we are brought with the artist's inmost conception, develops into what, among the masters of the fifteenth century, may be designated as the Imagination of the fairy tale.

From the unconscious alteration of the value of certain Scripture tales arises a romantic treatment which is naturally applied to all other stories, legends of saints, and biographical accounts. The imaginary form and colour are still purely mediæval; and the artists of the early Renaissance had to work out their ideas for themselves, and work them out of their best materials. These early painters made up a Paganism of their own out of all the pleasant things they knew. Their fancy brooded upon it, and the very details make us smile, details coming direct from the Middle Ages, the spirit in glaring opposition occasionally to that of Antiquity, bring home to us how completely this Pagan fairyland is a genuine reality to these men. The actual fairy story becomes little by little more complete; the painters of the fifteenth century, little guessing it, were the precursors of Walter Crane. But the imagination born of the love of beautiful and suggestive detail soared higher. What may be called the lyric or emotional art of the Renaissance arose, the art which not merely gives us beauty, but arouses in ourselves the beauty of dormant impressions, and reaches its greatest height in certain Venetian pictures of the early sixteenth century, pictures of vague or enigmatic subject or no subject at all, like Giorgione's "Fête Champêtre," Titian's "Sacred and Profane Love," "The Three Ages of Man," and various smaller paintings by Bonifazio, Palma and Basaiti. The charm of such works is, they are never explicit; they tell us, like music, deep secrets, which we feel but cannot translate into words.

The first new factor in art that meets us at the beginning of the sixteenth century is not found among the Italians, and is not merely artistic power. It is the passionate, individual fervour for the newly recovered Scriptures, manifest among the German engravers, Protestants all or nearly all; among whose works is for ever turning up the sturdy, passionate face of Luther and the enthusiastic countenance of Melancthon. The very nature of these men's art is conceivable only where the Bible has suddenly become the chief reading of the laity. It is therefore much more than the inventions of Giotto's school; it is the expression of the individual artist's ideas about the incidents of Scripture, and an expression not for the multitude at large, like a fresco or mosaic, but a re-explanation from man to man and friend: this is how the dear Lord looked, or acted, see the words in the Bible, and so forth. Thus much of the power of the new factor, the individual interest in the Scriptures. All other innovations on the treatment of religious themes were due in the sixteenth century, but still more in the seventeenth, to the development of some new artistic possibility, or to the gathering together in the hands of one man of artistic powers hitherto existing only in a dispersed condition. This is the secret of the greatness of Raphael as a pictorial poet, who furnishes us for the first time since Giotto with an almost complete set of pictorial interpretations of Scripture. We are now, as we proceed in the sixteenth century, in the region where new artistic powers admit of new imaginative conceptions on the part of the individual. Of this the great examples are Tintoretto and, after him, Velasquez and Rembrandt.

THE FIRST CANADIAN CARDINAL.

In August last I addressed to the *Gazette*, of Montreal, a short note, which appeared in that journal on the 11th of the same month, in the following fashion:

"A 'Bookworm' propounds the question whether, after all, Cardinal Taschereau is really the first Canadian prelate whom the Holy Father

deemed worthy of the dignity of a prince of the Church. He says that in 'Maunder's Biographical Treasury' he finds the following account of Thomas, Cardinal Weld, of Lulworth Castle, Dorsetshire, son of the founder of Stonyhurst College: 'He succeeded to his ancestral estates in 1810; but, on the death of his wife, in 1815, he took orders, and was some years afterwards consecrated Coadjutor Bishop of Canada. Being in Italy with his daughter, Lady De Clifford, in 1829, Pope Pius VIII. elevated him to the dignity of a cardinal. For many years previous he had devoted the whole of his time and a great part of his fortune to pious and charitable purposes, and he now relinquished his estates to his brother, Joseph Weld, Esq., who, in 1830, received Charles X. of France and his family as guests at Lulworth Castle, previous to their removal to Holyrood House. He died April 10, 1837.' On this extract our correspondent thus comments:—'The traveller and naturalist, Isaac Weld, of the same family, was in Canada in 1795 and 1796, and the narrative of his experiences and observations is still read with pleasure and profit. Might the interest thus aroused account for the choice of Canada as a title for the newly appointed bishop? There is really no bishop of Canada in the Canadian list of Bishops, and there is no mention of Mgr. Weld among the coadjutors of the Bishops of Quebec. One of the latter bore the title of Bishop of Canatha *in partibus infidelium*. But is it usual to appoint coadjutors to bishops *in partibus*? I am inclined to think not. The biographer is slightly mistaken in the name of Cardinal Weld's daughter, which was Lady Clifford, not De Clifford, a distinct and much more ancient title. Possibly he was also mistaken in making Mgr. Weld Bishop of Canada—some see *in partibus* being really meant. Perhaps some of the readers of the *Gazette* will be able to shed light on the matter.'

It is, perhaps, negative testimony to the influence of the personal element in literature that no notice whatever was taken of the foregoing communication. On Saturday, April 30, there appeared in the "Ephemerides" column of the same journal, the following paragraphs:

"'J. G.,' Montreal, informs me of the interesting fact that Mgr. Taschereau is not the first Canadian prelate who attained the Roman purple. My correspondent has in his possession a copy of the *Atlas*, a paper published in New York, date 1830-31, and containing a list of the cardinals assembled at Rome to elect a successor to Pope Pius VIII. Among these cardinals is one Englishman, Thomas Weld, suffragan Bishop of Kingston, in Upper Canada, and coadjutor and Bishop *in partibus* of Amyela.

"The Welds are a well known English family who kept the old faith, and figure frequently in ecclesiastical annals. It was they who donated to the Jesuit Order the College of Stonyhurst, in the North of England, where the Hon. Mr. Turcotte and other Canadians received their education. Cardinal Weld was born in London, January 22, 1778, and called to the Sacred College on the 15th March, 1830. It is probable that, like one or two of the French bishops of Quebec, he never came to Canada."

It is evident that neither "J. G." nor "Laclede" himself had read the previous mention of the "interesting fact" in the *Gazette* of August last. After writing the letter containing it, I found the following reference to the same Canadian Cardinal in the Rev. Dr. Scadding's very interesting work, "Toronto of Old."

"In connection with this mention of Bishop Macdonnell, it may be of some interest to add that in 1826 Thomas Weld, of Lulworth Castle, Dorsetshire, was consecrated as his coadjutor in England, under the title of Bishop of Amyela. But it does not appear that he ever came out to Canada. (This was afterwards the well known English Cardinal.) He had been a layman and married, up to the year 1825, when on the death of his wife he took orders, and in one year he was, as just stated, made a bishop." (Page 34.)

The family into which the daughter of the Cardinal married is that of the Barons Clifford, of Chudleigh, in the Peerage of England, the title dating from 1672. The baronage of De Clifford goes back to 1299, and is one of the oldest English peerages. Mary Lucy, Lady Clifford, daughter of Thomas, Cardinal Weld, died in 1831, leaving six sons and two daughters. One of her sons is the Hon. and Right Rev. William Joseph Hugh Clifford, Roman Catholic Bishop of Clifton, in the hierarchy of England, who is thus the grandson of our first Canadian Cardinal.

As to the connection of the Lulworth Welds with Isaac Weld, I am unable at present to justify my conjecture. Another person of the same name, O. R. Weld, made a tour through the United States and Canada in 1854. It is singular that no mention of Cardinal Weld, and his connection with Canada, should appear in any of our histories. There is, nevertheless, no reason to doubt the fact that the coadjutor Bishop of Kingston was the first Canadian ecclesiastic raised to the dignity of a prince in the Church, and the honour associated with the elevation belongs not to the premier see of Quebec, but to Protestant Ontario.

Perhaps it may not be altogether alien to the subject to recall that Cardinal Manning is also a widower. He married, in 1834, the youngest Miss Sergeant, one of the co-heiresses of the Lavington property, two other sisters having married Samuel Wilberforce, afterwards Bishop of Oxford and Winchester, and Henry Wilberforce, his brother. Mrs. Manning survived her marriage only a few months. This great sorrow, which shook the young rector to the centre of his sensitive nature, rendered possible his subsequent ordination and elevation in the Church of his adoption. It was a witty member of that communion who said that Mrs. Manning's early death was the greatest blow that the Catholic Church had received in the present century. Dr. Newman, on the other hand, never married, having early in life received what he considered a vocation to the celibate state.

BOOKWORM.

SABLE ISLAND.

THE falsely reported loss lately of an ocean steamer off Sable Island draws attention to that dangerous fragment of the Dominion, of which Mr. J. Macdonald Oxley furnishes some extremely interesting details in a short article called "An Ocean Graveyard," in the May number of *Scribner's Magazine*, from which the following details are extracted :

The island lies due east from Nova Scotia, at a distance of about eighty-five miles, between the forty-third and forty-fourth degrees of north latitude and the fifty-ninth of west longitude. Approaching it from the north, it appears to be a succession of low sand hills, thinly patched with straggling vegetation, having at the west end an elevation of some twenty feet, gradually rising to the eastward, until they attain the height of eighty feet near the east end light, beyond which they slope away again until they merge in the north-east bar. Its general shape is that of a long narrow crescent, measuring twenty-two miles from tip to tip, and one mile in breadth at its best.

The only good landing-place is on the north side, and even there the Government steamer, which forms the sole connecting link between the island and the outside world, can come no closer than a mile, and must keep a vigilant look out, so that on the first sign of a change of wind she may weigh anchor, and make an offing without delay. Sometimes old Ocean is at peace with himself, and the south wind blows softly. How rare an occurrence this is may be imagined from two entries in the superintendent's journal—one to the effect that there had not been five fine days in four months; the other that the steamer was eight days in trying to effect a landing, which must always be accomplished by means of one of the broad-beamed high-stemmed surf boats peculiar to the island. Disembarkation once achieved, there is a slight ascent to be surmounted, up which the walking in yielding sands is not easy. The summit attained, a short pass between two hummocks reveals a scene so utterly different from what has been anticipated that one is fain to wonder for a moment if it may not possibly be a mirage effect, or some ocular delusion. Before the observer lies a broad valley, completely shut in from the sea by hills which rise to right and left, and wave with a wealth of vegetation that is inexpressibly refreshing to eyes already wearied with the monotony of sand and sea. Ranged in an irregular square stand the buildings of the main station—the superintendent's spacious dwelling, flanked by quarters for the staff, boathouses, stores, and other outbuildings; while well filled barns and well stocked barn-yards lend an air of substantial comfort to the whole picture. From the foreground the eye roams over to the west end lighthouse, while nine miles farther down, a telescope makes plain the flag-staff at the foot of the lake, and five miles beyond that, the east end light with its attendant buildings. Herds of wild ponies, jealously guarded by shaggy stallions, graze upon the hillsides; black duck and sheldrake in tempting flocks paddle about the innumerable ponds, while sea birds fill the air with their harsh chatter, and whole regiments of seals bask in snug content along the beach. Here and there the bleaching ribs of naval skeletons protrude half-buried from the sand, and the whole picture is set in a silver-frosted frame of seething surf.

Since the founding of the Humane Establishment in 1802, a wreck register has been carefully kept, and on its pages may be read to-day the names of more than one hundred and fifty vessels that have come to their undoing on these fatal sands. It need hardly be said that even the tremendous total of one hundred and fifty wrecks falls short of representing the truth; on the contrary, for every one that is recorded at least one other never to be known may be safely added. After many a storm do the waves cast up at the patrolman's feet the evidence of some fresh disaster—a shattered spar, an empty hencoop, or perchance a bruised and battered corpse.

In order to give succour to the shipwrecked, and save such of their property as might not be destroyed, as well as to prevent as far as possible the occurrence of losses, the Canadian Government maintains two fine lighthouses and a fully equipped life-saving station at Sable Island. A staff of from eighteen to twenty men is steadily employed there; two life-boats built after the most approved fashion of the Royal National Life-boat Institution and a large despatch boat have been lately added. The men are regularly drilled in the management of the life-boats, and of the rocket apparatus, and complete telephone communication between the lighthouses and the different stations has been established, while a cable to the mainland is contemplated in the near future. So that, if it be not already, Sable Island will be soon a life-saving station whose equipment and capabilities cannot be excelled along the entire Atlantic coast. The Government steamer, *Newfield*, visits the island regularly on supply trips. The storms which beat upon this exposed strip of land are so violent that Sable Island is being submerged gradually, and is travelling besides eastward at such a rate that any chart of it, to be accurate, would need to be corrected every few years, hence the dangers of its navigation. It is safe to say that the latest chart obtainable by mariners is some miles at least out of the way. Since the beginning of this century the island has decreased in length from forty-two miles to twenty-two; in breadth, from two and one-fourth to something less than one; in height, from two hundred feet to eighty, while there has been a variation in the position of the west end of not less than twenty-five miles.

Slowly perhaps, yet none the less surely, and defying all attempts or devices of man to stay its advance, the time is coming when the victorious waves will fling their triumphant spray high over the last vestige of dry land, and the lights of Sable Island will no longer send their warning gleams across the fatal sands that will then even far more than ever merit the sorrow-laden title of "An Ocean Graveyard."

THE LANGUAGE OF NATURE.

How healing this primeval waste!
The racing river brings no haste,
The travelling heavens have not effaced
Time's spirit brooding here.

Strange that dumb crags and melting sky,
That never knew mortality,
Should heal the spirit through the eye,
And bathe the soul in bliss.

Here all is still, vast, changeless, free!
Heaven stoops in cloud, earth climbs to see;
The language of eternity
Alone is spoken here!

—C. A. Fox.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MENDELSSOHN.

To the Editor of THE WEEK :

SIR,—Some remarks in your issue of May 5th, under the head of "Music," and signed "Seranus," have prompted a few words as a rejoinder.

The ire of "Seranus" is aroused against a writer in the *New York Evening Post*, who asserts that the taste for Mendelssohn's music to-day is regarded very much as Mr. Howells regards Dickens. Apparently losing sight of the question at issue, that is, whether or not such is the case, "Seranus" seizes the opportunity of launching an unfair estimate of Mr. Howells' ability as a novelist. The *Evening Post* merely takes the latter's view of Dickens as an apt illustration of the manner in which Mendelssohn's music is regarded; and it is difficult to see any force in disproving his competency to judge of Dickens, even if done in a way at all convincing. "Seranus" is not convincing, but perhaps somewhat hasty and illogical. Having disposed of Howells, a vindication of Mendelssohn seems to suggest itself—the more easily in consequence—to the mind of "Seranus." There are a good many vague references to "connoisseurs," but one cannot help feeling that most of the remarks are based on a personal love of the composer's music.

Now, without reading the comments of the *Evening Post*, any person interested in musical productions must admit that Mendelssohn has not the prominence which he enjoyed in his own generation. Whether this will continue or not is another matter, but the fact is very stubborn.

Music is the outcome of the emotions either of individuals or of nations. The change in musical taste is the variation of the prominence of various emotions in men, and of all tastes nothing is so sensitive or more unaffected than the true musical one. The criticism—if indeed it can be called criticism—upon which it is founded, may often be faulty, just as the popular taste in other matters, but it never can be arbitrary. It is in this perhaps that music differs from and is greater than the other arts. Both to composer and audience must it ever be essentially vague. Except in the technique, it has no rules. Its essence—apart from all descriptive embellishments—is a direct appeal to self-consciousness. Self-consciousness has taken possession of our generation, and its result in any branch of art is analysis. Is it surprising, then, that the music which attracts in an age like ours, is and must needs be something more complex than that of Mendelssohn? There is a craving for a subtle and intellectual sensuousness, and that is most readily found in the works of musical masters of any age, who have sought to utter most deeply the mysteries of life.

But Mendelssohn's music, says "Seranus," "was made to last, not alone to please." That is an assertion merely. The composers whose compositions cover the widest range of emotions naturally will live the longest. Now, the characteristics of Mendelssohn, as a man, are contentedness, reverence, and purity, and these are faithfully transmitted to his works. In them we have a very charming peacefulness to soothe, and wonderful praise to God in a thousand utterances. All is hopeful and bright, but that is all. Pain and sorrow have scarcely an expression. There are no "confessions of weakness, and suffering, and despair," as "Seranus" contends. Mendelssohn then, though very perfect in his sphere, is, it is submitted, limited, and so is his audience at present.

The assault upon Dvorák and Brahms is almost as unmerited as that upon Mr. Howells. There are probably no two composers of the day who display such striking individualities, and to say that either of them have been "shown how" is unwarrantable and contrary to a very prevalent opinion.

"Seranus" concludes her musical comments by the most extraordinary statement. "No critic," she says, "of the highest order would but assign to Tennyson a higher place as a thinker than Browning."

From such a sentence one might suspect a conscientious study of the latter. The writer of this letter has no knowledge of critics who would place Tennyson higher as a thinker than Browning, but would be very willing to learn. Until "Seranus" will make good the above assertion, it will be held by nine-tenths of the readers of THE WEEK as most preposterous, and the remaining tenth will innocently swallow what is not good for them.

Yours,

G. F. B.

Toronto, 9th May, 1887.

The Week.

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY, AND LITERATURE.

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TORONTO may justly be proud of the Loyalist meeting on Saturday. Probably in no other city on the continent would fifteen thousand persons, assembled in protest against the mischief-making of a political agitator, to listen to the discussion of a topic so likely to arouse the indignation of right-thinking men—nowhere else on this continent, perhaps, would such an assemblage disperse without adding to the orderly business transacted on the platform some rougher marks of their disapproval. The meeting was eminently representative of the better elements of the Ontario people; and the fifteen or twenty dissentients present among fifteen thousand may be taken as likewise representative of that insignificant proportion of our people who, misled by false information spread by the semi-Fenian Press, sympathise with every doctrine, however socialistic or treasonous, preached by these blind or false prophets, in the name of Ireland. We trust the Resolutions passed at this meeting will be taken as the true voice of Canada; the presence on the platform and among the speakers of several Irishmen, and the loyal sentiments approved so heartily by the assemblage, must convince the English people that the late impertinent interference of the Dominion and Local Canadian Houses with the business of the British Parliament was the work, not of the Canadian people, but of their politicians, who so misrepresented the greater mass of their constituents in Parliament, truckling to the ignorant passions of a powerful because turbulent nationality among us. A present result of this disgraceful conduct is the visit of Mr. O'Brien, who naturally has taken the Resolutions of our parliamentary demagogues and wiseacres as the voice of the Canadian people, inviting him to come over and insult the Governor-General; and it was as a protest against such misrepresentation, as well as the design itself, that the meeting of Saturday was held, in order to show this Irish agitator and his abettors that in slandering Lord Lansdowne, he is insulting Canada also.

MR. O'BRIEN has also had his meeting, and has been accorded full liberty of speech; but although he might talk, he could not compel people to listen to him, although protected in his attempt to slander Lord Lansdowne by what he once called "the demon of English rule," the spectators would have none of his absurd logic; and it had to be poured into the ears of the reporters, the chief part of this his main audience having been brought with him from New York and Dublin. The throng around him was nearly as great as that which assembled on Saturday, but there was this serious obstacle to a like success—that the sympathies of those that assembled on Tuesday, *not* to hear Mr. O'Brien, were, with the exception of but an insignificant few, entirely with the Loyalists; and it is again highly creditable to Toronto that the affair passed off without any more serious differences arising between Mr. O'Brien and his proposed audience than their persistent refusal to listen to his diatribe. Evidently from his disappointed and angry speech, Mr. O'Brien has now found out his mistake; he has come several thousand miles, at the expense, it is true, of the poor, half-starved, rack-rented Irish people—who can't pay their rents, but yet can afford to support such enterprises as the present; and this has ended in miserable failure. Let us hope he now perceives that the world is wider than Ireland, and has other interests besides fictitious Irish grievances. He has met with but scant sympathy in Toronto; but what he has received is absolutely all that exists for the bad cause that brought him here.

THE Government have at length declared their policy as to Disallowance. The agreement with the C. P. R. is to be maintained, and no competing lines in Manitoba, as well as British Columbia and the North-west, are to be allowed. Government have come to this decision because it is considered that the country is bound in honour to carry out the agreement with the Company, and because in order to protect the many millions spent by the Eastern Provinces in opening up the West, it is deemed necessary to prevent the trade of the West being tapped at several points by the United States. As to the first point, it is clear that if the C. P. R. insist on their pound of flesh it must be paid. We repeat, the Company are not to be punished because they have given us the railway full five years before it was due. Their enterprise has had a large reward, but it is thoroughly well deserved. The profit they have reaped might be a ground for con-

cession on their part; but there must be no compulsion: a contract, however onerous, must not be broken for reasons of mere expediency. By a clause in the C. P. R. contract the Company were given protection against competing lines in the North-west certainly. It is contended in Manitoba that this monopoly does not extend to that Province—a contention which is supported by the fact that when the boundaries of Manitoba were extended in 1881 the restriction of railways was confined to the added territory; indeed, the contention has been admitted by the Government itself. Disallowance in Manitoba is exercised by the Government as a matter of policy, the principle there being the same as in the North-west. The Dominion has incurred a great debt in building the C. P. R.; all but a trifling proportion of that debt falls on the Eastern Provinces; and the interest of these Eastern Provinces, belonging to near ninety-eight per cent. of the population, must not be imperilled by yielding to the demands of another two per cent. in Manitoba and the North-west. It may be that free railway construction in Manitoba might forward, as nothing else can, the development of the country; still, that is a matter of debate, and we cannot blame the Government for refusing to accept that view offhand. For our part we are inclined to think that the Government policy is a short-sighted one. The North-west is not making the progress that was reasonably expected: the results, indeed, after seven years, are ludicrously out of proportion to what was predicted when the construction of the C. P. R. was begun, though that can be no surprise to anybody of sense, whom a heated imagination did not lead to expect that, on the opening of the country, the whole population of Europe would rush over to fill it up forthwith. It is, however, making a healthy though slow growth—perhaps the healthier for its slowness. In view of the great debt incurred, any cause that *may* impede the development of the North-west ought to be removed, if it can be done with a reasonable amount of safety. The policy of the Government, broadly stated, is to develop the Dominion as a whole and promote inter-Provincial trade, which policy is to be entirely approved; but it does not seem clear that this design would be seriously endangered by allowing free railway construction. If, however, it were found to do so, an effectual remedy might, perhaps, be applied through the tariff, which already is a powerful protection. Anything that tends to facilitate transportation between the North-west and the Eastern Provinces, as railway competition would do, must rather bind than loosen the ties between the Provinces. The danger, of course, is, and the fear of the Government is, that the binding might take place rather with the States than with the Provinces; and there is something in that. Still, we have faith in the existing connexion between Eastern Canada and the West; our business houses have the field very much to themselves at present; and we believe they may be trusted, with the moderate protection of the tariff, to hold their own, especially as, with cheap rates of freight, Eastern Canada would be as near and convenient a market for the North-west as the manufacturing districts of the States.

IN the Canadian House of Commons, as well as the British, a new Finance Minister has this year presented his first Budget. Both Ministers alike are men of remarkably strong individuality; and as the other day we admired Mr. Goschen's masterful presentation of his subject, in whose minutest details he seemed fairly to revel, so now we have to pay a meed of praise to Sir Charles Tupper, whose firm grasp of a difficult subject, and clear comprehension of the situation, it is equally a pleasure to witness. Sir Charles, like Mr. Goschen, is in every fibre a man of business; and the country cannot but gain very greatly by committing its financial affairs to such strong hands, instead of to the feeble men of theory who are too often thrust into that office for mere reasons of political exigency. We may not be able to agree with every part of Sir Charles's Budget Speech—we do not with respect to the iron duties, for instance, which we regret to see raised against every industry in the country, merely, as is the case at present at any rate, to advantage one establishment; still, we must own that, committed as the Government are to Protection pure and simple—*bound* to it as they are, indeed, by the recent elections, the straightforward method pursued by Sir Charles Tupper is the best. When it is decided to do a thing, "thorough" is the policy to adopt; and Canada probably has no public man better able through sheer energy to carry out a policy of "thorough" in any department than Sir Charles Tupper. No business will suffer in the long run if committed to capable hands. Mistakes may be made, but the mistakes of a strong man are more easily rectified than the uniformly mediocre work of a feeble one. There is not much else that is new to remark on in the Budget. The Debt is acknowledged to be large; but it is represented by great public works, without which the country would be exceedingly poor, though it had not a dollar of debt. The announcement that in the arrangement of treaties the representatives of Canada are to be invested with plenipotentiary powers is very important, and Sir Charles had reason to feel pride in congratulating the House on a boon whose acquisition is,

we understand, due in a great measure to his own skilful and energetic negotiation. But what we must specially commend in his Speech is the tone of independence adopted towards the United States. This is a thing much needed at this juncture, when the real feeling and designs of American politicians towards Canada is being carefully and dangerously concealed under the specious cloak of a desire for Commercial Union—only to be expressed the plainer, however, accidentally, in such insolent bullying as that indulged in by the *New York Sun* on Monday last. With Sir Charles, we have no idea that the policy of non-intercourse will be adopted by the States—this threat is nothing but a little American statesmanship, which often contains a good proportion of the ingredient of "bluff;" but should it, we believe the interests of the country are quite safe in the hands of the present Administration.

THE *Spectator*, commenting on the increase of British national wealth since 1860 (an increase of income estimated at over \$1,500,000,000 a year) insisted on by Mr. Gladstone as a reason why the settled contribution of \$140,000,000 to the Sinking Fund should not be disturbed in Mr. Goschen's Budget, points out that it is the *margin* of profit, the excess of returns over expenditure, not the absolute amount of wealth, which makes taxation easy to bear. A very rich country making very small profits finds taxation much more burdensome than a much poorer country making very large profits. At present the bulk of British trade increases but slowly, while its margin of profit decreases, and has decreased for some years back. And, as a correspondent of the same journal plainly shows, whereas thirty years ago every penny of income tax produced a million sterling, now, owing to better methods of collection, it produces just double that amount. But while the collection of the Income Tax, and, indeed, of all other taxes, from the richer classes is decreasing steadily, the collection of the Income Tax from the poorer class of tolerably well-to-do persons is making up, and a little more than making up, for that decrease of Income Tax of the rich. In the interval of thirty years the taxes, too, have been taken off a vast number of commodities in general consumption, which now yield little or nothing to the revenue; so that it comes to this, that the chief burden of the repayment of the National Debt is falling on one class of the community only—the poorer class of the tolerably well-to-do. And Mr. Goschen is entirely right in relieving them; the only fair alternative, as he pointed out, to the small reduction he made—a penny on the pound—being a general revision of taxation.

It is stated that the Colonial Conference has been successful, as regards Australia at any rate, in one of its main purposes—a provision for Colonial Defence. A plan has been adopted for the maritime defence of Australia. The British Government, without reducing its own squadron in the South Pacific, will provide five armed cruisers, at an original cost of \$3,000,000, and two torpedo boats, and will not charge for their deterioration. Australia, on the other hand, will pay \$600,000 a year for the pay, keep, and other expenses of the necessary crews and equipments. The cruisers will be retained in Australia waters, and will, it is believed, with the usual force stationed there, provide adequate protection to the Australian trade. This is the beginning of a quite practicable plan of binding the Mother Country and her colonies in alliance, in which Canada might advantageously join.

An introductory chapter to the last Russo-Turkish War has just been incidentally published by the *North German Gazette*, in an article, clearly official, which alludes to a Treaty between Russia and Austria, signed in 1877, under which Austria was permitted to occupy and govern Bosnia and Herzegovina. No such treaty has ever been mentioned before, and it seems clear that possession of the two Provinces was the price paid to Austria to induce her not to interfere with the Russian advance. It has been generally supposed that the reason why Alexander II. did not march on Constantinople when he had Turkey at his feet was because he feared an attack by Austria on his flank. Lord Beaconsfield has generally had the credit of stopping that advance, but there is more likelihood that it was forbidden by Austria; and the Russian army being in an exhausted state, the Czar durst not venture farther. The dread of an Austrian attack on flank has been supposed also to have withheld the Russian advance of late, and this is not improbable. Although the Russian army is now in the very best possible condition, while the Austrian, it is well known, is in a much inferior state, yet the Austrians would be a crushing weight thrown in the scale, with the Roumanian, Bulgarian, and Turkish armies, against Russia. What is important, however, to note is the little reliance to be placed on Austria. She evidently sold herself to Russia in 1877, and Alexander II. might have marched to Constantinople unmolested if he had been able to bribe her further with another Province or two. She appears

to be incurably weak—unstable as water. In any alliance with the German Powers, England must evidently lean chiefly on the German Empire; the Austrian support may give way at the most critical moment.

THE London correspondent of the *Republique Française* says:—"Baristers here are entitled to submit witnesses to a veritable inquisition—namely, cross-examination—putting to them the most insidious and compromising questions; and bear in mind that the witness thus questioned on his own acts is on oath, and liable to punishment for perjury. This cross-examination is what Mr. Parnell dreads. My impression is that he will accept the falsest position rather than incur this terrible ordeal. There are many points of his public life on which Mr. Parnell is not at all anxious to be interrogated, and in saying this I have not the slightest intention of accusing him of misdemeanours or crime; I merely mean that he has secrets, many secrets." Precisely. A man occupying the peculiar position of Mr. Parnell must, at all costs, avoid the law courts. It would never do for Bill Sykes to be apprehended for vagrancy; not because the punishment for vagrancy is to be feared, but on account of the searching enquiry that might be instituted into Bill Sykes's mode of life. So, although Mr. Parnell might possibly be able to disprove the allegation of *The Times* as to this letter, yet as, perhaps, he could do so only at the risk of being covered, himself and his party, with even greater infamy, he must at all hazards keep out of court. In result, however, it is matter of little moment to the public that he has failed to take up *The Times's* challenge: the point that impresses itself on the mind of discerning observers is that he feels his character to be so assailable that he dare not expose it to investigation in the searching light of a law court. He cannot be surprised if the natural inference be drawn respecting not only this letter, but the whole subject of the alleged connexion between "Parnellism and Crime." The *Law Times*, commenting on the attempt of the Parnellites and their Gladstonian allies to smother the enquiry, says: "The cry of privilege raised by that infatuated paper, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, concerning the publication by *The Times* of the Parnell letter, is about as wild as anything lately published. To suggest that there is any analogy between this publication and that which alleged corruption against a committee of the House of Commons, is to show an absolute incapacity to reason logically. By no straining could the doctrine of privilege apply to the action of *The Times*. To make it apply it would be necessary to say that every member of the House must be protected from all reflections upon his character if his character has anything to do with any measure before the House—which would be absurd. There is singular confusion in the ideas of some speakers and journalists on the subject of the Parnell letter. If that letter is a forgery, its publication, and the remarks of *The Times* founded upon it, are grossly libellous. Very heavy damages would be awarded the plaintiff in an action. No action, it is said, is to be brought, but it is added, the public must not find a verdict against Mr. Parnell—so says the *Daily News*—because it would be to convict a prisoner without a trial. Mr. Parnell is not in the position of a prisoner against whom the prosecution has to prove a case. Mr. Parnell has to disprove a weighty charge deliberately made.

THE papers gave the other day an account of a school of plumbing that has lately been established in New York, from which most beneficial results are expected. There is no trade where technical education is so much needed, not exactly for the good of the trade, but for the good of the public. The health of every one of us depends largely on the care and skill of plumbers. If Life Insurance Companies would attend to the plumbing in the houses of their clients, their profits would be much greater, for the average of life would be measurably increased. Bad air shortens life more than probably any other cause; Life Insurance Companies ought to charge a higher fee for insuring the lives of people who live in ill-drained and ill-ventilated houses, just as Fire Insurance Companies charge a higher fee on hazardous risks. This ought—as nothing else seems able to do—to bring about a reform in house building, and attention to sewers as well as water pipes. In London, a Mr. Noel A. Humphreys has read a paper before the Statistical Society, in which he drew attention to the fact that in the Peabody Buildings, which now accommodate some 20,000 persons of the poorer classes, the number of infant deaths has been reduced seven per 1,000 below that of infants in London generally during the last five years. This shows, he said, how much housing has to do with the death rate, which is confirmed by the fact that the poorer classes who live much in the open air, like gardeners, nurserymen, and agricultural labourers, attain an average age almost as good as that of clergymen themselves, in spite of their much greater privations.

WIDOWHOOD.

BREATHE softly, oh softly, ye winds through the willows!
Ye waft back the spring of the wild rose and fern,
And freshen the wood with your æry billows—
But never to me shall the spring-time return.

Breathe softly, oh softly! From your genial fountain
Blow zephyrs which lure back the lark to the lawn,
The ring-dove and thrush to their homes in the mountain—
But one's loving consort for ever is gone.

Breathe softly, oh softly! To me are ye sobbing;
To others ye whisper the music of May.
While my heaving bosom with sorrow is throbbing,
The heart of the blackbird beats time to her lay.

Breathe softly, oh softly! Why has he thus left me?
Ah! once through those maples ye sang to us twain,
But since of my loved one fell death has bereft me
Ye moan to my moaning and sigh for my pain.

Breathe softly, oh softly! I never shall meet him
Till in the kind grave I am laid at my rest;
Ah, then, only then, shall I meet him and greet him—
The moments I count with the throbs of my breast.

WILLIAM WANLESS ANDERSON.

AUTHOR, ARTIST, AND ACTOR.

"THE LIVES OF THE SHERIDANS," by Percy Fitzgerald, appears in strange opposition to the letters of Sheridan and Miss Linley, lately given to the public, followed by unjust and unproven hints as to their authenticity. Mr. Fitzgerald has done his best, or his worst, to spoil a good subject, and to cast a shadow on the gifted race he has depicted in his most disconnected, unfriendly, ill-arranged, two-volumed memoir, from which we turn, with a sense of pleasure and relief, to the warm, sympathetic magazine article of Miss Matilda Stoker, in which the characters of Richard Brinsley Sheridan and Miss Linley are allowed, with some few connecting links, to speak for themselves. Mr. Fitzgerald misrepresents and attacks the distinguished dramatist most unparadigmatically; if we are to believe him, his plays were poor, mere pieces of plagiarism; his speeches, fustian; his wit, forced and dull; his manners and morals, those of a profligate and a publican. Yet Lord Byron's opinion of Sheridan was that "whatever he has done, or chosen to do, has been always the best of its kind." He wrote the best comedy ("The School for Scandal"), the best opera ("The Duenna"), the best farce ("The Critic"), and the best address ("Monologue on Garrick"), and to crown all, delivered the best oration ("The Begum Speech") ever conceived or heard in England. The fashionable vice of drunkenness no doubt ruined Sheridan eventually, but that is almost the least of those attributed to him. So far from being a plagiarist, "The Rivals," his first and most successful play, was founded largely on his own experience and adventures in wooing and wedding his wife. It is curious, too, that few of Sheridan's good sayings are even reported by his biographer. Some specimens of his ready wit, however, are given us, such as that in connection with his son Tom, whom he threatened to cut off with a shilling. "You haven't got it about you, have you, sir?" Tom did not always get the best of these passages-at-arms, as when he said, "If I get into Parliament, I will pledge myself to no party, but write upon my forehead in legible characters, 'To be let.'" "And underneath that, Tom," added his father, "write, 'Unfurnished,'" or, when Tom remarked he wanted to go down a coal mine, for the sake of saying he had been down, and Sheridan remarked, "Why not say it without going?" The career of Tom Sheridan's daughters, the Duchess of Somerset, the Queen of Beauty at the Eglinton Tournament, and the celebrated Mrs. Norton, form some of the most interesting reading in the book.

THE early art-career of Randolph Caldecott, given us by Mr. Henry Blackburn, is rather a fraud in its way. The story, such as it is, breaks off in the middle, and half the illustrations are repetitions from the artist's previously published works, and from the well-known pages of *Punch*. Apart from these, the letterpress is of little importance; it would, indeed, scarcely detract from the knowledge of the man if we had never seen it at all. Our sympathies were long ago elicited for Randolph Caldecott, who, a young clerk, brought up in a Manchester bank, was diligent enough at his desk to cover every scrap of paper and blotting-pad with humorous sketches, and eventually to carve out for himself a remarkable career as an admirable illustrator of books, taking up the idea of the writer whose work he was to embellish, with an honesty and faithfulness all the more surprising from the extreme quickness of his own eye to note any passing group and humorous figure, and the fertility of the world around in furnishing irresistible studies. His early death in a foreign land, at St. Augustine, Florida, whither he was sent by the proprietors of the *Graphic* to recruit his failing health, and to make studies for the paper of American manners and customs, was most tragic and unexpected, and his removal left a blank in his sphere of artistic work, which is only partially filled by Mr. Hugh Thompson.

MR. ROBERTS, the energetic creator of a Toronto Gallery of Art, 79 King Street West, deserves great credit for the enterprise he displays in his peri-

odical visits to England and the Continent, made for the purpose of gathering together such pictures as come within the reach of his purse, for the benefit of our citizens. The collection, which is the result of a recent visit to London and Paris, was on exhibition last week, and contained several excellent paintings, and some very inferior ones. Among the best, in our opinion, were the works of Alizone, a modern French painter, four in number. "D'Automne," the gem of these, has, we hope, passed into the hands of some true picture lover. An excellent landscape, by V. Lariot, was conspicuous on the west wall, and there were three admirable examples of figure painting, by J. Poy, another Frenchman; also two capital still life studies, by Leopold Durangel, an exhibitor in the Paris Salon. G. Calves, whose name is unknown to us, is represented by "Storm in Summer Time," two horses under a tree, exceptionally well drawn and painted. From the brush of M. S. Cival, Paris, there are no less than forty-three pictures, all small in size, and showing clearly the influence of Constable in the development of French landscape painting. The English artists are few in number, and of them J. W. Eyres is the most important; of all his pieces, which are much too realistic, "The Hammer Ponds, Surrey," is far the best. The largest picture in the collection is one by F. Laura, of Paris, entitled "Expectation," which, though somewhat faulty in composition and treatment, is remarkable for the admirable texture given to the maiden's plush costume, as well as for the careful rendering of her expression of anxious waiting. It is to be hoped that Mr. Roberts' laudable effort will meet with due appreciation at the hands of Toronto society, so that he may be encouraged to repeat it on a more extensive scale with the works of artists more prominent in the French and English schools.

THE Royal Academy exhibition at Burlington House this year is likely to produce a general feeling of disappointment. Though the pictures on the whole are above the average of merit—they numbered in all 1,946, a score more than last season—some of the most accomplished figure painters belonging to the institution, including Watts, Poynter, Calderon, and Burne-Jones, are not represented, and the contributions of a few other well known artists fall below their accustomed level. Among the most important works are those of Sir John Millais, six of which are to be found in the first room; of these the best is called the "Bird's Nest," and represents a life-size study of a graceful lady, holding a child in her arms. The treatment in parts is loose, but the colour is of fine quality, and the head of the child, who is looking with eager interest at the object which gives its name to the paintings is full of vitality, and is splendidly painted. On one side of this picture hangs a strikingly characteristic portrait of Sir Horace Jones (the city architect), by Mr. Onless, one of the best he has produced; on the other a life-like half-length of Sir George Trevelyan, by Mr. Frank Holl, in his most restrained and best style. Mr. Briton Riviere exhibits an "Old World Wanderer," an early Greek explorer, surrounded by sea birds. The wonder of the man is well expressed, and the birds are painted with rare skill and mastery.

From the brush of Mr. J. W. Waterhouse is an admirable picture, one of the best in the exhibition, of Mariamne, the wife of King Herod, going to execution, as described by Josephus. The President, Sir Frederick Leighton's great picture, "The Jealousy of Simalthea," the sorceress, is remarkable, not less for the intensity of expression in the beautiful, cruel face than for the draughtsmanship of the figure and the masterly treatment of the draperies.

One of the best examples of refined female portraiture in the Academy is a three-quarter length of Mrs. Luke Fildes, by her husband, the most complete work he has achieved. Mr. H. S. Marks has a large and very amusing picture, called "Dominicans in Feathers," which represents nine blackfooted penguins, in various attitudes, on a ledge of rock overlooking the sea. Every bird, while true to ornithological fact, is humorously suggestive of human character and expression.

AGAIN the Metropolitan Museum of Art scores and records its acquisitive triumphs. Mr. George I. Seney (the beneficent), in addition to the twelve paintings he lately presented, has given eight more, "Nydia," "And She was a Witch;" also "An Ideal Head," by George Fuller, a deceased Boston painter of great promise; Carl Marr's "Gossip;" "The Old Man's Garden," by Adrian Louis Dumont, of Paris, from the Salon of 1884; "Evening," by George Innes; "Spring," by Bolton Jones; "Moonrise at Venice," by Samuel Coleman. It is understood that these will all appear in the coming exhibition of the Museum, as will also Mr. W. Schaus's valuable donation of the "Vintage," by L'Hermite, from the Salon of 1884. Miss Wolff's pictures will probably not be shown until there is a fireproof gallery to receive them, according to the conditions of her bequest.

MR. TRISTRAM's drama of the "Red Lamp," with which Mr. Beerbohm Tree opened the Comedy Theatre in the double capacity of manager and leading actor at the end of April, is a clever play, but unfortunately not of the kind which is needed to ensure success upon the stage. It is polished in quality, but too full of exciting situations, and too devoid of sympathy and common humanity. Blood-thirsty Nihilist plots, sustained by people who have no very apparent motive or object, are the chief ingredients of the piece, and Lady Monekton even, in spite of her unquestionable power, fails to enter into the spirit of the "Red Lamp." Mr. Beerbohm Tree's Russian police official is a very original and effective study of character, but sketches of character in a play are only valuable as factors in working out the author's designs.

"THE WITCH," a new five-act drama which was brought out at the Princess's, translated from the German by Mr. Masham Rae for his wife's benefit and first appearance, made a good impression, and possesses some very strong dramatic situations. The plot is skilfully constructed, and

was well handled throughout. Mrs. Masham Rae displayed the usual ignorance and general deficiency of an amateur, but has so many good qualifications for the stage that she has every chance of achieving success through perseverance.

MISS MARY ANDERSON produced "A Winter's Tale" at Nottingham lately, before a large and fashionable audience, with brilliant results. Her daring experiment proved remarkably attractive, and her peculiar grace and charm never showed to better advantage than in the part of Perdita.

At a performance in aid of the Theatrical Fund at Drury Lane, Mrs. Brown Potter delivered a recitation of Kingsley's weird and tragic poem, "Lorraine Loree," most effectively, and proved she had profited by the criticism of her censors.

MR. IRVING is reported to have purchased the acting rights in the late Mr. Watts Philip's clever melodrama entitled, "The Dead Heart," performed at the Adelphi in 1859. He will, when the play is produced, appear in the part of "Robert Laundry, the prisoner of the Bastille," originally represented by Benjamin Webster.

"RUDDIGORE," as it appeared at the Grand Opera House last week, ought to have been an agreeable surprise to every one who went there prepared to expect nothing. The unfortunate opera has been damned by faint praise on this side of the Atlantic, though it met with a favourable reception in London, and is certainly handicapped by following in the track of such a phenomenal success as the "Mikado." No wonder it should fall flat upon the public after the gorgeous costumes, dazzling effects, and fetching fans of its Japanese predecessor. The taste for its delicate satire and artistic quality has been vitiated by a largely spectacular piece, and also by that element of grotesque and exaggerated humour originated in Koko, and reproduced in the dual villainy of "Erminie." In "Ruddigore" the old school of melodrama is admirably burlesqued in a spirit that doubtless appeals more to an English than a Canadian audience, but which, nevertheless, is so true to fact that no one who is acquainted with the modern melodrama presented nightly at the Adelphi Theatre can fail to enjoy the humour of the opera. The music is far too good also for general popularity; in it Sir Arthur Sullivan has outdone all his former efforts, though it is probably too technically excellent to be catchy. The quaint old-fashioned costumes pale possibly before the brilliancy of Mikado robes, but are none the less charmingly suggestive of bygone days, and bring with them a delicate aroma of simplicity and innocence which seems almost out of place upon the stage. The scenic effects of several of the chorus groups reminded us strongly of some of Marcus Ward's graceful Christmas cards, in which wreathed maidens in clinging draperies tread slow measures in flowery meads. Mr. John Stetson's company is an excellent one, worthy of all praise for its careful and finished presentation of a somewhat novel style. When all were so good, it is difficult to recognise individual merit; but Miss Ida Muller may be mentioned as making a most realistic Rose Maybud. She played a part with delicacy and humour which the slightest tendency to exaggeration would have perverted into coarse vulgarity, and seemed indeed created expressly for the character she represented, though the flavour of "a little maid" hangs round her still. Mr. Louis James, as Robin Oakapple, gave a most careful rendering of a very exacting role. His face is most expressive, and he possesses an individual charm of his own, which must be seen to be appreciated. Mr. J. W. Herbert had no opportunity in his meagre part to display the talent so indubitably associated with his Koko, but he made the most of what he had assigned to him; while Mad Margaret (Miss Agnes Stone) caricatured ordinary stage insanity very cleverly. "Ruddigore" contains but two acts, and ought to, and will with time, grow upon the public. It should certainly take rank after the "Mikado" and "Patience," and has, besides, merits of its own apart from either. E. S.

THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH IN NORTH AMERICA.*

IN THE WEEK of March 10, we called attention to the early volumes of this monumental work on the history of the American Continent, from the pens of a number of historical experts, edited by the Librarian of Harvard University, with the assistance of an advisory committee of the Massachusetts Historical Society. The present instalment increases our interest in this great work, and heightens the value we are disposed to place upon it, as the most valuable contribution to American and, if we except Parkman's works, to Canadian history that has yet appeared. The plan of the book is unique. It is the work not of one but of many writers, each being a specialist in his own department, and each having a distinct period or a particular region to write about. Besides this, each subject has a twofold presentation, the one being the complement and necessary outgrowth of the other. There is, first, a narrative of occurrences, grouping the salient points of the story, and embodying the results of the fullest and latest research. Secondly, there is a critical essay, based on the facts elicited, in which everything is sifted and placed in proper perspective, all being in a form which, while it is in itself attractive, leaves the reader free to exercise his own judgment, and deduce his own conclusions. Supplemental to this, and perhaps most important of all, is the citation by the editor of all the authorities and sources of information—the whole forming a complete monograph of each subject presented. The importance of the method thus pursued will be manifest, for it re-creates the past, as it has been said, out of its own monuments, and supplies such a mass of well-marshalled facts,

too vast for individual research to gather and present, on which any one, if he is so minded, can construct his own theory of the history.

The volume before us, in the main, takes up the story of Canadian colonisation and conquest where the fourth volume left off. The period dealt with is that between the era of the English Revolution and the close of French dominion in the New World. The previous volume, it will be remembered, dealt with the French discoveries and settlements in America from the earliest period to the reappointment of Frontenac, including the thrilling story of the Jesuit and Recollet missions to the Indians. This deals with the French occupation of Louisiana and the Mississippi basin, with the wars on the seaboard of New England and Acadia, with the struggle in the valley of the Ohio, and the final contest at Quebec, including the story of English colonial settlement from Massachusetts southward to the Carolinas and Georgia. The interest of Canadian readers will fasten upon the narrative of those memorable seventy years from the return of Frontenac to save the colony from extermination by the Iroquois to the fateful close of the French régime, with the fall of Quebec and the cession to Britain. The history comprised within this era was, as we know, shaped by events in Europe, and by the essentially different colonising method of the two races which contended for the prize of empire in the New World. This is well brought out by Mr. Davis, in his closing remarks in the opening chapter on "Canada and Louisiana," perhaps the most thoughtful, though not the most interesting contribution, to the present volume. Mr. Smith's chapter on the "Struggle in Acadia and Cape Breton" is a meagre one, though its deficiencies are more than made up by the editor's very full and most valuable supplement, containing the authorities on the French and Indian wars in New England, with interesting data relating to King Philip's war, King William's war, the New England expeditions against Acadia, the expulsion of the Acadians, and the various operations against Louisburg, Beausejour, etc. No work could well be more thorough than that performed by Mr. Winsor in the additions to this chapter; while the maps, plans, portraits, and other illustrative matter, so plentifully interspersed, complete and round off the service he has so admirably rendered.

The concluding chapter, the work also of the editor, tells the story of the struggle between the two races in the valley of the Ohio, in the waterways into Canada, north of the Hudson, and before Quebec. The introduction to this section glances at the progress of settlement and the extension of trade in the interior of the Continent, and the collisions which came of these movements between the rival nations and their respective Indian allies. Then follow the story of French occupation on the Ohio and the efforts of the colonies on the seaboard to oust them, the Jumonville-Washington incident, Braddock's fateful expedition across the Alleghanies, and the subsequent successes of the colonial arms in the valley. Later on, we have the incidents connected with the projected expedition to Niagara, the surrender of Fort Frontenac, and the loss of French naval supremacy on Lake Ontario. The narrative concludes with an account of the successive movements against Fort William-Henry, Crown Point, and Ticonderoga, on Lakes George and Champlain, with the Indian atrocities that marked them, and the crowning victory on the Plains of Abraham, with the withdrawal of the French arms from the Continent. Here, as elsewhere throughout the work, the appended critical essay on the sources of information is perhaps of most value. No praise can be too high in characterising these portions of the book: the pains taken in collecting the material of all kinds which throw light on the events is simply stupendous; and with the work of the laborious editor, that of printer and engraver is alike worthy of hearty commendation. The limitations of our space compel us to omit all notice of the chapters in the body of the present volume, dealing with the Middle and the Southern Colonies on the seaboard. To these we must refer the reader himself. The thanks of every student and reader of history are due to all concerned in the preparation of this colossal work: it is a monument of labour and research, the dimensions of which few can adequately estimate. Before closing, let us whisper a word of caution to the editor, to beware of allusive writing, which is noticeable in several of the narratives, and which must detract from the interest, if not from the value, of the work in the case of those who are not deeply versed in the history of the Continent. The work aims at being more than a book of reference, though, as a book of reference, we chiefly and highly value it.

A NEW CANADIAN POET.*

THE subjective world seems to be the natural sphere of the young poet. By expressing himself faithfully he will truly express humanity so far as he himself represents it, and so far as he can yet know it. If he venture beyond this limit to declare the subtle workings of the minds of other men, he will probably make grievous mistakes. In such a case it is certain that unless he be the genius of his age his verses will proclaim their artificiality.

A real poem is the poet's soul-child, born from the depths of his being, and breathing and glowing with his own life and passion. Wooden dolls and wooden poems may be bought in all markets, but they do not satisfy us. If the poem is to live for us it must have lived for its author. If we are to feel it he must have felt it.

Most of Mr. Stewart's poems fulfil these conditions in a good measure. They are born not made. There is a living intensity in them, an earnestness and sincerity which speak unequivocally of their spiritual origin.

* Poems, Phillips Stewart. London: Kegan, Paul, Trench and Company; Toronto: Gage and Company.

* Narrative and Critical History of America, edited by Justin Winsor, Librarian of Harvard University. Vol. 5. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin, and Co., Toronto: George Virtue, 1887.

The poet has translated himself. It is his own thoughts and feelings that he has set forth in such harmonious numbers.

There is not room to quote in full any of the poems, but the following passages from "De Profundis" are strongly characteristic of our author:

The day is dead. Dear silent day,
What have I done in thy winged hours that's worth
One noble thought? Along the shore the shadows creep
And die; this heart is sad with every sun
That sets. . . . I suffer now
As did dead worlds in ages long ago,
And souls that peopled many a fabled land—
All felt the heart-ache, fear and woe,
And dreary thoughts of a strange destiny;
Nor sleep, nor opiate-draughts, nor wine's sweet flow
Can soothe such grief, O melancholy sea!
Why fear calm death? But what may come before
I shudder at. What will the years bring me
Of truth and hope and sympathy?
Kind words are truest poetry
And sweetest music. Spare them not,
Life soon is o'er,
Their music cannot reach our graves.

There is a kind of verse of which, perhaps, a certain, great, living poet has written not a little, which looks quite as if the writer had said to himself, "Go to, let us be sad, and write verses!" But although most of Mr. Stewart's songs are pitched in a minor key his sorrow is entirely natural. There is not the least suggestion of cultivation or artificiality about it.

The book abounds in passages that show the poet's keen, though quiet, delight in the beauty of Nature. His taste, however, is usually his own, individual, fresh, and native. He does not at all confine his admiration to the conventional beauties of modern poetasters—roses and lilies, skylarks and nightingales. Our Canadian birds sing sweetly for him, and he says so. The comparison of the soft, rich melody of the robin's song to the note of a mellow flute is especially fitting. In the poem on the snow-bird, also, we see his originality, and the clearness of his poetic insight. Here is a graphic picture in his description of autumn:

When sumachs hang rich plumes along the hill,
And glossy groups of crows untiring fill
The woods and stubble-fields.

The love poems in the collection are not numerous, but in their sweet and serious tenderness we feel that they, too, are "de profundis,"—out of the depths. There are no passionate outbursts, but the simple affection and gentle melody of "Good Night," "Evermore," and "The Last Sleep," will find responsive chords in many hearts. And here is the closing stanza of "Love's Dream":

Love, love, I shall cease to roam;
Love, love, thou wilt be my home;
Thou wilt be the ivy, and twine
Round this restless heart of mine;
Thou wilt shield my life from the sun;
Thou wilt cling when the summer is done.

The book is not without defects—no book is. The composition is of unequal merit, and disappoints one in places. Some of the classical phrases and allusions are hackneyed, and as they neither elucidate nor elevate the context they may be mistaken for affectations.

The general uniformity of tone throughout these poems will possibly be considered a defect by some readers, but we think that such an objection cannot be properly taken. The subjective being the sphere of the young poet, and his experiences being necessarily limited, it follows naturally that his range of expression will be narrow. His highest praise for the present must be that he has had the good judgment not to attempt to go beyond his limits, and that his work has been worthily done within them.

And this praise is due to Mr. Stewart. All in good time, and as the result of the richer, more varied, and happier experiences of future years, the range of his poetic vision will extend, and he will be sure to fulfil the promise so amply given in this, his first volume.

For a full introduction to the Canadian public it remains only to add that Mr. Stewart is a native of Ontario, and a recent student at University College, with his home in Toronto, but at present travelling in Southern Europe.

READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE MAD MARQUIS.

ONCE when in London he was returning home at night in a cab, and when he came to pay for his drive he imagined that the cabby overcharged him. Now, this has sometimes happened to mortals not born to be marquises, and they have by angry expostulation done what they could to modify such unreasonable demands. So commonplace a proceeding, however, was all too tame for the fiery spirit and humorous fancy of Lord Sandford. Remembering that he was for the moment the guest of his uncle, the Right Reverend Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of Ireland, he exclaimed, "Wait a minute, you scoundrel; I'll soon settle you, I'll send out the Primate to you!" And swiftly his lordship vanished through the hall door. There upon the rack hung the Archbishop's right reverend shovel hat, and there, too, was his sable-hued and most clerical coat. In a moment the Marquis had invested himself with these solemn episcopal garments, and then he sallied forth to confront the cabby. Now, Lord Sandford was one of the most skilful boxers in England, and without any preamble he proceeded with a right good will to use his fists upon the objectionable cabman. This latter defended himself with what vigour he could, but being no match for his agile antagonist, was soon sprawling upon the pavement. Gathering himself together as well as he could, he sat on the flags looking up at Lord Sandford with that rueful admiration which a per-

son naturally feels for the man who has just knocked him flat, and said, "Well, ye are the devil's own Primate, anyhow!" The Marquis's quickly spent anger changed into mirth at the grotesque observation, and he burst into a peal of laughter. Taking a sovereign from his pocket, he bestowed it, along with his blessing, upon the amazed cab-driver, and disappeared from before his bewildered gaze into the house.—*Adela E. Orpin, in the Christian Union.*

LORD MACAULAY

AMONG other celebrities gathered together by people of rank and fashion, Agnes Strickland, at the house of the late Duke of Somerset, met for the first time Mr. Macaulay, and was by no means impressed by his manners and appearance, for he seemed to her ugly, vulgar, and pompous, the merits of the popular historian being overlooked in the unprepossessing person of the man. Probably this impression would have vanished if they had had much conversation on English history, as on certain points—such as the iniquity of the Popish Plot, contempt of Titus Oates, and sympathy with the legally murdered Lord Strafford—they entirely agreed. The Duchess of Somerset gave him to his fair rival for her cavalier at dinner, but they did not get on well together. A very handsome, quiet young man who faced them apparently afforded Mr. Macaulay a topic for conversation, for he looked pointedly at him, and commenced a tirade on the stupidity of handsome men, by which the Adonis of the party was evidently embarrassed and annoyed. Agnes thought the attack was unfair, and replied: "It was a consolation for ugly men to consider them so." He became sulky, and they had no further conversation together.—*Life of Agnes Strickland, by her sister, Jane Margaret Strickland.*

BISHOP FRASER.

He gave up the Episcopal Palace, eleven miles off, and planted himself in Manchester. At once he became a favourite on the platform. To the consternation of orthodox Churchmen, one of his earliest appearances was at the annual meeting of the Manchester City Mission. But he soon after shocked the teetotallers when at a meeting on the licensing of public-houses, he said: "Yesterday I preached in a very full church. My voice was a little out of order, and I was a little exhausted. At lunch the clergyman said: 'I think a glass of bitter beer after that sermon would do you good.' I thought so too, and I drank the bitter beer, and felt the better for it. So, you see, I am not one of those who, as the old ditty runs, would rob a poor man of his beer, provided it is good and wholesome, and he knows when he has had enough. You might as well try to sweep away all your town-halls or co-operative stores as all your public-houses." "The factory hands and working people," writes Mr. Hughes, "were taken as it were by storm, and had installed him long before the end of the year in a place in their hearts which he never lost." After one of his meetings a sturdy dissenting operative, waiting for him at the bottom of the stairs, seized him by the hand, remarking: "Ah, Bishop, thoud'st mak' a foine Methody preacher." Said another to him, after a charity sermon: "Bishop, there's a pounn for thee." Bishop: "Thanks, my friend—for the charity?" Operative: "Nay, nay, for thyself."—*London Literary World, on Mr. Thomas Hughes' Life of Bishop Fraser.*

RECENT BOOKS.

LEWIS CARROLL, or rather the Rev. Charles Luttridge Dodgson, comes to the front in a new or comparatively new light. Readers of "Alice in Wonderland" will easily recognise the same inimitable turn of mind and train of thought in his recent production, the "Game of Logic." This pretty little book, published by Macmillan and Co., and supplied with a chart and counters, is exceedingly deep, and one-half doubts the author's ostensible intention to amuse, while only half relishing such propositions as "All Dragons are uncanny," and "All Scotsmen are canny." The humour is delicious, the logic irresistible, and the treatment so frank and unusual that it is quite possible that the young may be sufficiently attracted by the whole quaintness of the work to regard with unsuspecting eye and willing mind the study of premises, propositions, and syllogisms.

The familiar terms of Barbara, Celarent, Dario, etc., etc., are of course wanting, and it really seems about as difficult to grasp the essentials of Logic as expounded by a Carroll as it once may have been to gather all that was meant in the classic pages of Whately. The absurdity of some of the propositions is self-evident. That all jokes are meant to amuse, and that no Act of Parliament is a joke; that no Emperors are dentists; that all owls are unsatisfactory; no cooked meat is sold by butchers; and that no Frenchmen like plum-pudding,—these are some of the important truths that one is asked to submit, study, and prove, in these amusing and instructive pages. Whether the volume will supersede the present text-books remains to be seen.

"ORANGES AND ALLIGATORS," is the suggestive title of a recent publication of Ward and Downey. The authoress is Lady Duffus Hardy, eminent in letters and society. The suggestive title, however, bears but little fruit. There are no alligator stories, and the book is chiefly statistical, though compiled in the most idyllic of charming moods, and revealing a true appreciation of scenery and character. A dreamy Floridian atmosphere pervades many of the chapters, and one puts down the book, if not in love with, at least lazily curious about

The land of the possum, mosquito, and jigger,
Where the rattlesnake crawls in the burning hot sand,
And the red-bug he bites both the white man and nigger.

It should be of interest to us in Canada to note the large proportion of Englishmen in the population of Florida. The curled darling of London drawing-rooms, niggers dressed in cast-off velvet coats, typical Florida "crackers," boatmen, river captains, and handsome lazy Southerners, are each and all faithfully sketched by the gifted and travelled authoress.

"A NORTHERN LILY," by Joanna Harrison (Macmillan and Co.), is a very good novel. The five years of the uneventful life it describes belong to a pretty Scotch girl, Elsie Ross, who is made to suffer most unnecessarily for no fault of her own. Handed about from one stupid family to another, she loses her lover, who dies in action far away from Great Britain, and finally dies of scarlet fever herself. Sweet, thoughtful, uncomplaining, and spiritual, Elsie Ross is a genuine heroine, and one follows her career with interest and sympathy. Twenty years ago such a novel would have taken the world by storm; now, it appears with so many others just as good, that one can predict only a short life for it.

The value of the Putnams' "Story of the Nations" series seems to grow as the issue proceeds; to impress itself, at least, more and more strongly upon the public mind. In these days, when the juvenile appetite is so abundantly pandered to by unscrupulous, sensational, and well nigh criminal purveyors of printed matter which lies like a stigma upon the name of literature, we cannot be too grateful for the many efforts that are being made to supply books for boys and girls of faultless tone and real value. And when, as in the present case, such an effort has drawn to the cause some of the most eminent of America's scholarly names, we cannot help noting how strong it is, and how deep is the feeling which prompted it. The latest of these books are "The Story of Spain," by Stanley Lane-Poole, B.A., assisted by Arthur Gilman, M.A., and "The Story of the Saracens," by the latter author. Of these perhaps the Castilian tale is told the more vividly and with greater charm of manner generally. The references that are freely made in both books can hardly fail to induce their youthful reader to pursue the subject further, although, if he thoroughly absorbs the information these volumes afford, he will possess a historical knowledge of the countries of which they treat, which multitudes of intelligent people pass through this world without acquiring. (Toronto: Williamson and Company.)

MUSIC.

MESSRS. NORDHEIMER AND COMPANY show their appreciation of what is important in Canadian artistic growth by bringing out three very clever and pleasing arrangements of French-Canadian airs for the piano. The three—"DIALOGUE," "NOCTURNE," and "CHANT DU VOYAGEUR,"—form a *suite* called "TROIS ESQUISSES CANADIENNES," and as the first attempt made to embody some of these beautiful and precious *chansons* in lasting and tangible form, the thanks of the public are due to the composer, "Seranus." Taking her musical and literary work together, it is but right to call "Seranus" the exponent of the picturesque side of Canadian life, and the creator in fact of certain phases as yet only guessed at and imperfectly understood by our young public. These piano pieces have been already favourably received here at concerts, and deserve a brisk sale. The "Nocturne" is perhaps too much after Chopin, and the "Chant du Voyageur" resembles a certain class of teaching piece, but the beauty of the melodies and the skill of the arrangement are most unusual.

THREE new songs by the ever popular William Hutchison also appear. They are, of course, anything but original, but take with amateurs as well as with the public, and are certainly easy and singable. Perhaps the one entitled "LOVE IS AS FAR AS EVER" is the best.

"BE MINE AGAIN." Milton Wellings.

"DON'T QUITE FORGET." Edith Cooke.

"THE GARDEN OF SLEEP." Isidore de Lara.

Anglo-Canadian Music Publishers' Association:

Three pretty songs which will meet with many admirers. Within medium compass. "The Garden of Sleep" is the most ambitious, and is clever in the treatment of the rather sombre verses by Clement Scott.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

MISS ROSE TERRY COOKE is engaged upon a new novel, to be called "Steadfast," which Messrs. Ticknor and Company, of Boston, will shortly issue. The story will depict New England life in the early part of the eighteenth century. A volume of Mrs. Cooke's poems is also nearly ready for publication by Mr. W. S. Gottsberger, of New York.

IN his moments of leisure, Mr. W. H. H. Murray ("Adirondack" Murray), has devoted himself to the writing of a number of short stories, which he has now collected, and will publish in a brief time through his literary manager, Mr. Charles T. Walter, of St. Johnsbury, Vt. The stories are represented as being written in Mr. Murray's happiest vein, and are to be illustrated by four artists, and will have a first edition of 10,000 copies.

CHARLES DARWIN'S "Life and Letters" will receive publication in London during the early part of next month. It is not known whether there will be an American edition of the work, or merely the importation of copies of the English edition. It will be brought out in two volumes, with a late portrait of Darwin as a frontispiece, and be illustrated with a number of wood cuts. As already announced, there will be an autobiographical chapter to the work.

MISS FRANCES E. WILLARD is engaged in writing a story of American country life, which will embody her own history and experience as a Wisconsin girl in the earlier history of that State. The story will trace the history of Miss Willard's home and the unique development of her father's three children, of which Miss Willard was the eldest. Her book, "Woman and Temperance," is now being translated into the Japanese by a student of Vermont College.

MRS. ADMIRAL DAHLGREN'S new novel, "Divorce," is on the press, for publication in June. The novel is intended as a plea for the sacredness of the marriage tie, and also to exhibit some of the manifold dangers connected with our present system of divorce laws. The types in the story, says the author, may be found in our court records in every large city of the country. The author will also pay her compliments to our present laws and their discrepancies, also woven into a romance form. Mrs. Dahlgren has also written a story of plantation life at the South, called "The Two Cousins," which she intends first to issue as a serial.

THOMAS STEVENS, the famous bicyclist, has decided to publish the series of papers descriptive of his circuit of the globe, in book form, and the first volume will be issued simultaneously in America and England, Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons being the American publishers. The title given the work is "Around the World on a Bicycle," and the first volume will describe his journey from San Francisco to Teheran. The magazine papers have been considerably revised by Mr. Stevens, and a number of illustrations have been added. In addition to becoming one of the regular editorial staff of the *Outing* magazine, Mr. Stevens has also adopted the lecturing platform.

MR. HARRY HARLAND'S ("Sydney Luska") new novel, "The Yoke of Shorah," is receiving the author's final correction in proof sheets, and the story will be issued this month. Mr. Harland has great expectations for this story, as he believes it contains some of his best work. This author is not a believer in hereditary genius, or gifts, and expressed the opinion a few days since that he believed success in writing fiction was more the result of hard work and constant practice than due to an inheritance or gift. He bases his assertion upon his own career, stating that such success as he has achieved is purely the result of the hardest work, and a determination to become a writer.

MISS AMELIE RIVES, the young Southern writer, whom Mr. Aldrich first introduced to the world of letters, through the *Atlantic* for March, 1886, by her story of "A Brother to Dragon," is reported by a friend to be deluged with applications from publishers for work by her. She is now engaged upon a story that, it is said, will rival her first effort, and the new story has been secured by the editor of *Lippincott's Magazine*, in which the tale will shortly appear as one of that periodical's series of "complete novels in one number." The novel is entitled, "The Farrier Lass o' Piping Pepworth," and, though in a different vein from "A Brother to Dragon," it is pronounced to be superior in interest and literary value.

THERE remained one book to be written about Russia. This want will be supplied next month, through Messrs. D. Appleton and Company, by Mr. Bouton's "Round About to Moscow; an Epicurean Journey." While making an extended pleasure trip last year, the author stayed long enough in Russia to gather original matter for refuting a great many serious errors. This volume, which delivers the first unbiassed American judgment of Russia, will be a welcome addition to the general knowledge of that country. The facilities and enjoyments of a summer trip to Moscow are so great, as explained by Mr. Bouton, that this season will probably witness a much increased movement of Americans in that direction.

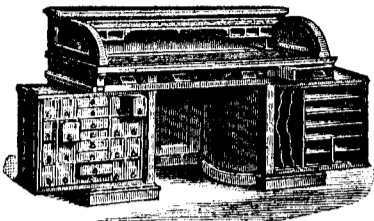
MRS. ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON, wife of the novelist, has written her first individual story, which will be published in the June number of *Scribner's Magazine*. It will be remembered that Mrs. Stevenson collaborated with her husband in writing "The Dynamiters," but up to this time she has never appeared before the public as a writer under her own signature. The story, which is a short one, is entitled "Miss Pringle's Neighbours." Mrs. Stevenson is a San Francisco lady, and has hundreds of friends in America, who will read her work with considerable curiosity and interest. The June *Scribner's* will be especially rich in fiction, Miss Sarah Orne Jewett, and Miss Nora Perry, each contributing short stories, aside from that by Mrs. Stevenson, and the continuation of Mr. Harold Frederic's novel, "Seth's Brother's Wife."

MARK TWAIN'S comments in the *Century* on that unique little book, "English as She is Taught," has done much toward increasing its reputation and sales, and already several thousand copies of the book have been sold. Mr. Clemens' interest seems to have extended, likewise, to the author of the book, Miss Caroline B. Le Row, the humorist going so far as to send Miss Le Row the cheque which he received for his *Century* article. This was done in compliment to the author, and as the cheque was for a generous amount, Miss Le Row's literary venture is already eminently successful, from a financial standpoint, aside from what she may expect on her royalty account from the publishers. The little book has attracted considerable attention, and a friend says that Miss Le Row is deluged with letters from all quarters, containing additional material, which she will use in a supplement which she is preparing.

THE publishers of the *Century* do not propose to continue the publication of the *Southern Bivouac*, their recent purchase, as has been reported. The chief aim of the purchase was the securing of some six or seven important war articles dealing with the Confederate side, which the *Century* people were desirous of obtaining. These will be incorporated in their book of war articles shortly to be published. The *Bivouac* was not a paying institution at the time of the sale, its circulation never having exceeded 12,000 copies. The failure of the managers to make their periodical a success discouraged them, and they made overtures to the *Century* for a sale. The price asked, however, was too large, and the *Century* refused to entertain it, whereupon they were solicited to name their own figure. This was so small that the *Bivouac* people rebelled. Eventually, however, a sum was accepted only a trifle in excess of the original *Century* offer. The amount finally accepted was a very small one. Were it not for the war articles specially desired by the *Century* the purchase would never have been effected.

THE Sultan of Turkey has written to ex-Minister Cox, expressing his pleasure and gratification at the latter's desire to dedicate his forthcoming book, "The Diversions of a Diplomat," to him. The book, it is expected, will be published during the latter part of May or early in June. The title of the work somewhat indicates its subject matter. The *locus in quo* of Mr. Cox's book is in the Island of Prinkipos, one of the nine Prince's Islands in the Sea of Marmora, about fifteen miles below Constantinople. On this island Mr. Cox resided during last summer at a villa midway up on the mountain and above the town of Prinkipos. The mountain is covered with pine trees, whose resinous quality gave health, and whose pleasant breezes from the blue sea gave delight. The "Diversions" consisted in journeys to each of the islands, which have a history, and to the Bosphorus and the adjacent places, where associations, classic, historic, ecclesiastical, and otherwise, are plentiful. There will naturally be much that is personal in the book; but all with due reserve in connection with business as minister at the court of the Sultan. Portraits will be given of the various persons, from the Sultan down, who make Constantinople, at this time especially, one of the most interesting points in Europe. The book, when completed, will consist of over 500 pages, and is to contain more than 100 illustrations. No publisher has as yet been selected, although Mr. Cox is in receipt of numerous applications for the publication of the work. It is not unlikely that the volume will be published by subscription.

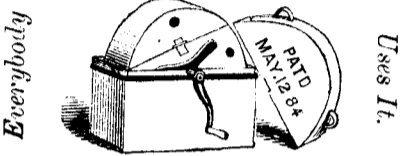
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The transfer books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st of May, both days inclusive.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Shareholders for the election of Directors will be held at the banking house in Toronto, the 21st of June next. Chair to be taken at 12 o'clock noon.

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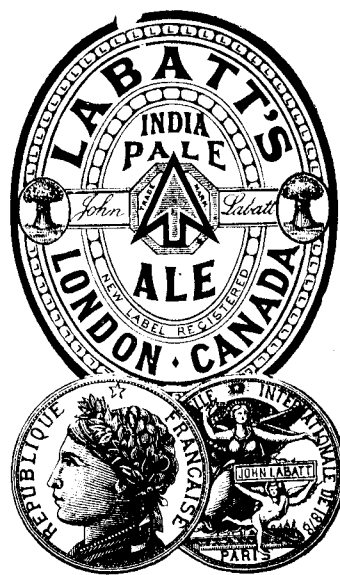
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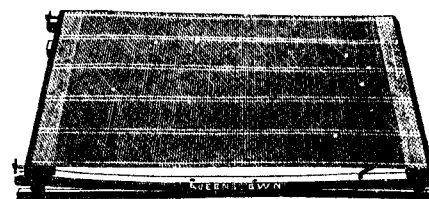
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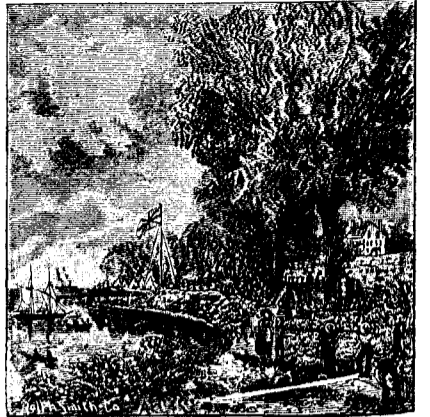
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