

# THE WEEK:

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## The Week,

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY AND LITERATURE.

Edited by W. PHILIP ROBINSON.

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C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE ovation given by the Tories to their leader has revived among other subjects of controversy the old question as to the authorship of Confederation. Grit organs having once more claimed the credit of the measure for Mr. George Brown, the Hon. Alexander Morris, who himself played no unimportant part in the transaction, has published his historical reminiscences. They prove beyond a shadow of doubt that the author of Confederation was not Mr. George Brown, who looked upon it as a thing "which had not been considered by the people," and regarded it as "uncertain and remote"—his remedy for the evils of the situation being simply "representation by population without regard to any dividing line between Upper and Lower Canada." But the crown of fame thus plucked from the head of Mr. Brown can hardly be placed on that of his rival. The truth is indicated by the words of the individual, whoever he may have been, who appealed to somebody else "by all that was solemn, sacred and patriotic, to get these men out of the fix." The excesses of selfish faction and intrigue had brought the whole crew of politicians into a dilemma from which they could only escape by Confederation. To them all attaches the discredit of having negotiated the Constitution with Downing Street and omitted to lay it before the Canadian people, though perhaps such a dereliction of the principles of popular government was most to be blamed in Liberals. But, instead of disputing the doubtful honour of originating the measure, our politicians would be better occupied in showing what good it has done the country. It has piled up a great debt and produced an enormous development of faction, demagogism, and corruption. So much is clear. But what Confederation has done, politically, commercially, in the way of adding to our military strength, or in any other way, nobody has yet undertaken distinctly to explain.

THE dining campaign, which began with the Mowat jubilation and was followed by a responsive fire of corks from the other side of the Atlantic, once more claims Toronto for its centre. The admirers of Sir John Macdonald could not allow their idol to be overshadowed by the Mowat demonstration. They can safely claim for their hero seniority and length of service, and on these grounds they have made a stand. Forty years of parliamentary life fall to few; and if visions of a golden wedding could not be indulged, the triumphant celebration of the four decades might be enjoyed. When a party chief in possession of power is brought under fire, what so effective as to reply by a public dinner? A good dinner, too,

puts the average voter in excellent humour, rubs off angularities and makes the participants generally amiable. The general public can imagine that it has dined by proxy. The content which a good dinner brings is just the frame of mind which the party chief wants to get people into. Combat by dining does not so well suit the temper of the Opposition, to whom a disconsolate humour is more consonant. The strategy of Mr. Mowat's political guardians is copied for the benefit of Sir John, with variations and improvements. The more dinners a public man gets, the weightier is the evidence in favour of the superiority of his public policy. By the force of repeated dinners Sir John has confuted his antagonists, set up and knocked down "auxiliary kingdoms" and enjoyed numberless triumphs in the region of imagination. Each dinner has been a conquest, and the conqueror enjoys the fruits of the campaign at the head of the new kingdoms which he created. But there will come a time when our hero must touch earth; the most enchanting of *chateaux en Espagne* is not man's abiding place in this world of realities. The illusion, for in sober truth it is an illusion, can only be enjoyed for a while. When the dining campaign is over, and real work begins—when auxiliary kingdoms must take a definite shape or disappear—we shall once more find ourselves in a real world. And then it will be possible to "take stock" of all that has been lost and gained in the dining campaign.

IN a dull world it is not always best to enquire too closely into the causes of the convivialities which break the monotony of life and reduce the sum of social friction. In the spirit of this amicable philosophy the guests at the silver wedding of Archbishop Lynch seem to have acted. To be a Bishop for twenty-five years may be little more than proof of stamina of constitution. But the Archbishop is a remarkable man, and the most remarkable thing about him is the indubitable proof which his career affords of what slender abilities united to a fair share of discretion may sometimes insure a man's entrance into the episcopate of Rome. But Archbishop Lynch has been specially fortunate in his success. Few men on an equal capital of qualification have been so successful. His predecessor was a highly cultivated French gentleman on whom the Irish priests of the diocese, by way of showing their obedience, made relentless war. The conspirators, who gave themselves the designation of "An Association of Irish Gentlemen," assailed their Bishop in the secular press and did their best as pamphleteers to make him odious to his charge. The conspiracy, in which it is proper to say Mr. Lynch had no part, was successful. An Irish successor to Bishop Charbonnel, who in sadness and resignation went back to France, was indispensable; and in Bishop Lynch a thoroughly representative man was found. As an endowment he brought precisely the stock of national sentiment and prejudice that was wanted. By the rebellious priests he was hailed with joy. He avoided collision with excitable elements among the laity by allowing any outburst of Fenianism in his presence at a public meeting to pass unrebuked. Indeed, the real sentiments of the Archbishop appear to be identical with those of the Irish peasantry. Freemasonry he has, as in duty bound, anathematized, but against Fenianism he has uttered not a word. With his consent a trio of office-seekers put up to competition the influence of the Church and invited tenders from opposing political leaders. Mr. Sandfield Macdonald, then Premier of Ontario, in a spirit of independence to which posterity will do justice, resolutely declined to bid. Mr. Brown, taking a different part, eagerly closed with an offer that promised so many party advantages. The Archbishop has at different times thrown the weight of his influence into different party scales. Even now, when he holds by Mr. Mowat, he proclaims his love for Sir John Macdonald. If Sir John had consented to pass a law confirming certain irregular marriages the Archbishop would have stood by him till Sir John would have been obliged to refuse him some new favour. With the multiplication of religious orders under this prelate there has been a great increase in the real property held by the Church throughout the diocese, and particularly in Toronto. The increase of exemptions which results from these transfers adds to the load of taxes borne by all classes of citizens by whom exemptions are not enjoyed. This immunity it is a great object of the Archbishop to guard; and as a

condition of being allowed to tax all other denominations for the benefit of his Church he is quite willing to barter his political influence. He has the dexterity to keep within the letter of the law, and the priests acting under his orders manage to do their political work in such a way as to avoid conviction for exercising undue influence.

THE decrees of the Council of Baltimore will not acquire binding force until they have been examined by Roman Congregations composed of cardinals and theologians and confirmed by the Pope. Two years not unfrequently pass between the holding of a Council and the promulgation of its decrees. The decrees are liable to be amended by the authorities at Rome before they are allowed to go into force. The enforcement in the United States of the canon law of Rome, as laid down by the Council of Trent, was undoubtedly one of the objects for which the Council of Baltimore was called. By some of the most Catholic nations the decrees of the Council of Trent have never been accepted in their entirety. France accepted the dogma, but rejected the discipline. The question in the United States is one of discipline; and in this particular the power of Rome may soon become greater in the United States than it has ever been in France. That this advance movement on the part of Rome would possess a deep significance the Guibord case makes clear. But for the intervention of the civil law the censorship would in that case have been enforced with all the terrors which Rome, unchecked, holds in her hand. In a free Republic, which already counts a larger number of Roman Catholics than there is in England and Ireland, the discipline of the Council of Trent would not be long in making itself felt. The seven millions of nominal Catholics in the United States to-day is one-eighth of the population; at the beginning of the century, the proportion was less than one in two hundred. An increase by conversion there has not been; the proportion of Roman Catholics among the immigrants has been greater. The difficulty of retaining the new comers within the fold has been great; the hope of Rome is that the stricter discipline of the canon law will prevent desertion, and that the proportion of Catholics to the population, which was not at one time more than one in two hundred and fifty, and which to-day is one in eight, may be largely increased in the future. If the mere increase of numbers be regarded and the nominal be treated as real, Rome may well look upon the United States as the most promising field in which she has to work. But it is very improbable that it will prove to be as fruitful as a roseate view of the situation may seem to promise.

ENGLISH creditors complain that they are made to suffer exceptionally by the absence of a bankrupt law in Canada. They seized the occasion when the Canadian Premier was in England to call his attention to the desirability of re-enacting a bankrupt law which Parliament, without Government initiation, took upon itself to repeal. The abuses which had been committed under the law were made the reason for its repeal. No bankrupt law ever did or ever will give satisfaction, because creditors are not satisfied when the debtor's obligation is discharged by a payment of less than the full amount owing. Still when they get all the assets of the debtor divided among them there is no more to be got. The wisdom of desiring to withhold a discharge, when no fraud has been committed, may well be doubted. The demand for an insolvent law without a discharge clause is one which the Federal Government doubts the power of the Ottawa Legislature to pass. A bankrupt law containing a discharge clause would be free from such doubt. Some of the Boards of Trade have been fighting against a discharge clause. English creditors would be satisfied with a Canadian bankrupt law modelled on that recently passed in England; and some such a measure it may be necessary, by way of compromise, to accept. At present Canadian creditors too often get undue preference. If the English creditor were in as good a position as they are to look after his rights, it would be his own fault if others got preference in advance of him; but he suffers from his absence from the country and from the conflicting insolvency laws which prevail in the different Provinces, and of which he can have only the most imperfect knowledge. As he is in the position of a man who cannot protect himself, Parliament ought to guard his interests. The present state of the law is a discredit to our Legislature and a reflection on the honour of the country.

THE law which gives settlers a right of pre-emption to one hundred and sixty acres of public land in the United States has at length been perverted to the purposes of speculation and monopoly. No less than five hundred thousand acres have been got possession of by speculators by means of fraudulent entries in which fictitious names have not unfrequently been used. The Land Commissioner and the Secretary of the

Interior concur in the recommendation that the pre-emption law, under which these frauds have been perpetrated, should be repealed. In different parts of Canada a similar law is in force, and here, too, the necessity of guarding against its abuse has been made apparent. In the North-West the vehement demands made in the name of squatter sovereignty not unfrequently covered intended evasion of the law. Pre-emption for the settler is too valuable a privilege to be lightly parted with; and it would be a real misfortune if no other remedy against fraud could be found than the repeal of the pre-emption law.

THE charge that some members of the detective branch of the Toronto police force were the confederates of burglars has not been proved. Whether the investigation before the Police Commissioners was thorough there is some doubt. Garner's evidence oozed out, his second examination being a contradiction of his first, and when he had done, his confession had evaporated. He seems to have played a sharp trick in pretending to act as a witness for the Crown, and it is difficult to see in the act the evidence of good faith which should entitle him to be let off without a trial. If he invented the story which he first told, he was entitled to no consideration, and if it were true, the charge against the detectives ought not to have collapsed. The impression on the public mind remains, and it is strong, that the detective department of the Toronto police is not what it ought to be. Its inefficiency, to say the least, is notorious, persistent and hopeless. As an agency for unravelling the intricacies of crime it is practically useless. Incapacity, in the absence of proof of corruption, is a sufficient ground for making a change, and the time for remedial action has come. A detective force, from the nature of its occupation, can never be entirely above suspicion. It is obliged to consort with criminals of every degree, and it is often under temptation to share the plunder of the men whom it is set to watch. Instances are not wanting of detectives, in other cities, becoming the allies of criminals. Some years ago Toronto narrowly escaped the danger of getting for chief of police a man who had arranged with burglars to rob some of the banks. A detector of detectives has occasionally been employed with advantage. Armstrong did a great stroke of business of this kind. His theory was that it is always necessary to look for weak spots in the police force, especially in the detective branch; and he made good his theory by discovering a connection between some members of the police force and criminals, in more than one American city. The ineptitude of the detective force of Toronto has risen to the height of a public danger, and some cure for the evil will have to be found.

#### "BYSTANDER" ON CURRENT EVENTS AND OPINIONS.

AMONG the acts of the Confederates there was one which extorted applause even from Federals. It was the amendment of the Constitution extending the President's term to six years and putting an end to re-election. This reform is now proposed, in the shape of a motion for a Constitutional Amendment, to the Legislature at Washington. The impotence of that body, with its two Houses swayed by different parties and its sinister swarm of intriguing interests, is at present such that even the most obvious improvement, and that respecting which there is the greatest unanimity, can hardly be expected to pass. But there can be no doubt that the proposal will be heartily welcomed by the reflecting part of the nation, and especially by the representatives of Commerce. Such a convulsion, such an unsettlement of everything, such an orgy of passion and corruption as we have just been witnessing under the guise of a Presidential Election, repeated every four years, and extending its malign influence over at least the two years preceding, is enough to tear any commonwealth to pieces in the end. A term of six years will give the community a breathing time of four. The abolition of re-election will secure, as nothing else can, the independence of the Executive, and the confidence of the nation in the impartiality of its chief. There probably reform will end. It must be taken as an axiom of politics that concessions made to democracy can hardly ever be recalled. An attempt to take the election of the President out of the hands of the people, and thereby put an end altogether to these moral civil wars with all their evils and all their dangers, would most likely be hopeless. Yet nothing could be further from the minds of the framers of the Constitution than the system of popular election. They wavered between election by the National Legislature, election by the State Governments, and the plan which at last they unhappily adopted, without the slightest anticipation of its real effect, from which, had they been able to foresee it, they would most certainly have recoiled.

WE are now told that not only the Independent Republicans, but Conkling's personal followers, the extreme Stalwarts, bolted to Cleveland,

and that the result of the election was as much due to Stalwart as to Independent votes. If this is true party must indeed be breaking up in the United States, and the problem of finding a basis for elective government without it must be on the eve of presenting itself in a practical form. Unless some extraordinary error, such as a recognition of Confederate claims, is committed by the new possessors of power, it seems hardly possible that the divisions among the Republicans should be healed. The Independents are very indignant at the narrowness of their quondam associates in shutting the door against their return. Considering that they have been pouring hot shot into the party for six months, that they have ruined its chosen leader, hurled it from the power which it had held for twenty-four years, stripped it of an enormous mass of patronage, and deprived many thousands of its most active members of their bread, their indignation seems to betray a singular simplicity of mind. They set out with the assumption that the characters and motives of Mr. Blaine and his friends were low; and now they expect of the same men a chivalrous forgetfulness of that which, in the eyes of place-hunting politicians, must be the most inexpiable of all injuries. The Prohibition Vote has greatly increased since the last election, though it is still but a fraction of the national vote. The Republicans, at whose expense the gain was chiefly made, are naturally incensed with the uncompromising devotees of Temperance, and one or two Prohibitionist ministers seem to have had a narrow escape of being mobbed. It must be allowed that any citizen deserves reprobation who so far gives way to fanaticism as to vote for the champion of a crotchet, disregarding the general qualifications of candidates and the broad interests of the country. People who do this always defend themselves on the ground that the crotchet is a matter of principle, on which conscience forbids them to give way; as though the same character did not equally attach to every matter affecting the welfare of the nation. The Greenback, or People's Party, headed by a social revolutionist, whose enormous wealth is generally believed to have been amassed at the people's expense, seems to have rather declined in strength; whence it may be inferred that the desire of public plunder, whether in the guise of swindling dealings with the currency, or in any other guise, has not gained ground. The Female Candidate received no support, and she must have had bitter enemies among her own sex, since no man would have thought of charging her with banging her hair in her second widowhood. Her position as agent for two thousand of the State leeches, styled pensioners, was the point in her character on which the male traducer would have been apt to fix.

It seems that we have been partly misinformed as to the commutation of Mrs. Boutet's sentence, and that at all events the responsibility for a relaxation of the law does not rest upon the Department of Justice at Ottawa. The Attorney-General of Quebec it was who interposed to stay the execution, having been induced to interfere by a representation that a juror had been drunk on the night of the trial. The man was in his place next morning, and there appears to have been no reason to doubt that he was capable of doing his duty. If he was not capable of doing his duty the conviction was bad altogether, and Mrs. Boutet ought no more to have been imprisoned on his verdict than to have been hanged. The sentimental opponents of capital punishment, if they cannot avail themselves of the plea of insanity, which in this case would have been desperate, always vamp up some story that may throw doubt upon the verdict; they never avow their real motive. What their real motive is, appears from the fact that they never interfere in any case, however pitiable, where the penalty is not capital. But it was thought that the woman having before her reprieve undergone the moral pains of death, it would be cruel to inflict them a second time; and therefore her sentence was commuted to imprisonment. Such is the account of the matter now received from a trustworthy source. That a miscarriage of justice has taken place cannot be denied. The murder was most deliberate and most treacherous; it was perpetrated under the guise of hospitality, nor was there any extenuating circumstance. It is an awful thing to put a man or woman to death; and full allowance ought to be made for an intense and even a nervous sense of responsibility on the part of those in whom the dread power is vested. But the question of capital punishment has been debated and decided. Communities which had abolished the penalty, find themselves constrained to restore it. Proof, whether drawn from reason or experience, of the possibility of dispensing with it will always be welcome to humanity; but at present we are glad to be assured that the Minister of Justice is not disposed to allow sickly or rebellious sentimentality to interfere with the execution of the law.

The credit has been claimed for the Church of England of unique liberality in finding room within her pale for more than one school of

religious thought. Perhaps the scoffer might reply that hitherto the different schools have been included rather as gladiators within the same arena than as brethren in the same home. Puseyites have haled Gorhamites to the Judge, Gorhamites have haled Puseyites, Gorhamites and Puseyites combined have haled Latitudinarians. There has also been a large secession to Rome, and a certain amount of secession in other directions. But Church Congresses have now softened antagonism, and the deepening shadow of a great danger gathering from without has somewhat hushed the fray within. Division into parties or schools, however, far from being the happy or unhappy distinction of any church in particular is the common characteristic of them all. The only one, at least, which can pretend to be undivided is the Roman Catholic, which is enabled by its sacerdotal and sacramental constitution to maintain an iron unity of doctrine; the practical consequence of which is that instead of having some internal troubles, and occasionally losing an extreme sceptic, it loses its people to Atheism by masses and by nations. With a more elastic creed and a less unbending discipline Frenchmen might possibly be still Christians. Of the Protestant churches the one at present most disturbed by the progress of religious thought appears to be the Presbyterian, the constitution of which, though precisely the inverse of that of the Church of Rome, has in its relation to liberty of thought been attended with a certain measure of the same effects. Instead of being priest-ridden, Presbyterian Scotland has been laity-ridden. Under an ecclesiastical democracy, doctrine has been in the keeping of the people who, though as a nation to a wonderful extent educated, were not learned, or capable of keeping pace with theological inquiry, while they clung, with a patriotic as well as a religious tenacity, to the articles of the Calvinistic faith for which their fathers had fought and bled. Hence arose an orthodoxy almost as uncompromising as that of Rome. The clergy themselves have, till comparatively recent times, been rather preachers than theologians. Now however learning makes progress; the spirit of inquiry is abroad; Scottish divines play their part with the theologians of other churches in the Second Reformation, and the enlightened Liberalism of Professor Robertson Smith comes into collision with the stalwart orthodoxy of the Covenant. It is in the Free Church, as might have been expected, that orthodoxy with enthusiasm has its chosen seat; in the Established Church, with less of enthusiasm and more of learning, there is also more of toleration: United Presbyterianism, an older secession somewhat mellowed by time, holds a middle place between the two. On æsthetic questions, such as church music, and with regard to the use of liturgies, the Established Church has greatly receded from the bare simplicity of austerer days. Respect is due, on political as well as on religious grounds, to the representatives of the Convention; but it is clear that the shadow will not go back on the dial; that inquiry cannot be stayed; that Liberalism can be weeded out only by weeding out intellect and learning; that mere dogma and emotion without a rational basis cannot retain a permanent hold upon the mind of an educated people, and that the choice must ultimately lie between comprehension and dissolution.

THE Imperial Federationists and the glorifiers of colonial dependencies have at least produced one effect by their eloquence: they have kindled the jealousy of other nations, and inspired them with a passion for rivalling England in the race of Colonial Empire. Bismarck for some time was wise enough to renounce distant aggrandizement and adhere to the policy of concentrated force. Colonial dependencies, he used to say, would be to Germany what a fur cloak was to a Polish magnate who had no shirt. But now he appears to be suddenly seized with the desire of occupying territory in Africa. He wants we are told to find an outlet for the surplus population which gathers on the not very fertile soil of Germany, and by its penury breeds Socialism. He has already an outlet in the United States, and if he could only see it, the German vote there, though not under his flag, is really a stronger card in his hand than any nursling colony could be. At the time of the war with France the American Germans, even the refugees of 1848, displayed the most passionate sympathy with the Father Land, and their influence in American Councils will always be exerted in its favour. When a maritime war comes, Bismarck will see what it is to have to detach a large force for the defence of dependencies in Africa. However, he seems bent on his object, and rather unpleasant relations between him and England are the consequence. The German press, too, has been growing very rude to England. But the danger in this quarter, if there is any danger at all, is trifling compared with that which arises from the buccaneering ambition of France, who has also, in spite of her costly experience in Algeria, been attacked with the fever of colonial aggrandizement, and at the same time with a violent access of her hereditary Anglo-phobia. To the German who has soundly chastised her, France looks up

with profound respect, and though she talks about taking her revenge on him, she knows better than to attempt it; but she longs to vent her emotions on England for looking on while she was beaten. To England, in spite of all the cordiality which has been paraded of late years, and all the fine language about the Great Western Alliance, she has always been at heart an enemy, and never a sincere or faithful ally. Her object in the quarrel which she has deliberately picked with China, and in her present piratical operations, is not merely or chiefly rapine. She aims at injuring British trade, and ultimately at establishing herself in a position from which she can threaten British supremacy in the East. This French documents prove. There can be little doubt that France means conquest; and the Chinese, though they have bought improved weapons and done something in the way of drill, are essentially an unmilitary nation, and incapable of holding their own against French armies. The people are careless of life without being brave: the profession of arms cannot be said to exist, consequently there are no good officers; and though the numbers are enormous, a stolid Conservatism has repelled railways, and the masses are incapable of concentration. China therefore can hardly save herself or the British interests which are bound up with hers. The French press, through all its organs, is vomiting venom against England, and even light literature shows the general exasperation. Diplomacy generally finds a way out of entanglements, especially when the diplomatist is so cool and dexterous as Lord Granville. But of all the wars of which rumours fill the air one between France and England is the least improbable, and Sir John Macdonald had better consider betimes and advise with his supporters in the French Province how his military pledges are to be fulfilled.

To prove the necessity of renewing the Crimes Act for Ireland the *Times* gives three or four columns of extracts from Disunionist editorials and speeches. They are like the howlings of hyenas, and no more than the howlings of hyenas matter for logical refutation or serious comment. Yet they are highly instructive in their way. Burke said that in a public quarrel he feared weak reasonings more than strong, because the weakness of the reasoning showed the strength of the passion. In this case the reasoning is not only weak but null; the passion, therefore, must be very strong. Perhaps "violent" is the word, rather than "strong," for it is impossible to associate strength with the ravings of delirium, and irritability was truly defined by Abernethy as debility in a state of excitement. British statesmen must now see what they have before them and what are the fruits of their policy of conciliation. To satisfy the demands of Irish agrarianism they have broken through all the ordinary principles of legislation, not to say the rules of justice; they have taxed loyalty to pay the private debts of rebellion; they have allowed the majesty of Parliament to be trampled on and its time wasted by a knot of obstructives whose proclaimed object was to degrade and wreck it; they have put up with every sort of insult and outrage; they have discouraged the friends of the Union in the Protestant North, while they have protected meetings avowedly held for the promotion of rebellion; and the result is a spirit of sedition more venomous than it was at the beginning of the process. Not a word is said in any way of the Nationalist effusions, about reform of local government or legislative redress of grievances of any kind. Of the question about Cess and county management paraded by Mr. Morley in his apology for the Irish Revolution nothing is heard. The aim, and the sole aim, of all the writers and speakers is to inflame hatred and stir up rebellion. The philanthropic framers of Land Acts and the champions of conciliation far from being exempted from hostility seem to be special marks of it. Mr. Gladstone is vilified as a Nero, while policemen are guarding his throat against the knife of Irish gratitude; censure is voted even on Mr. Chamberlain who has shown himself as ready to barter the Union for the Irish vote as a member of Government could with decency be. Nothing can possibly be milder than Lord Spencer's rule, or more genial than his bearing; and his reward is a torrent of the foulest calumnies which imaginations steeped in slander can produce. The changing of the names of streets in Dublin is another plain indication of the state of Irish feeling and of the real nature of the situation; it denotes not a wish for reform, but a desire to give vent to venomous hatred, inflamed and rendered more insolent, as in such natures it usually is, by benefits and expressions of sympathy. A host of malignant demagogues and literary incendiaries has been labouring not in vain; and nothing but the speeches and writings of these men ever reaches the Irish ear. It is with a moral rebellion, ready upon the first opportunity to break into actual insurrection, that Parliament has now to deal. Patriotic unanimity and firmness, in the first instance, with moderate measures of repression, extending to the rebel Press, would have put sedition down; and the economic evils which are the real source of Irish suffering might have

received legislative treatment without being complicated by political disturbance. As it is, unless the nation means to allow itself to be dismembered, there will be a trial of strength at last.

A DELIVERANCE of Sir Andrew Clarke on Alcohol reproduced by the *Mail* seems about as sensible and as trustworthy as anything that has been said upon that subject. Sir Andrew tells us that he has made the question his special study. He pronounces on the one hand that alcohol is not in ordinary cases necessary to health, nor is it nutritious or helpful to nutrition. On the other hand he tells us that taken in small quantities at dinner or supper it cannot be proved to do a man any harm, physical, mental, moral or spiritual. "The world," he adds, "is not so full of gladness that we should refuse small quantities to those who get gladness from it, though the less alcohol people take the better." A cup of tea is not nutritious or helpful to nutrition, nor is a pipe of tobacco; but both of them soothe, and to vexed humanity soothing is sometimes almost as necessary as nutrition. A glass of wine may not be a substitute for bread or meat; but, as the Scripture says, it makes glad the heart of man. Taken in company, it gives a filip to his social feelings and disposes him to good fellowship. Prohibitionists aim, in effect, at the extinction of conviviality. Perhaps conviviality may be destined some day to disappear before the progress of intellectual refinement. Perhaps every stimulant, and not only every stimulant but cookery that tempts appetite and makes eating pleasant, especially at a cheerful board, may in course of time be discarded as grossness and become a memory of the uncivilized past. Man may grow so spiritual as to limit himself, like an eremite, to the amount absolutely necessary of the plainest food. Nay, the vision of the Comtist may be realized, and it may become the custom to hide as shameful the cravings of the animal nature and to eat only in secret. At present man, in the words of a plain-spoken moralist, requires some sensual pleasure, and if he is shut out from it by one door he will open for himself another. He is not taking it in its worst form when at his Christmas board he fills a temperate glass to the health of all friends, present or absent. Total abstinence, even at the Christmas board, may be the counsel of sanitary perfection; Sir Andrew Clarke seems to intimate as much; but we have no right, nor shall we find it practicable, to force our counsels of perfection on our neighbours.

A STRANGE and hideous trapeze accident occurred the other day at Valentia in Spain. A female performer was ministering to the taste of a civilized and religious assembly by hanging from the roof and holding between her teeth the rope of a male performer's trapeze, when she lost nerve and let the trapeze with the man upon it fall, thereby gratifying the crowd with the very spectacle which in truth they had all come to see. Humane journalists, commenting on the incident, call as usual for the suppression of such exhibitions. The appeal has been uttered and echoed a thousand times, but without effect. Barbarism still lurks beneath the varnished surface of civilization, and there is still in us an element of baseness and cowardice which makes us take pleasure in the sight of another man's peril. Trapeze, the tight rope, and the blowing of a woman out of a cannon, with the fascinating picture of which our walls were so long covered, are a decided improvement on gladiatorial shows, perhaps even on bull-baiting and bear-baiting, though a human life is worth more than that of a bull or a bear; but they belong to the same class of pleasures. When Blondin performed on the high rope, with risk to his life, there were forty thousand spectators; when he performed at the same place on the low rope, without risk to his life, though his feats were otherwise more marvellous, there were not four thousand. It is clear, then, what is the source of the enjoyment. The spectators, looking at the victim of their vile taste, see a face, the paint on which does not allow the pallor to appear, and a bearing full of forced confidence and cheerfulness. But, if they think at all about the matter, they must know what is the effect of mortal peril on flesh and blood. Every night, even when the nerve of the acrobat has been shaken, as in the course of nature it must sometimes be, by illness or want of sleep, the same dreadful task must be performed with the same affectation of confidence. When childhood is abused for the purposes of the circus, the guilt of the spectators is deepened. There is no use in invoking the law and its authorities. This may be very well under a paternal despotism; but in a free country every citizen is law and authority. Each of us is responsible; with each of us it lies to discountenance trapeze and all such murderous sportings with human life and limb.

A BYSTANDER.

It is said that "Mark Twain" lies abed most of the day when on his lecture tours and is not travelling. He receives no cards and refuses to see any one.

### THE CANADIAN CANALS.

THE failure of our canal system to attract to the St. Lawrence a large share of the traffic of the West is not, in the opinion of Mr. Robert Douglas of the Department of Railways and Canals, the result of any economic disadvantages of the route. "Nature," says Mr. Douglas, has made the River St. Lawrence the natural outlet of nearly all the wheat-producing territory of North America, and a large part of the corn area. An artificial barrier has been erected in the two political and commercial systems prevailing over the country, contiguous and tributary, which obstructs the avenues of nature and diverts into artificial channels a large portion of the trade and commerce of the northern half of this continent. This is a confession that commercial isolation neutralizes the geographical advantages which nature has bestowed upon this country. The European market is the only one open to the grain dealer of Montreal, while his New York rival has a choice between the home and the foreign markets, limited, it is true, by the domestic demand. The choice of routes for the transportation of grain, Mr. Douglas contends, has not been determined by comparative cheapness, but by political and commercial conditions. The reduction of tolls on the Erie Canal never increased the traffic, and it looks as if abolition would have the same tale to tell. The removal of tolls from the St. Lawrence Canals failed to divert tonnage from the Erie Canal, and Mr. Douglas gives strong reasons for the opinion that the abolition of tolls would not enable Canada to control the traffic.

The Canadian Canals were increased in size to their present dimensions in advance of the requirements of the population, and with the view of obtaining traffic from the Western States. If the object was to make the canals self-sustaining, a failure must be confessed; if the State intended to offer a premium in this form to the shipping interest, the legitimacy of the expenditure is open to question, and the expedient stands condemned by the want of success. But while Canada was enlarging her canals, the vessels used for carrying grain on the upper lakes were increasing in size still faster. This increase was the result of economic considerations, large vessels being able to carry at less cost than the small vessels formerly used. When the first enlargement of the Welland Canal was made, there were on the upper lakes five hundred and fifty-seven vessels drawing more water than the canal contained. A second enlargement, before it was completed, enabled some of the smaller vessels previously excluded to pass through the canal; but the size of the vessels still went on increasing, and now it is alleged that all vessels which can be profitably used are excluded. When the second enlargement, which secured twelve feet of water in the canal, was made, there were eighty vessels on the upper lakes too large to pass through, and the number had last year increased to two hundred and twenty-five.

Under these circumstances, the increase of the capacity of the Welland Canal had no appreciable effect in lowering the cost of transport. The waste of capital in enlargement was serious, though the whole cost is not represented by waste. If the canals were private property, the proprietors would gauge their value by the returns, and they would, before they incurred the expense of enlargement, ascertain as far as possible whether the increase in the net earnings was likely to cover the interest on the cost. Our canal policy has been a will-'o-the-wisp. We have been expending large sums of money in the hope of securing the profits of a traffic which we have failed to get. The little Erie Canal is carrying three times as much tonnage as enters the Welland, and the disproportion is increasing. And railways to different points on the Atlantic are beating the Erie Canal: while fifty millions of bushels of grain are carried by the canals, seventy-eight millions go by other routes to Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore. This larger quantity represents the ratio in which the railways are taking the traffic from the canals. Mr. Douglas does not believe that the abolition of tolls, which he looks upon as "a subsidy from the general public" to the forwarders, would turn the scale. If freedom from tolls has not, in the past, diverted traffic from the Erie Canal to the St. Lawrence route, what reasons are there to expect that exemption should be more potent in the future? When the St. Lawrence canals were free from tolls they suffered a diminution of traffic, while the Erie obtained an increase.

Mr. Douglas contends that the traffic for which our canals compete is not controlled by the mere cost of transportation; but that political and commercial influences turn the scale. The route of the Canadian Canals has been cheaper than that of the Erie; but the single item of cheapness has not been sufficient to overcome the drawbacks from which American routes were free. At American ports immense capitals are available for transactions in grain, and by their magnetic power it is drawn there. Return cargoes of coal are sent from Buffalo to the West, while on our

route the traffic is chiefly from west to east. There is a want of elevators at Montreal, and at Kingston where there are none grain barges are often detained for days together. Buffalo and all the grain-shipping ports of the United States have ample elevating apparatus; and at Buffalo the terminal facilities of the railways figure in the assessment rolls for fifteen millions of dollars. Existing commercial relations with the neighbouring Republic exclude Montreal from a large portion of the trade for which, if there were no artificial barriers, that port would be in a condition to compete.

So long as commercial isolation counteracts the advantages which nature has conferred upon this country, in the possession of the great River St. Lawrence, the temptation to enlarge the Welland Canal a third time is very small. Enlargement could only proceed upon the theory that, by enabling the larger grain vessels which ply on the upper lakes to pass through the Welland Canal, we should secure the means of overcoming every other obstacle that stands in the way of successful competition. We might in that way get greater cheapness in the cost of transportation than American routes enjoy; but if the possession of this single advantage has not, in the past, turned the tide in our favour, there is small reason to conclude that it will do so in the future.

C. L.

### POETRY AND THE POOR.

"THE world is very beautiful?" I said,  
As yesterday, beside the brimming stream,  
Glad and alone, I watched the tremulous gleam  
Slant thro' the wintry wood, green carpeted  
With moss and fern and curving bramble spray,  
And bronze the thousand russet margin-reeds;  
And in the sparkling holly glint and play,  
And kindle all the brier's flaming seeds.

"The world is very horrible!" I sigh,  
As, in my wonted ways, to-day I thread  
Chill streets, deformed with dim monotony,  
Hiding strange mysteries of unknown dread—  
The reeking court, the breathless fever-den,  
The haunts where things unholy throng and brood;  
Grim crime, the fierce despair of strong-armed men,  
Child-infamy, and shameless womanhood.

And men have looked upon this piteous thing—  
Blank lives unvisited by beauty's spell—  
And said, "Let be: it is not meet to bring  
Dreams of sweet freedom to the prison cell;  
Sing them no songs of things all bright and fair;  
Paint them no visions of the glad and free,  
Lest with purged sight their miseries they see,  
And, thro' vain longings, pass to blank despair."

O brother, treading ever-darkening ways,  
O sister, whelmed in ever-deepening care,  
Would God we might unfold before your gaze  
Some vision of the pure, the true, and fair!  
Better to know, tho' sadder things be known,  
Better to see, tho' tears half blind the sight,  
Than thralldom to the sense, and heart of stone,  
And horrible contentment with the night.

Oh! bring we then all sweet and gracious things  
To touch the lives that lie so chill and drear,  
That they may dream of some diviner sphere,  
Whence each soft ray of love and beauty springs.  
Each good and perfect gift is from above;  
And there is healing for Earth's direst woes;  
God hath unsealed the springs of light and love,  
To make the desert blossom as the rose.

W. WALSHAM BEDFORD.

ONE of Shakespere's pall-bearers lies buried on this side the Atlantic according to an inscription in the cemetery of Fredericksburg, Virginia. The epitaph runs: "Here lies the body of Edward Heldon, practitioner in Physics and Chirurgery. Born in Bedfordshire, England, in the year of our Lord 1542. Was contemporary with and one of the pall-bearers of William Shakespere, of the Avon. After a long illness his spirit ascended in the year of our Lord 1618, aged seventy-six."

MEN and women are made to swear that they will never touch wine, beer, or spirituous liquors of any kind! What folly! But at the same time what an avowal of weakness! And you, John, are you simple enough to think that you can legislate a people into being virtuous? It is not total abstinence, my dear friend that it is necessary to preach, it's moderation—a word that seems disappearing every day from your vocabulary. "It is not wine that makes the drunkard," says a Chinese proverb, "it is vice." It is not, therefore, wine or beer that needs suppressing, it is vice.—*Max O'Rell, in "John Bull and his Daughters."*

### QUOTING FROM SHAKESPEARE.

SHAKESPEARE is a tower of strength for all those who desire by quoting from him to give any opponent that they may have a knock-down blow. It would seem that there must never be any appeal from what he says. You may, if you will, prove any side of almost any question by Shakespeare. But from this very all-sufficiency it is the more necessary to be scrupulously careful never to misrepresent what Shakespeare says. In a leading Canadian paper there was, not long since, an article on calumny. It was well-timed, vigorously expressed, and, in sentiments, thoroughly right and true. It needed no corroboration, but the fascination of a quotation from Shakespeare was too great to be resisted; it must be lugged in somehow, right or wrong, to the purpose or not to the purpose. Thus it was—"Shakespeare proved that he understood these men by placing into the mouth of Polonius, when that worthy sent Reynaldo to invent some reproach concerning Hamlet, the words

Take you as 'twere some distant knowledge of him ;  
As thus : I know his father and his friends, and in part him,  
. . . But you may say, not well :  
But if't be he I mean, he's very wild,  
Addicted so and so—and then put on him  
What forgeries you please.

It is in putting on the victim "what forgeries you please" that the detractive usefulness lies. Had Polonius confined Reynaldo to the truth, the errand upon which he sent him would have been hopeless from the first; nor would Polonius have licensed his emissary to lie had he not known that his ability lay preëminently in that direction." Thus the —. We have here, then, three propositions—that Polonius desired to calumniate somebody; that that somebody was Hamlet; and that Reynaldo had preëminent gift as a liar. The first two are wrong altogether, and the third is a somewhat gratuitous assumption. All this has come from some inadvertence or other, and must be set down to the universal propensity to quote Shakespeare at all hazards. Polonius did not desire to calumniate anybody. If he had, it would have been not Hamlet but his own son, Laertes. And it may be said, I think, that the task imposed upon Reynaldo is not altogether to his taste, and that he makes some sort of protest more than once. But this is far from all; the quotation is not given in full, and is thus made to convey a very different impression from what the whole of the passage produces. Polonius finds that he is going too far, and may be misunderstood. Therefore, after "what forgeries you please," he adds:

Marry, none so rank as may dishonour him ; take heed of that.

Which gives an entirely different tone to the whole speech, and shows that Polonius has no intention of calumniating anybody—let alone his own son—by proving against him such offences as would "dishonour him."

But let us have the whole story: Polonius obtains from the king permission for Laertes to return to France, and, therefore, he gives his son such advice as he thinks most appropriate to a young man going to a foreign capital whose opportunities and temptations for dissipation would abound, and where careful guidance as to his general conduct would be necessary. Never was better counsel given by father to son. It contains eight distinct precepts, varying very much in derivation, as may be supposed, but all alike admirable. Other testimony to all this is at hand. When Mr. Henry Irving, the famous actor, returned thanks for the drinking of his health at the great banquet given to him before his setting out—like that of Laertes—for a strange and distant country, he could call to mind—familiar as he must be with Shakespeare—no better points for emulation than two contained in this speech of Polonius. They were these:

The friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,  
Grapple them to thy soul with hooks of steel.

and

To thine ownself be true ;  
And it must follow, as the night the day,  
Thou canst not then be false to any man.

To this, it may be added, that Mr. Gladstone lately quoted from the same speech in the House of Commons:

Beware  
Of entrance to a quarrel ; but, being in,  
Bear it that the opposer may beware of thee.

Polonius winds up—"laying his hand on Laertes' head"—with

Farewell ; my blessing season this in thee !

Where will you find a father more anxious for his son's well-doing, or more earnest in exhorting him not to fail? We therefore need not wonder when we find him afterward equally anxious to know how his son is standing the trial. First he entrusts Reynaldo with "Money and notes" for Laertes. Thus, as he has changed his character, to all seeming at least, and become a crafty man, not above resorting to underhand practices, he instructs Reynaldo to find out his son's associates, and, by affecting to believe that Laertes has fallen away from the standard which his father

had set up for him, to discover whether such was really the case or not. It is Machiavellian, if you please. Granted. Polonius sets his servant—as we are told Reynaldo is—as a spy upon his son. It is odious. True; but he is careful not to attribute to Laertes, even by supposition, any such offence as would "dishonour him." All such offences as are suggested the world seems to have agreed not to hold as touching a man's honour.

It can hardly be said, then, that the object of Polonius is to calumniate his own son before the world. Whatever Polonius may be, that would have been a pitch of diabolism to which he makes no approach. His character, as drawn by Shakespeare, exhibits glaring inconsistencies. He can give utterance to sentiments and precepts of the highest order, and talk with the utmost wisdom. He can turn into a chattering fool, without a single sparkle of wit to indicate his nonsense. He can wear, at least, all the appearance of a man of honour and a gentleman, and can become a schemer and an eavesdropper.

Shade of Shakespeare, mighty shade, canst thou reconcile these inconsistencies for us? D. F.

NOTE.—The scene where all the foregoing will be found set forth at full is the first of the second act. My eye lights on an advertisement of certain Credenta Braces headed "'Here comes a brace! Shakespeare!'"

### EDUCATION NOTES.

A GOOD deal of dissatisfaction has existed for some time past with the condition of the Toronto Normal School, and it was expected when the present Minister of Education took office that there would be a change in its management, and with that change an improvement. A change there is to be, for Dr. Davies has resigned his position as Head Master, and Mr. Kirkland, the Science Master, is to reign in his stead. That improvement will follow, students and others who have the best means of judging entertain grave doubts. The Normal School should be the brain of our Public School System, and its Principal should be not only a good disciplinarian, not only a model teacher, but should be found in the van of educational progress. Mr. Kirkland has hitherto not distinguished himself in any of these respects. It remains for him to show whether he can do so, and at the same time raise the institution over which he is to preside out of the slough into which it has sunk. It is proposed to dispense, for the present at least, with the services of a third master.

THE Board of Directors of the Ontario Teachers' Association have met and decided upon the work for the annual meeting in August next. The President, Dr. McLellan, will deliver the customary address, and papers on the following subjects will be read: "The Study of English," by William Houston, M.A.; "The Teacher as a Student," by Dr. Purslow; "The School as a Preparation for the Farm and the Workshop," by Mr. Merchant; "The Permanency of the Teaching Profession," by Mr. Fotheringham, and others by Mr. Glashan, and Mr. Swift. Three addresses will be delivered by prominent educationists to be subsequently named. It will be seen from this programme that the next meeting of the Provincial Association will be an interesting one.

THE Minister of Education has shown himself alive to the interests of High School Education, by establishing a regulation regarding the qualifications of Assistant Masters of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes. By it an Assistant Master must have a degree in Arts from some chartered University in the British Dominions, or a First or Second Class Certificate as a Public School Teacher, or hold a Permit from the Education Department, which shall be valid for only one year, but may be renewed for another year at the request of the Board the teacher is employed by.

IN appointing a Director of Teachers' Institutes, which Mr. Ross has done in the person of Dr. McLellan, he has taken a step which has been urged on the Department for years. The duties of this officer are thus defined: (a) to visit each Institute annually; (b) to deliver at least three lectures to the Institute, and one public address at each visit; (c) to form teachers into classes for instruction in methods of teaching; (d) to direct the profession either by examination, or otherwise, as to the literature that should occupy their attention during their spare hours; (e) to arouse their professional enthusiasm by personal intercourse and advice; (f) to meet trustees and other school officers and give such information in regard to school matters as may be required; (g) to report annually to the Department the attendance at each meeting, the nature of the work done, etc. Does Mr. Ross, by prescribing such duties as (c) and (d) to his Director propose to keep the teachers of the country in leading strings? If he does he has made a serious mistake, for he must surely be aware that a good many teachers who attend these Institutes could instruct the Director in methods of teaching; and many of them know much more about what literature should occupy their spare hours than Dr. McLellan could tell them. They should certainly bow to his authority on such a subject as Mathematics, but the literature of Mathematics is hardly suited for spare hours. If Mr. Ross seriously expects these duties to be strictly performed he sets a bad example to the Director by sanctioning the violation of the first one, for out of forty-six Institutes he requires him to visit only twenty-four during the coming year. The remainder are left to Mr. Tilley, the Model School Inspector, whom we may suppose the Minister regards as Mr. McLellan's *alter ego*.

THE London (England) School Board has in contemplation a scheme for the superannuation of its teachers by a fund formed by deductions from their salaries. It proposes that the pension be calculated upon the basis of one-sixtieth of the teacher's average salary for each year of contributions; the pension in no case to exceed two-thirds of his final salary. The teachers interested are prepared to adopt this scheme, provided the Board supplements their contributions by an equal amount.

At the Social Science Congress held recently at Birmingham, Mr. Sonnenschein read a valuable paper on Methods of Teaching, in the course of which he pointed out that good methods postulate good teachers, and that methods of teaching resolve themselves into three classes. First, the Inductive Method, by which we begin with examining one or more special cases, and from them mount up to the ultimate generalization called the rule; second, the Deductive Method, by which we begin at the generalization or rule, and descend to the special cases; finally, the method by which we begin with the rule, and end with the rule, called by him the Cram Method. He preferred the first, asserting that good teaching should be historical, by proceeding from the special to the general, from the concrete to the abstract, thus making each acquired notion serve as a stepping-stone to its successor.

THE question of manual training as an element in education was one of the subjects discussed at the last meeting of the Ontario Teachers' Association. It also formed a topic at the International Conference on Education at the Social Science Congress, and at the meeting of the National Education Association of the United States, held in Madison. Opinion was very pronounced at the meeting in Madison against the introduction of anything beyond training of the most general character into the public schools. Dr. G. Stanley Hall, of John Hopkins University, who has had exceptional opportunities of studying the question in both America and Europe, pointed out that the public school was to provide instruction and training of general application and utility, and hence whatever is made a part of a public school course must be introduced as a means of general education. Hand work in wood and iron, for example, have no place in a public school: nothing, in fact, beyond drawing and the like.

CENSOR.

#### MR. BRANDRAM AND MRS. KEMBLE.

MR. BRANDRAM'S Shakesperian Recitations will doubtless have recalled to the minds of some who heard her pleasant memories of the Shakespeare Readings given here by Mrs. Fanny Kemble, just a third of a century ago. At that date, the year of grace 1851, Shakesperian readers were almost unknown. Indeed, public reading and reciting were not then cultivated at all to the same extent as within the last ten or fifteen years. Mrs. Kemble's visit to Toronto was, therefore, in those days an important literary event. It was indeed a red letter day in the calendar of all lovers of Shakespeare then in Toronto. To many it was probably their first real introduction to our greatest poet, and to all it was little short of a revelation of the powers and capabilities of the human voice. Mrs. Kemble came to Toronto on that occasion on a special invitation, sent by the writer, which bore the signatures, among others, of the late Chief Justices Robinson and Draper and Mr. Chancellor Blake. She read on three evenings—a play each evening—the plays selected being "Othello," "The Tempest," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Oddly enough the last-named play was, if the writer is not mistaken, read on Midsummer Day, for the visit was made in the latter part of June. In the minds of those who had the privilege of hearing Mrs. Kemble's marvellous readings, the three plays which she then read have probably been ever since associated with her reading of them. All who heard her had reason, no doubt, to thank her for discovering to them for the first time infinite beauties and niceties in the plays which they had not observed before.

Over and above the high dramatic gifts which Mrs. Kemble seemed to have inherited, she possessed a voice of extraordinary power, compass, and flexibility, and withal that indefinable magnetic influence which gives to some readers and singers such marked preëminence over others. The power and compass of Mrs. Kemble's vocal powers were singularly evidenced in the "Tempest," when at one moment she growled like *Caliban*, and in the next, as *Ariel*, her voice was exquisitely fine and delicate, such as became one of the airy creatures who "play in the plighted clouds." That all the *dramatis personæ*, many and various as they were, in each play were distinctly individualized, and from first to last sharply marked out, goes without saying. Mrs. Kemble's comic powers found ample scope in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," where the grotesque drollery, the delicious fooling of *Bottom*, *Snout*, *Quince* and the other hard-headed and harder-headed clowns, actors for the nonce in the "very lamentable comedy of *Pyramus and Thisbe*," were most effectively brought out. For simple reading, however, what most impressed the writer of this notice was Mrs. Kemble's rendering of the charming song with which the fairies lull to sleep their queen *Titania*. Every word of the elvish chorus "Philomel with melody sing in our sweet lullaby," seemed instinct with sleep—steeped as it were in the essence of "poppy and mandragora, and all the drowsy syrups of the East." Little wonder then (if the elves, sung as Mrs. Kemble read) that when their song was finished *Titania*, yielding to the drowsy spell, had become a fitting subject for the pranks they were to play upon her.

In dramatic power and versatility Mr. Brandram is probably equal, if indeed he is not superior, to Mrs. Kemble. But he lacks, perhaps, her extraordinary compass and flexibility of voice. He possesses, however, a marked advantage over his gifted predecessor in being able to recite

instead of read the plays. He is thus enabled to "suit the action to the word, the word to the action," as he does most admirably both in the tragic and the comic parts, and thus the performance is made more real and life-like than could possibly be done by any mere reading, however perfect.

E. A. M.

#### THE VOYAGEURS' GRAVE ON THE NILE.

HERE on the Nile's bank,  
Arm 'neath his head,  
Came up just where he sank,  
Motionless—dead.  
Comrades! your eyes grow dim;  
Throw a flag over him.

No time for long good-byes;  
Lay him at rest;  
Bury him as he lies,  
Warrior-like dressed.  
Hush, now! the mass is said  
For quick and for the dead.

"Forward!"—He'll never harm  
In his lone bed.  
He'll hear no war's alarm,  
No martial tread.  
Leave this rude cross to tell  
Near it he lies.—Farewell!

Fearless, he cared not how  
Slender his boat.  
Down the St. Lawrence now  
No more he'll float.  
Strange here in stranger land,  
Dead on the burning sand.

NATHANAEL NIX.

#### THE KING'S SABBATH.

ONCE idly in his hall King Olave sat  
Pondering, and with his dagger whittled chips.  
And one drew near to him with austere lips,  
Saying, "To-morrow is Monday." And at that  
The King said nothing, but held forth his flat  
Broad palm, and, bending on his mighty hips,  
Picked up and laid thereon the slips  
Of whittled wood, as on a hearth, and gat  
From off the embers near a burning brand.  
Kindling the pile with this, the lordly Dane  
Sat silent with his eyes set, and his bland  
Broad mouth tight-woven, smiling, drawn with pain,  
Watching the fierce fire flare and wax and wane,  
Hiss and burn down upon his shrivelled hand.

A. LAMPMAN.

#### ULYSSES.

Ah, my Penelope! our year of bliss  
Sped all too swiftly to its final hour;  
War, triumph, shipwreck, pain, have had no power  
To efface the impress of thy last long kiss.

If I have lingered, 'tis that envious seas  
Have lifted up their huge and shapeless hands,  
And thrust me like drift seaweed upon sands,  
Or rugged headlands, or fair kirtled leas.

If I have lingered, ere I homeward turned,  
It was not that a lessened love I bore  
For thee, Penelope, for more and more  
The sacred flame within my bosom burned.

But a wild, roving passion grew within:  
A thirst to fill my life with daring deeds—  
To come a wanderer to the fair meads  
Of Ithaca, and its fair Queen re-win;

To tell her of those victories of mine;  
To tell her of vast struggles and defeat;  
To feel her sympathy, and see the sweet  
Unconscious tears of love and pity shine.

And I have come at last, Penelope;  
And every thread thy trembling fingers spun  
Through weary waiting years are knit as one  
Strong girdle binding me for aye to thee.

BARRY DANE.

### HERE AND THERE.

THE omission of the Queen's health among the toasts at the Roman Catholic Banquet the other evening is the subject of some comment. The motive probably was ecclesiastical, not political, the Roman Catholic Church refusing to recognize any of the sovereignties of this world. The omission, however, had rather a strange appearance, when the Lieutenant-Governor and the Attorney-General were among the guests.

THE New York dailies, anxious to clear American-Irish dynamiters from the suspicion of the fiendish London Bridge outrage, have made use of the "special" columns of our Canadian journals to circulate cock-and-bull theories of its origin, and the "loyal" Canadian journals do not see how they have been prostituted!

SOME Canadians in Chicago are endeavouring to organize their fellow-countrymen residing in the city of pork and poetry into an association for promotion of social unity and mutual entertainment. An Executive Committee, including the names of Canadians whose commercial success is a guarantee for their capability, has been formed, and most sanguine hopes are expressed that the idea will be carried to a successful issue. The *Canadian-American*, advocating the scheme says: "Oftentimes you desire to see a face, or hear a voice once dear in the old home, or an old friend. Distance separates you and makes it impossible. This organization perhaps contains among its members many of those who have known or recently seen the objects of your desire. Would you enjoy a conversation with them? Then send in your name and attend its reunions. In the great hurrying city you have no time to spare to hunt up old acquaintances. This organization does it for you."

SECULARISM has now invaded the halls of terpsichore. The other evening a ball was given in Toronto to "Socialists and their friends," and the programme, which was in French, consisted of some two dozen dances named after the shining lights and dogmas of unbelief. The following are samples of the items on this extraordinary *carte du bal*: Voltaire Waltz, Free Thought Polka, Ingersoll March, Evolutionist's Waltz, Watts' and Putnam Lancers, Anti-clerical Propaganda Circle, Secularist Women's Rockaway, The Atheist's Joy Schottische, Infernal Reel of the Heretics, and the like.

THERE were twenty-two failures in Canada reported to *Bradstreets* during the past week, as compared with thirty-four in the preceding week, and with thirty-two, fifteen and fifteen respectively, in the corresponding weeks of 1883, 1882 and 1881. In the United States there were 316 failures the past week as compared with 296 in the preceding week, and with 249, 230 and 165, respectively, in the corresponding weeks of 1883, 1882 and 1881. About 81 per cent. were those of small traders whose capital was less than \$5,000.

JUST as the Republican Party goes out of power the Lincoln Monument at Washington reaches its completion. This unspeakably hideous erection boasts that it is the highest structure in the world, though there are one or two chimneys of chemical works in England which might dispute with it the palm of height as well as of beauty. If the Americans had tried to produce satire on their own ideas of art they could not have succeeded better. There is not such another piece of bad taste in the world. The worst of it is that the monument mars, by its oppressive hideousness, the general aspect of a city which is fast growing in beauty as well as in social attractions of every kind.

GENERAL GRANT, who had never before known what it was to be ill, has, according to the *Philadelphia Progress*, suffered terribly since his fall, now nearly a year ago. The direct result of the accident was the breaking of a muscle in his thigh, but a variety of ills followed. He was most painfully afflicted with neuralgia and rheumatism, and as his system was said by his physicians to be saturated with nicotine, he was ordered to stop smoking, and, though, as all the world knows, he has been an inveterate smoker all his life, he now takes but three or four cigars a week. He has determined that if hereafter he smokes at all it will be very moderately. The General has great pleasure in writing his war reminiscences, and is a very careful writer, taking the utmost pains to substantiate every statement he makes. He employs no stenographer, but puts down every word with his own hand. Besides the separate articles, the General has begun a *History of the War*, which will be published in book form. Of this he has already written about two thousand pages.

THE discovery of a Claude Lorraine in the United States, if it has really been made, is an event of singular interest. W. H. Gibson, the pleasant artist of woods and fields, thinks he has found it in an ancient picture which has been knocking around for nearly thirty years in a garret in Sandy Hook, Ct. The picture came to his father in trade with a Boston man, as "a genuine old master of great value," but as nobody could see any sign of a picture, it was treated in the ignominious fashion referred to, until the other day Mr. Gibson wanted some old furniture from the family homestead, and for curiosity cleaned the canvas of a mass of gum, in some parts an eighth of an inch thick. The gum has, however, answered a good purpose in protecting the picture from injury and the colours from the light, so that it is now rich in tone. The painting is on a dark oak panel, and represents a sunset landscape, a noble tree, rocks and a limpid pool,

hazy and distant hills, and—one of Claude's favourite features—a stone bridge across a stream. Moreover, upon the back is the autograph "Claude Lorrain" and the monogram C. L. beneath. Mr. Gibson has consulted the old artist's "Liber Veritatis," and though he found no specimen that tallies exactly, he is convinced he has a genuine Claude, and the only one in America.

EDMUND W. GOSSE, the English poet and critic, who has recently succeeded Leslie Stephen as lecturer on English literature at Cambridge, makes his visit to America auspiciously as lecturer to the Lowell Institute of Boston, and Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore on English poetry from Shakespeare to Pope. He is accompanied by his wife, who is the sister of Mrs. Alma Tadema, and W. D. Howells gave them a reception at his house in Boston, whereat the host and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Brooke Herford, Edward Everett Hale, Prof. and Mrs. Goodwin, John Fiske, Francis Parkham, Henry Cabot Lodge, Howard M. Ticknor, Mrs. L. C. Moulton, Col. Higginson, Mrs. Ole Bull, and Gen. F. A. Walker were noted guests.

A MAN in the electric light business at New York says that the holiday market will soon be stocked with a novelty in the way of a low-priced electric lamp to be worn as a scarf-pin. The lamp is connected by a wire to a small pocket battery. A simple contrivance serves to turn on the electric current and produce a light of one candle-power. The battery is compact and handy, and will give three hours' continuous current without replenishing.

IT is to be feared that Mr. Matthew Arnold would find some of Mr. Henry George's friends sadly deficient in "lucidity." This, for instance, is the fashion in which the president of the "Scottish Land Restoration League" delivered himself the other day at a meeting convened in honour of the American Apostle of Plunder:—"The solemn, abiding, and incontrovertible truth we proclaim is this—that justice is the supreme law of the universe, and that the remorseless and abhorrent condition under which the bulk of the community live are (*sic*) the inseparable result of the governing classes to obey that supreme law." After that the worthy president's hearers must have felt inclined to observe, as Mark Twain's friend Scotty Briggs observed to the parson, "Could you say it over once more, and say it slow."

MR. WILSON BARRETT, the English actor who promises to oust Irving from his pre-eminence, may probably take credit for having stirred up more controversy and elicited more nonsensical theories as to Hamlet's character and peculiarities than any recent exponent of the part. The latest little joke upon the subject is the suggestion of a correspondent of the *St. James's Gazette*, that Hamlet was not a man at all, but a woman. The ingenious originator of this notion adduces, apparently in all seriousness, a string of arguments in support of this view, and expresses the hope of seeing some actor take up the part in accordance with this theory. It is difficult to believe that "R." can be in earnest, yet if he is laughing in his sleeve he contrives to present a particularly serious countenance to the public.

THE lately-deceased member for Knarsborough, Thomas Collins, Esq., was familiarly known in the British House of Commons as "Tom Collins." So ramshackle was he of manner that his name became a by-word; so negligent of dress that when he appeared in a new hat the thing was regarded as an event; so indiscreet in his action that he has bearded the House of Commons by moving an indiscreet adjournment. But he was a true, sincere, and popular man. A very high Tory, he was a thorough-going party man; but his wildest flights were very harmless. He belonged to the old school of "peculiar" who showed their own ruggedness of idea without interfering with the progress of legislation. He has given his fellow members a great deal of fun in his time, but never made anybody really angry. He was liked when he was most unreasonable. He was unreasonable only to the point at which he was liked.

LORD LYTTON has challenged the London dramatic critics on their judgment on Miss Anderson's "Juliet." Those gentlemen may be left to take care of themselves; but it is perhaps worth while to notice the reason which the ex-Indian Viceroy adduces for his distrust of their judgment. Miss Anderson is the only actress in the part, he says, who has ever drawn a tear from him, and he is guided by his emotions, which the hardened critics are not. But because he was moved to tears, it surely does not follow that the critics were dishonest or incompetent, or, as they were pretty well unanimous, in a cabal against the actress as well. It is a salutary rule to distrust the judgment of an emotional man, especially a man whose ecstasies are equally aroused by performances so wide asunder as those of the Lyceum stage and those of the Indian circus ring. Lord Lytton has doubtless ere this repented his temerity in attempting a tilt with the "hardened critics." One of these objectionable individuals happens to be possessed of a good memory, and has revived an earlier illustration of his Lordship's intelligent appreciation of art when a celebrated circus rider so moved a certain Indian Viceroy by her equestrian exploits as "Mazeppa" that in his enthusiastic admiration he presented her with a ring from his finger, which it took all the diplomatic tact of his secretary to recover when people had begun to talk about indiscretion, if they did not use stronger words. It is not impossible that the excuse in the one case may be the explanation of the other. "Fair tresses man's imperial race ensnare, and beauty draws us with a single hair."



THE "Wife-Beater's Vade-Mecum" is the title of a pamphlet lately published in England, showing exactly the rates, from ten shillings upwards, at which a wife may be knocked and kicked into death or idiocy. Excellent idea. Now let us have a "Citizens' Police Manual," giving a tariff something like the following: "Asking an officer his number," moderate blow with the club on the arm; "Failing to move on," poke in the back or ribs with the locust; "Threat to report," moderate blow on the head; "Endeavouring to stop a row," severe clubbing, night in the station house and \$10 in the morning, etc.

A STORY, which seems almost too good, comes from Zanzibar respecting a banquet lately given by the Sultan to Admiral Hewett and the officers of the British fleet. The Sultan desired to entertain his guests in strict European fashion. He made every preparation for doing the thing thoroughly, but as a good Mussulman and total abstainer was in some perplexity about that indispensable British institution—the toasts. As a way out of the difficulty, the happy thought occurred to him of ordering three puddings—one called "The Queen," another the "Prince of Wales," and the third "Gladstone," and in their proper place in the feast the three dishes were proposed, received, and consumed with the utmost enthusiasm.

THE French papers are filled with an extraordinary story concerning a woman formerly known as Mrs. Beecher, the divorced wife of a wealthy American banker, and who afterwards married, or ostensibly married, a Comte de Pourtales Gorgier. The story goes that she left the Comte in Japan, where he held a diplomatic post, and became the favourite mistress of a Japanese Minister. She was warned that in that country infidelity was punished with death. She nevertheless abandoned the Minister in turn when she had become sufficiently tired of him. She then took constant precautions against being surprised and put to death by his emissaries. Her friends told her that she had every reason to fear the *carcan*, but she laughed, and replied that she would rather die either a natural death or by her own hand. Once an attempt was made upon her life, but a faithful servant successfully defended her, and was himself severely wounded. In spite of this occurrence, she still persisted in remaining in the country. One morning, while she was in bed, two masked men entered her chamber, and after dragging her into the court subjected her to the terrible punishment of the *carcan*, which ends in the fatal rupture of the spinal column.

THE ostrich farmers in South Africa periodically cut the ostrich's pen feathers off and sell them, just as a sheep farmer might sell his wool. The ungainly birds must present a curious appearance with only the stumps of their tails and wing feathers left. But these shaven ostriches cannot look worse than shaven cows. A man was committed to take his trial at the Chester assizes recently, for shaving the hair off five cows. The magistrates committed him, no doubt, because the cows he had been shaving were not his own, and because he had therefore stolen the hair. A man may singe his own horse, so surely there can be no reason why one may not shave his own cow, provided always he keeps the cow warm afterwards. Here is a new source of profit for the dairy farmers, for cow's hair is a marketable article.

### THE SCRAP BOOK.

#### AMERICAN TERMINOLOGY.

THE terminology of American politics is not without interest to the people of England, who already understand what Buncombe is, who have already received that great gift, the Caucus, and who may some day be introduced even to the Mugwump. That ill-shaped verb "to gerrymander" has recently been incorporated in the vocabulary of the contemporary politicians. In due course of time the British public may come to use a further variety of American political phrases. A British statesman may point with pride to his Record, and he may denounce with vehemence and emphasis those who Bolt the Regular Nomination, and who do not vote the Straight Ticket. It may be that in a few years a little knot of party managers will prepare The Slate, and that a little group of British Mugwumps, equally determined, will arise in their might, and upset the carefully prepared machinery, and so Break the Slate. It will be longer, however, before the British Isles are made acquainted with Pastors specially prepared for the use of Scratchers—and perhaps it may be well to explain these dubious phrases. Frequently in the United States there are from six to ten ballot-boxes at every voting place, and the voter has to cast his ballot, not only for a President of the United States, but also for a Governor of his State, and for a mayor of his city and for other State and county officials. Generally, several of these officers are voted for on one and the same ballot. These ballots are, of course, printed at the party expense, and contain the names on the ballot of his party supports. A voter who rejects one or more names on the ballot of his party erases them or scratches them out, and is therefore a Scratcher. To him the candidate of the opposing party sends little gummed slips with his (the candidate's) name, that it may be pasted over the name of the objectionable nominee; these gummed and printed slips are Pastors. A faction of Scratchers in New York were long known as the Half-breeds, and their opponents, the more regular Republicans, were called the Stalwarts. In the Democratic party two factions were designated a few years ago as the Short-hairs and the Swallow-tails. Earlier in the history of American parties were the Hunkers and the Barn-burners. The names have a queer sound on this side of the Atlantic, but they are not in themselves more grotesque or peculiar than the old party names of Whig and Tory.—*Saturday Review*.

#### WOMEN BULL-FIGHTERS.

A BULL-FIGHT of a novel kind (*Galignani* says) took place at Tarragona on Sunday, the 12th inst., the performers being women clothed in the male terero suit. The bulls were all young and full of fire. The first one let into the arena made straight for one of the toreras, and sent her spinning in the sand several yards off. A second torera rushed to the rescue with her *capa*, which she waved before the bull to draw off his attention from her discomfited colleague. The bull accepted the challenge at once, and, with a rapid twist of the neck, caught the banderilla and sent her flying. She fell on her face, and followed the previous torera in her retirement, bleeding from several scratches. The third torera then advanced; but no sooner had the bull caught sight of her, than he bounded towards her and tossed her. After this the bull took a quiet walk round the arena, waiting for fresh sport. No further competitor entering the list, the crowd began to show signs of impatience, which grew at every moment, until they finally began breaking up the seats and throwing brick-bats into the arena, yelling anathemas at the cowardice of the toreras company. The stewards then announced that the money would be returned. This was done partially; but the cashier's office suddenly closed, that official having bolted with the rest of the takings. A scene of indescribable uproar occurred when the fact became known, and the work of demolition was pursued with increased fury. The gendarmes were called in to restore order, but only succeeded in adding to the general confusion, in which they were roughly handled. The arrival of three companies of infantry enabled the managers to clear the amphitheatre. The most extraordinary part of the affair is that, undeterred by the fate of the first company of toreras and their manager, who were marched off to prison besides, the workmen of the tobacco factories of Madrid are preparing to give an exhibition of their prowess, and a troupe is organizing to do the round of the arenas in all the principal towns of Spain.—*The Queen*.

#### STORY OF TURNER.

THE following story of Turner is told on the authority of a living artist, and will no doubt be of interest as one of the few authentic anecdotes related of the great landscape painter. Turner, happening one day to pass a print shop, noticed in the window a copy of one of the engravings from his famous "Liber Studiorum." The print was in a very dirty, ragged state, and Turner naturally felt aggrieved at seeing the work of his hands in this delapidated condition. Entering the shop, he asked to see the master, and when the man came forward Turner proceeded at once to blame him in no measured terms for having neglected so valuable a print, and for having allowed it to become so disfigured. The man protested that it was no fault of his, as he did but offer the engraving for sale in the same state in which he had bought it from some other dealer. This did not satisfy Turner, however, and he and the man continued arguing in this fashion for some time, each making the other more angry by contradiction. At last the printseller lost all patience. "Perhaps, sir," he said, "when you have quite finished what you have to say you will kindly tell me what you have to do with this engraving? and what business is it of yours whether the print is clean or dirty?" "This is what I have to do with it," answered the enraged artist; "it was I who drew the original of that print, my name is Turner, and I did every line of that engraving with my own hand. Now, do you wonder that I am angry at seeing my work in so disgraceful a state?" "Indeed sir," replied the printseller, "so you are the great artist himself. All my life long it has been my wish that I might some day have the good fortune to see Mr. Turner. And now that I have seen him, I sincerely hope that I may never see him any more."

#### HOW TO CLOTHE THE LITTLE ONES.

THERE is a class of mother, and unfortunately the class is a very large one, who thinks she is doing her duty nobly if she turns her little one into a sort of animated block on which to display costly and handsome clothes, never for a moment considering whether those clothes are healthy and comfortable. She will let her baby grow weak and feverish from being too warmly dressed in the summer, while in the winter she will let it appear in a robe of lace, with bare neck and arms. The instinct of the hen makes her sit day after day, week after week, on her nest to warm her chickens with the heat of her own body, lest they should die of cold. The perverted reason of woman makes her in accordance with a foolish fashion cut her baby's clothes low in the neck, and tie up its already short sleeve with ribbons, so that "it shall look pretty." You rarely hear of a chicken dying of cold, but in twelve months more than 18,000 infants, under a year old, perished in England and Wales of lung diseases, brought on by exposure. The smaller a child is, the less power has it of generating heat, and the more readily does it part with what little it has. Hence children require more warmth in their clothing than grown people. The popular theory that exposing children's limbs hardens them is utterly wrong. Besides the enormous mortality from lung diseases induced by this practice, it is the means of robbing many of the survivors of health and beauty. Exposure means loss of heat; when heat is rapidly lost, the food has to be burnt up to maintain the warmth of the body, instead of nourishing it and building up fresh tissue, so that exposure to cold is sure to injure either growth or structure.—*Queen*.

WITH its most recent issue THE WEEK entered on the second year of its existence. It justifies that existence by its success—a success which we are glad to think is so well assured. There can be no doubt that a thoroughly high-class independent journal like THE WEEK, not wholly or even mainly given up to political matters, can have other than a beneficial influence on the country.—*Globe*.

## ANCIENT COIFFURES.

WHEN Elizabeth ruled over England, she delighted in making laws for the guidance of her subjects, and she specially desired the common people of her realm to dress their heads after a certain fashion on the Sabbath. They were to don a cap of a particular form, which was to be made of wool that had been "knit, thicked, and dressed in Britain." Both men and women wore hats made of woollen cloth called thrum'd hats. The headgear of the period is described by Stubbs: "Then follow the trimming and tricking of their heads in laying out their haire to shewe, which of force must be curled, frised, and crisped, laid out (a world to see) on wreathes and borders from one ear to the other. And least it should fall down, it is under-propped with forks, weirs, and cannot tell what, like grim, sterne, monsters, rather than chaste Christian matrones. Then on the edges of their boustred haire (for it standeth crested rounde about their frontiers, and hanging over their faces like pendices or vailes, with glass windowes on every side), there is laide great wreathes of golde and silver, curiously wrought and cunningly applied to the temple of their heads. And for feare of lacking anything to set forth their pride withall, at their haire thus wreathed and crested, are hanged bugles (I dare not say bables), ouches, rynges, golde, silver, glasses, and such other childishe gewgawes." Cauls were still fashionable, and the queen possessed one "with nine true loves of pearle, and seven buttons of golde, in each button a rubie."—*Queen*.

MONTREAL is not a political city. Its people live, to a large extent, apart from the bickerings which occupy so much of the attention of some Canadians.—*Montreal Witness*.

THE truth is, that in the last forty years English industry, and the English industrial temper, if we may use the phrase, have so completely adapted themselves to the Free Trade régime that it would now be much more difficult to introduce even a small scrap of the protective system than it would be to introduce suddenly absolute Free Trade in this country after twenty-five years of very high tariff.—*N. Y. Nation*.

IF any were shallow enough to suppose that emancipation settled the negroes' condition, they are beginning by this to suspect their mistake. Never was the negro problem more uncertain of solution. It is taking on new and startling phases. No personage occupies just now a larger attention than the Southern negro, and the discussion of his future is employing writers and speakers continually.—*Springfield (Mass.) Republican*.

SLAVERY was bad. It was abolished. Slaves were the property of their masters. The slaves were taken from their masters and made free, and the masters were compensated in money for the loss of their chattels. Liquor is bad. If it be abolished, and the business of selling it taken away from dealers by the Government, should not the Government pay, just the same as the Government paid for the slaves?—*Hamilton Spectator*.

A CAREFULLY prepared statement of the value of principal articles of import and export at the port of St. John for the first three months of the current fiscal year shows in imports a considerable increase as compared with last year in books and printed matter, spirits, and especially in sugars, while a large decrease is shown in cotton manufactures, fancy goods, furs, iron manufactures, silk manufactures, and woollen manufactures.—*St. John (N.B.) Daily Telegraph*.

BUT four concessions are asked for by the people of the North-West Territories:—First, that their only Local Government may have some of the powers of a civilized and respectable government; second, that that local government may have its proper revenue from the people to carry out its ordinances; third, that their voice shall be heard through their representatives in the National Parliament; and, lastly, that by means of the appointment of competent judges, there should be a better system of administering justice granted them.—*Calgary Herald*.

No sane man will sink a dollar in the Hudson's Bay Railroad until the practicability of the navigation of those waters is determined. A number of Winnipeggers, who see that the construction of this road, or the commencement of its construction, would send up the price of lands there, prove, by drawing a line on the map, that the scheme is practicable and that the money for it can readily be raised; and forthwith the settler, who ought to know something of the ways of the land-sharp by this time, calls for immediate action on the part of the Government.—*Mail*.

WHETHER we are to remain for many years longer in the existing condition; whether we may be included in some larger form of British nationality, become an independent power, or, as some think, become absorbed in the larger community at our borders, is a matter which none of us can venture to determine. The future of Canada, in a political sense, will be determined by events yet to be developed. There is no guiding star to point the road different to that we are now pursuing. And the progress that has been made while following it is not suggestive of the need of any change.—*London (Ont.) Free Press*.

Now, in so far as these free grants of land are concerned, I warn the public against them. A large number of these settlements in New Brunswick have been made on lands which were, correctly speaking, timber and not farming lands; that is to say, the growth on them consisted largely of hemlock spruce, or of black spruce, and the soil was poor and hungry. I am afraid that the Province of Ontario is also inducing settlers to locate themselves upon very inferior farming land. As regards New Brunswick I speak from my own observation; as regards Ontario I speak from what I have heard from persons who had settled on land in Muskoka and afterwards left it.—*Edward Jack, in Canadian Gazette*.

WHAT are the barriers to a natural and healthful exchange of the world's commodities? Protective duties, and restrictive navigation laws! Abolish these, and the much desired improvement in the distribution and exchange of the world's manufactured products will follow. It requires little power of discernment to recognize the meaning of this change.—*Ottawa Free Press*.

CANADA is to-day the only point from which Great Britain can draw any large quantity of choice well-bred cattle entirely free from disease. We firmly believe that the Canadian cattle trade has a great future before it, and the only thing that requires to be placed on a different basis is the accommodation on board ship and the doing away with fluctuating freights.—*Canadian Breeder*.

ON another occasion, the Ambassador and Sandwith were walking in the Embassy Gardens, talking of the approaching war. Suddenly Lord Stratford stopped, and fixing his piercing eyes on his companion said, 'Do you know, Dr. Sandwith, that the Emperor of Russia once dared to put a personal affront upon me? He little knew that the humble individual whom he refused to receive at St. Petersburg would one day bring him to his knees.' This referred to the refusal of Nicholas to receive Sir Stratford Canning as British Minister—Sir Stratford not being a *persona grata*. Sandwith was naturally horrified at this revelation of the length to which a personal grievance may carry a powerful man." This passage of "Humphrey Sandwith's Memories" points with startling clearness to one of the causes of the Crimean War.

IN *The Star* I remarked the following appellation: "Mr. Frechette, poet laureate." As the French "lauréat" and the English "laureate" are by no means corresponding in dignity and merit, may I request you to insert this letter in your paper, that your correspondents may in the future use "laureate" and "lauréat" in their respective places. The English "laureate" is, as every one knows, an honour conferred on a poet of the highest merit. The French "lauréat" is a distinction given by the "Académie Française" on almost any poet. In France "lauréats" may be found by the bushel, and the distinction is considered by the Sorbonne and the erudite as an "accessit," otherwise "a prix d'encouragement," which has never been thought of being offered to Corneille, Lamartine, Alfred de Musset, Victor Hugo, etc., nor to any other poet of great merit.—"Pro Bono Publico," in the *Montreal Star*.

WITH the Peace of Paris ended the checkered story of New France, a story which would have been a history if faults of constitution and the bigotry and folly of rulers had not dwarfed it to an episode. Yet it is a noteworthy one in both its lights and shadows: in the disinterested zeal of the founder of Quebec, the self-devotion of the missionary martyrs, and the daring enterprise of explorers; in the spiritual and temporal vassalage from which the only escape was to the savagery of the wilderness; and in the swarming corruptions which were the natural result of an attempt to rule, by the absolute hand of a master beyond the Atlantic, a people bereft of every vestige of civil liberty. Civil liberty was given them by the British sword; but the conqueror left the religious system untouched, and through it they have imposed a weight of ecclesiastical tutelage that finds few equals in the most Catholic countries of Europe. Such guardianship is not without certain advantages. When faithfully exercised it aids to uphold some of the tamer virtues, if that can be called a virtue which needs the constant presence of a sentinel to keep it from escaping; but it is fatal to mental robustness and moral courage; and if French Canada would fulfil its aspirations, it must cease to be one of the most priest-ridden communities of the modern world.—*Montcalm and Wolfe, by Francis Parkman*.

## THE PERIODICALS.

THE *Andover Review*. Houghton, Mifflin and Co. Most publication ventures start with the time-worn excuse that they respond to a special want. The *Andover* does meet the requirements of a very important and ever-widening constituency. The promise made in its prospectus has been surpassed. It is neither exclusively a theological nor an entirely literary magazine. It combines the best features of both. It is not the exponent of a fossilized theology nor the organ of a sensational literary clique. Whatever is fresh and life-giving in the domain of theological science receives careful and reverent treatment; whatever is refining and elevating in contemporary literature finds a place in the pages of their admirable review. It affords us much pleasure to note its progress and success. The December number just to hand contains, in addition to the usual editorial and critical notices, the following papers, all of them well and thoughtfully written: "The Evolution of Conscience," by Rev. Francis H. Johnson; "Bayard Taylor," by Paul Hamilton Hayne; "Missions in Mexico," by Rev. Rollo Ogden; and "Literacy and Crime in Massachusetts," by George R. Stetson.

A FURTHER instalment of the "Life of Her Majesty" published by George Virtue, Toronto, is to hand. The period covered is from the Queen's first visit to Germany to the declaration of the French Empire in 1852. The railway mania, the births of Princesses Helena and Louise, the repeal of the Corn Laws, the installation of Prince Albert as Chancellor of Cambridge, the Chartist Riots, the Great Exhibition in 1851, the "Restoration Ball," royal visits to Liverpool and Manchester, Death and Funeral of the Duke of Wellington, Life in the Highlands, etc., are amongst the many topics pleasantly touched in telling Her Majesty's life. Splendid steel engravings of Windsor Castle, the Queen's horses, and of statues of Prince Alfred and Princess Alice add an artistic finish to the instalment.

IN their Christmas Double Number of *The English Illustrated Magazine*, the Messrs. Macmillan have amply fulfilled the exacting expectations aroused by their announcements. The numerous illustrations—an important feature in a holiday number—are excellent of execution, and interesting in subject. They are, moreover, exceedingly numerous, and include seven splendid full-page pictures by prominent artists and engravers. The table of contents covers a variety of subjects which will enable readers of the most diverse tastes to find matters of interest—contributions from the pens of Archibald Forbes, Austin Dobson, Henry James, Hugh Conway, J. Comyns Carr, F. Pollock, Richard Jefferies, F. Villiers, Mary Mather, W. E. Norris, Bernard H. Becker, and C. F. Keary. Messrs. Hart and Company, of Toronto, have been appointed special agents for this excellent magazine.

MESSRS. LOTHROP'S *Wide-Awake* comes out decked in festive garb for Christmas, and a very handsome magazine it is. If our young folk who are fortunate enough to subscribe to this publication should ever be told by antiquated dyspeptics that there are "no such times now-a-days as there were forty years ago," they may point with triumph to *Wide-Awake* as a periodical within their reach, the likes of which was not known "when George the Third was King." Excellent and carefully-selected reading, a high moral tone, and an almost prodigal profusion of illustration are the leading characteristics of *Wide-Awake*. Moreover, the letter-press and general get-up are in themselves works of art.

THE Christmas issue of Messrs. Scribner's monthly, *The Book Buyer*, is an extremely good number. It has contributions by Donald G. Mitchell, J. D. Champlin, Jr., W. M. Laffan, R. H. Stoddard, Roger Riordan, G. P. Lathrop, H. H. Boyesen, H. C. Bunner, F. R. Stockton and other well-known writers, and is very fully illustrated with a selection from the leading books of the year, and a frontispiece engraved especially for this issue by G. Kruell.

THE December number of *Literary Life* has capital portraits of Carlyle and George Eliot, accompanied by short biographical papers. Rose Garfield Clemmens, presumably a connection of the editor, tells in terse and intelligent manner the story of Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice." Though much of the magazine is eclectic, the matter is so carefully culled and arranged as to make it very attractive. Every person who knows him will be glad to hear that Mr. Will M. Clemmens has won much sympathy and not a little success in his conduct of *Literary Life*.

THE numbers of *The Living Age* for November 29th and December 6th contain amongst other selections from the current Reviews and Magazines, papers on "The Works of Alexander Pope," "Country Life," "The Croker Papers," "Some Lessons from Carlyle's Life," "Mrs. Montague," "A Marshall's Training," "Chinese Horticulture," "Artificial Jewels," "Quiet Weather," with instalments of "Beauty and the Beast," and "Alexander Nesbit, Ex-Schoolmaster," and poetry.

THE November number of *Choice Literature* contains eleven selections from the great magazines and reviews—eighty well-printed pages of the highest class of contemporary reading. This number also completes the fourth volume, and Mr. Alden makes some astounding offers to subscribers for the coming year.

THE current *Bookworm* contains Poe's "Descent into the Maelström" and "Mr. Crane Walks Out," from the "Widow Bedott Papers." Through the same medium Mr. Alden makes his holiday announcements.

THE Christmas number of the *Brooklyn Magazine*, the third issue of this new periodical, comes to us considerably enlarged and replete with literary matter appropriate to the season.

### BOOK NOTICES.

CANADIAN PICTURES DRAWN BY PEN AND PENCIL. By the Marquis of Lorne. London: The Religious Tract Society, Paternoster Row.

Under the above title there has recently issued from the London press an attractive volume, to the literary merits of which justice has already been done. But its most tempting features are the work of the pencil. Its numerous illustrations are stated to be "from objects and photographs in the possession of, and sketches by, the Marquis of Lorne, Sydney Hall, etc.;" and remembering the beautiful contributions to Canadian Art which we already owe to the pencil of the Princess Louise, we are tempted to ascribe to Her Royal Highness some of the unclaimed sketches of special excellence introduced under guise of the modest "Etc." The somewhat costly and pretentious "Picturesque Canada" has been chiefly devoted to the picturing of localities where subscribers were to be looked for, and which were of easy access to draughtsmen. The late Governor-General traversed the whole Dominion from ocean to ocean, and employed his pencil in depicting the incidents of savage life in the North-West, and the scenes of surpassing grandeur on the Western slopes of the Rocky Mountains. So far as its illustrations are concerned, the volume accordingly presents a tasteful epitome of the Dominion of Canada. The sketches readily admit of classification, and have their varying elements of interest. Some are graphic depictions of industries, pastimes, and local incidents peculiar to the country; Shad Fishing, as it is pursued in the Maritime Provinces; Lumberers at Work in the Primæval Forest; and again the fruits of their labour in the lumber piles that constitute so peculiar a feature in the Ottawa landscape. Then winter has its special industry, with the Ice Cutters on the St. Lawrence, busy sawing out the vast blocks to be stored away for summer use; and, as a no less characteristic incident, we have here the strange scene of an ice-jam, with the huge blocks of river ice piling up under the pressure of a "shove" into a pyramidal winter cairn on the quays of Montreal. A touch of humour is added to such incidents at times; as when the levelled spoils of the forest, lying in confused heaps ready to be rolled away to the nearest river, and so floated down to the lake, or the St. Lawrence, are produced

here under the title of "Canadian Rolling Stock!" or again a group of blanketed savages surveying the contents of a Hudson Bay Company's store are entitled "Ugly Customers." The incidents of Indian life naturally attract the observant traveller, and are full of character. "An Indian Lodge in the North-West" exhibits the buffalo-skin teepee, with the Indian squaw attending on the fire at its entrance—both destined very speedily to be among the things of the past as is shown in the Winnipeg as it was and as it is. In the one case tents and lodges, ephemeral as the Indian wigwam, intermingling with the forest frame-buildings of the embryo town; in the other it has grown into the populous city and busy centre of civilization. Another scene shows a party of Blackfeet Indians crossing a wide river on horseback; or again, the mounted Indian appears in full career hunting the buffalo on the plains. Incidents of Canadian life furnish another series of studies. The farm snowed up, and nearly buried in a drift; the railway snow-plough; the Snow-Shoe Club in Indian file; the stirring scene of a tobogganing party; and the native precursor of railway or sleigh travelling in the efficiently equipped dog-sleigh. But Canada has her summer as well as her winter displays, and the picture of a Canadian Vineyard will help to recall to English readers the too-little recognized fact that the latitude of Canada lies for the most part far to the south of England's insular home and exceptional climate. But the Canadian pictures which have the strongest claim upon our attention are those which attract the eye by their genuine artistic merit. In the defiles of the Rocky Mountains, and on the Pacific slope in British Columbia, the wandering artist may revel at his will in picturesque scenery. The Great Bluff, on Thompson River, and again, a beautiful view, from the Marquis's own pencil, of a wide-spreading landscape scene from another lofty bluff on the Elbow River, will gratify every appreciative student by their artistic merits. The same is no less true of "Chief Mountain," a grand isolated peak of the Rockies; of Fort Edmonton; of Michipicoten, on Lake Superior; and of Casapedia Cottage, situated on the upper shore of the Bay of Chaleurs, where the Marquis spent more than one pleasant summer "on perhaps the best salmon stream in the world;" and close to the favourite head-quarters of President Arthur, the sovereign Chief Magistrate of the neighbouring Republic. Altogether this volume of "Canadian Pictures" claims our commendation as a pleasing epitome of the diversified scenes and incidents of our Canadian Dominion, of which it is gratifying to find that its late popular Governor-General has carried away with him so many charming reminiscences. Messrs. Hart and Company, of King Street West, are agents for Toronto.

A HISTORY OF THE FOUR GEORGES. By Justin McCarthy, M.P. In Four Volumes. Vol. I. New York: Harper and Brothers.

In the period covered by this book Mr. McCarthy has a rich field upon which to work, and he will have no difficulty in filling the four volumes promised. The ground is certainly not original—Thackeray has ploughed it in his memorable lectures, and it has tempted several other literati; but it is far from being exhausted. What a kaleidoscopic view presents itself to the mind's eye as one thinks of the days of the South Sea Bubble, the birth of the East India Company, the Anglo-French War, the American and French Revolutions, the Napoleonic Wars—of such names as Marlborough, Bolingbroke, Pope, Walpole, Swift, Addison, and a host of others! Mr. McCarthy, of course, does not pretend to give a history of these times; but, accepting the materials to his hands, he gives a remarkably vivid and even exciting historical description of men and things as then existent. This first volume extends from the death of Queen Anne to 1729—two years after the death of George I. His description of London in 1714 reads curiously to those who know the mighty Metropolis of to-day, and his word-portraits of court favourites whose names are "familiar in our mouths as household words" are startlingly realistic—with a decided tendency to disillusionize many prevalent conceptions. Mr. McCarthy promises in "The Four Georges" even to eclipse the reputation he won by his "History of Our Own Times."

THE WORKS OF ALFRED LORD TENNYSON. Poet Laureate. Vols. I., II., III., IV. London and New York: Macmillan and Company. Toronto: Rowsell and Hutchinson.

In view of the senile later writings of Tennyson, Ruskin, and others, their most devoted admirers have not unreasonably wished that the gods had earlier stricken them with a desire for rest; but the feverish activity which characterizes the laureate has at least had one beneficial result: it has enabled his new publishers to produce a complete edition of his works under the author's immediate supervision. The arrangement adopted divides the poems into seven volumes, vols. I. and II. containing "Miscellaneous Poems"; vol. III., "Idylls of the King"; IV., "The Princess" and "Maud"; V., "Enoch Arden" and "In Memoriam"; VI., "Queen Mary" and "Harold"; and VII., "The Lover's Tale." It goes without saying that this edition—Globe 8vo., handmade paper—is a *recherché* production: the publisher's name is a guarantee for that. It is gotten up with a beautiful simplicity of style which entitles it to stand *facile princeps* amongst all editions of the laureate's works. The first volume has a beautiful steel-engraving portrait of Tennyson, and the set will in all probability be at once accepted in the book-world as the standard one.

SELECTIONS FROM THE POETICAL WORKS OF ROBERT BROWNING. First and Second Series. New edition. New York: Macmillan and Company. Toronto: Rowsell and Hutchinson.

A SELECTION FROM THE POETRY OF ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING. First and Second Series. New Edition. New York: Macmillan and Company. Toronto: Rowsell and Hutchinson.

In this preliminary notice it will be sufficient to call the attention of those who are about to purchase holiday mementoes for persons of cultivated taste to the above handsome edition, which is got up in similar style to the new "Tennyson," with the exception of a slight difference in the shade of paper and colour of binding. The four volumes are neatly packed in a box, and offered at a nominal figure.

THE PILGRIM'S REST. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. Toronto: Rowsell and Hutchinson.

A pretty little illuminated book containing a "thought of rest" for each day in the month. It is one of a series of twelve which are being largely used this season instead of Christmas cards.

## MUSIC.

THE Norwich and Worcester Festivals are no sooner over than we have to chronicle the arrangements for the forthcoming Festival of 1885, that of Birmingham. The report recently presented by the general committee entrusted with the management of the festival expresses, among other things, great and sincere grief at the loss of Sir Michael Costa, and refers in terms of the highest satisfaction to the acceptance by Herr Richter of the vacant post. The chief sensation of the coming event will be the production of the most recent work of Gounod. "Mors et Vita," as it is called, is already in the hands of Messrs. Novello for publication. The work, if not an absolute sequel, is similar in plan to the "Redemption," and will undoubtedly prove fully as interesting. Divided into three parts, the libretto is mainly compiled from Scripture, with passages from the early Fathers of the Church. The price paid for the work is £4,000, which has been divided more or less equally between Messrs. Novello and the Committee of the Festival. Gounod himself will conduct the oratorio. A Cantata from the Bohemian composer Herr Dvorak is also looked for. Mr. A. C. Mackenzie, whose "Rose of Sharon" still attracts so much attention in London musical circles, will be represented by an orchestral work. The names of Cowen, Villiers Stanford, Ebenezer Prout, Anderson and Bridge also appear in the list of English composers whose works will be performed. The dates of the Festival are August 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th, 1885.

QUITE a controversy is at present occupying considerable space in the *Times* on the subject of winter orchestral concerts, which, according to a spirited amateur, are not to be had in London except at exorbitant charges. The example of New York is adduced to show that while life is dearer there than in London, the prevailing prices of seats for the best concerts are less than one-half those asked in the latter city. Mr. Rodriguez has certainly investigated the subject. He replies to every excuse, every objection, and quoting many a figure and many a statistic, pretty clearly proves that there seems to be no adequate reason for the high prices charged in London for good orchestral concerts. But there is a great deal of truth in Mr. Rodrigue's opponents. Chamber music, which must largely constitute the programmes of all orchestral concerts, is positively ruined by being performed in too large a hall—the delicate nuances are lost, the tempi suffer, and the inordinate distance intervening between the player and the auditor weakens the affect of the distinctive timbre: everything sounds alike.

THE *Times* is also the vehicle for another animated discussion on the question of musical pitch. In a recent number of *L'Echo Musical* a translation is published of an article on "Musical Pitch" which supported the universal adoption of the French diapason normal. The great maestro Verdi has written a letter on the subject in favour of a lower pitch than that which was previously in use, and furthermore bringing to the knowledge of the musical public that the Italian Government had already acted on his report. A common diapason will indeed be a proof of international unity. "For my part," Verdi writes, "I should like to see one diapason established for the entire musical universe. The musical language is universal; why, therefore, should the note which is called A in Paris or Milan become B flat in Rome?"

AMERICAN musical and dramatic critics are exceedingly hypercritical as to the merits of Miss Emma Nevada, their talented countrywoman, who, having starved in order to take singing lessons, became the favoured pupil of Mdme. Marchèci, the pet of Gounod and the creator of the "Rose of Sharon," has returned to her native country to be told that she "is not a great singer, nor ever will be." She appears, however, to be able to hold her own. Last Saturday afternoon she sang "Lucia" to a rather slim house. The part, according to Col. Mapleson, belongs to Mdme. Patti's repertoire, and the gallant Colonel therefore objected to giving it to Mlle. Nevada. He begged her to go and ask the *Diva's* permission. This Mlle. Nevada distinctly refused to do, and accordingly Col. Mapleson went himself. The result may be easily imagined. *La Patti* is too sure of her laurels to fear a rival, especially one so inexperienced and youthful. Permission was sweetly, if satirically, granted, and "Lucia" went on smoothly.

COMIC opera appears to be on the wane everywhere. In London at the "Savoy" the well-worn "Trial by Jury" and "Sorcerer" are still, however, being given to good houses. There is always a London public willing to be amused. In New York, even the superb decorations and upholstery at the "Casino" have not redeemed "Nell Gwynne" from failure. Col. McCaull insists that it has been a success, but as it is already withdrawn, and "Prince Methusalem," one of the most dreary of the Strauss operas, put on in its place, the Colonel must give way in his opinions to those of the critic and the general public.

It will interest Canadians to hear that Mr. Frederick Boscovitz gave a successful Piano Recital in Chicago last week. Six Chopin numbers, the Wagner-Liszt "Spinning Song" and several of his own peculiarly dainty and "taking" compositions were included in the programme.

ONE of the most charming juvenile Christmas offerings so temptingly appealing to the many parents and guardians whose hearts and purses are open to holiday influences, is an elegant volume of songs by Lady Arthur Hill, well known in England as a pleasing composer. The poems are sweet and simple as they are sure to be coming from the pure and womanly pen of Mrs. Alexander. The work is dedicated to the Princess of Wales, and has a beautifully coloured title representing child-life amidst lovely and sympathetic surroundings. The music is by Robert B. Addison, and although simple, is touched with an æsthetic hand and will please the musical as well as the unmusical listener.

AT this season some words about Christmas carols may not be amiss. There is no reason why the custom of carolling should not be introduced into Canada. Her own peculiar character amusements and national pastimes need not stand in the way, and her bright and sunny winters seem to suggest the merry and beautiful Christmas customs of the Old Country. Carolling is of great antiquity. The word "carol" originally meant a song accompanied by dancing, the performers taking hands and singing as they make a ring, much in the style of children's games at present. These carols were often profane and always humorous, and not till the fifteenth century did any appear to be at all popular that were of a more serious character. The earliest printed collection was by Wynkyn de Worde, 1521, but all of them were convivial. From the Restoration up to the present, carol-singing has been practised at Christmas in many parts of England, particularly in Cornwall and other western counties, many ancient and quaint tunes wedded to equally curious words being still sung there.

## TORONTO PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S "NAAMAN."

THANKS to the plan adopted by the management, of having no reserved plan, the large audience which assembled in the Pavilion on Tuesday night to hear "Naaman" was on hand in time, and seated ready for the performance. The chorus and orchestra numbered about three hundred and fifty, and presented from the front an imposing appearance. The society was assisted by Miss C. Walker, soprano, Mr. Jameson, tenor, and Mr. Stoddard, baritone, all of New York. Previous to the oratorio, a verse of the National Anthem was sung, with good effect.

Regarding the oratorio itself, the performance was not an unqualified success; and it is to be regretted that the committee did not use better judgment in the selection of their imported talent. "Naaman" is written in a comparatively light style, and presents few of the difficulties found in the standard oratorios; but, notwithstanding this, the weakness of the leading parts was very apparent. Miss Walker's voice is metallic and unsympathetic, and she has a strong tendency towards an exaggerated tremolo, which at times is painful to listen to, and, as a consequence, the beauties of the principal number allotted to *Adah*, "They shall be turned back," were entirely lost. In the concerted music Miss Walker appeared to much better advantage. Mr. Jameson, the tenor (?), was a decided failure. His voice is of a "foggy" nature and limited in range. He sings with care, but should not attempt anything beyond concert ballads. To Mr. Stoddard are due the honours of the evening; his large share of the solos was sung in a manner that left nothing to be desired, the recitatives being marked with considerable dramatic force. He showed to particular advantage in "The seed shall be prosperous" and "Lament not thus," receiving after each a well-merited round of applause. Miss Hardmann as *Timna* (contralto) did very nicely, as did also Miss McManus and Mrs. J. W. Lawrence. The other local soloists were Miss Beaver and Mr. Taylor.

Of the concerted numbers the quartette "Honour and Glory" was undoubtedly the best, receiving the only encore of the evening. Some of the choruses, however, were hurried so much by the impetuosity of the conductor that their depth and grandeur were entirely lost—sacrificed for brilliancy. The chorus sang with all the dash and vim so familiar to the listeners to Philharmonic concerts. "Praise the Lord for his goodness" and the well-known "With sheathed swords" were magnificently rendered.

The orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. Bayley, was decidedly an improvement on that of former years; the accompaniments to some of the solos were treated with a delicacy that was refreshing. Mr. Torrington of course conducted, and exercised his usual care and ability; but it would have been more prudent for him to reprove his inattentive sopranos anywhere but before an audience at a public performance. *Le. B.*

THE attendances at the Levy Concerts in the Toronto Pavilion were striking testimony to the popularity of the cornet virtuoso. His company could not be called a strong one. It consisted of Mr. Constantine Sternberg, solo pianist; Mr. Edward O'Mahoney, basso; Miss Stella Costa, soprano, and Miss Lidia Hood Talbot, reciter. The programme was of a very "popular" character, and consequently the encores were more frequent than judicious. Mr. Levy has grown much more careless in his playing than in the days when he was connected with the Crystal Palace Band; but his precision of touch, accuracy of tone, and remarkable tonguing are still manifest, as is also his old weakness of "playing to the gallery." Considerable surprise was expressed that in his rendering of "The Lost Chord," on Thursday night, he should have so entirely ignored the spirit of the song. For instance, the bars accompanying the words, "It lulled all perplexed feelings into one perfect peace," were thrown out with brazen blast enough to crack the tympanum of a mummy. The playing of Mr. Sternberg was that of an artist, and showed refined taste as well as excellent technique. In due time Miss Costa may be trained into a singer; but for the present she uses her magnificent voice in a colourless and merely mechanical manner. Mr. O'Mahoney was equally out of place; he would be much more at home in a variety hall. Miss Talbot is an excellent reciter, has great dramatic power and mobile features. But her foreign accent renders it extremely difficult to follow her, especially in such a wretched hall as the Pavilion.—*Ecouteur.*

THE East Toronto Cricket Club gave a miscellaneous entertainment in All Saints' School, Toronto, on Wednesday evening last, when a tasteful programme of music, recitations, and tableaux was ably performed to a large and appreciative audience. The tableaux were especially effective, and the idea is commended to the attention of those about to give concerts or socials.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

It is announced that Mr. Cross's "Life of George Eliot" will be published early next month.

The *New York Times* paid \$2,000 in Madrid for its copy of the Spanish treaty, and \$4,416 for having it cabled—a total of \$6,416 for one "beat" on its rivals. It reaps about \$10,000 worth of advertising as a result.

The January number of the *Cornhill Magazine* will contain an article upon Charles Dickens, written by his eldest daughter, entitled "Charles Dickens at Home," with special reference to his relations with children.

The publisher of "Mark Twain's" new book offers \$500 reward for the conviction of the person who tampered with one of the illustrations. If the edition had been printed with the altered picture a loss of \$25,000 would have occurred.

MESSRS. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND Co. send two handsome illuminated hanging calendars for 1885—the one named the "Holmes" and the other the "Longfellow," with selections for every day in the year. Utility and beauty are ably combined in these almanacs.

The editor of the *Canadian Missionary* publishes in the Christmas issue of his journal what is claimed to be a relic of the poet Burns. It is in the form of a letter enclosing money for five copies of G. Turnbull's poems, and offering some manly words of sympathy on recent misfortunes experienced by that gentleman.

With Gen. Grant writing sketches of his battles, Admiral Porter writing novels, Gen. Sherman taking his ease, and Gen. Sheridan leisurely evolving an Annual Report, it would appear that the natural occupation of the military profession had quite gone. As there is at present no American navy, it would seem that naval men were in much the same fix.

"An Actor's Tour, or Seventy Thousand Miles with Shakspeare," is the rather striking name of a book recording Mr. Daniel E. Bandmann's experiences on a tour, lasting three and a-half years, through Australia, New Zealand, India, Ceylon, China, and the Hawaiian Islands. It has been edited by Bernard Gisby, and is published by Cupples, Upham and Co.

It is stated that the picture in colours which accompanies the Christmas number of the *Graphic* has been eleven months printing. The first impressions were begun in January. More than half a million copies have been printed; and no fewer than nineteen million separate impressions in the various colours and tints had to be taken in order to produce the entire edition.

The serial story, "Trajan," which began its course in the columns of the *Manhattan Magazine*, and which was cut short at the end of twelve chapters by the sudden suspension of that periodical, is to be issued by Messrs. Cassels and Co., in book form, late in the present month. Its authorship is anonymous, so far, though well understood to belong to a former Philadelphia journalist.

Two or three anachronisms have been charged to Mr. Howell's new story, "The Rise of Silas Lapham," because one of the characters speaks of Daisy Millerism before Henry James's novel appeared, and another is described as using a type-writer in 1875. Mr. Howells meets the charge in an open letter to be printed in the *January Century*, in which he claims that in aiming at contemporary effect "the general truth is sometimes better than the specific fact."

With the *Art Interchange* of December 4th is presented a beautiful panel picture, "The Lute-Player," printed in colours, and being one of the handsomest of the "coloured plate series" issued by the enterprising proprietors of this excellent household art journal. A large sheet of embroidery designs, designs for plaques, box-covers, nut-plates, and various other illustrations are freely interspersed amongst some capital reading. The *Interchange* is improving week by week.

The Christmas number of the *Art Journal* is a very valuable work. It is an illustrated record of the career of Sir Frederick Leighton. A line engraving is given of the P. R. A's charming Odalisque, a wood engraving of his Cimbuë's Madonna, a chalk study of the Collie dog so much out of place in his Iphigenia, a sepia etching from his "Industrial Arts" at South Kensington Museum, and a very capital portrait on wood. In addition, scattered amid the letterpress are sketches of nearly all the president's other work, whether on canvas or in Bronze.

The new Tennyson play, "Thomas à Becket," quite overturns history, and takes liberties with tradition. When Queen Eleanor required Rosamond to choose death by poison or the knife, she declines both, and the queen is about to stab her when Becket comes in and advises the queen to retire to the convent; and consequently Rosamond survives to kneel over Becket's corpse as it lies in state in the cathedral. So much we get by cable, whereby we also learn that Tennyson does not intend this play for the stage—although it has been stated that he wrote it for acting.

EMILE ZOLA's new moral and realistic book, "Germinal," which describes the mining districts of France, is about to be published in that Conservative organ for Englishmen's Sunday reading called *The People*. Mr. Zola says that he is not at all imaginative. His stories are arranged facts. The greatest fact in this world he apparently takes to be himself. He was once shoeless; he has pawned his only coat to buy bread; he has lived for months and months on three cents a day. Therefore, without imagination he can describe the sufferings of the poor. The pity of it is that Mr. Zola also took to describing the details of the lowest lives of vice. They are repulsive, and his attempts to vindicate them as missionary in their effect are unworthy of him.

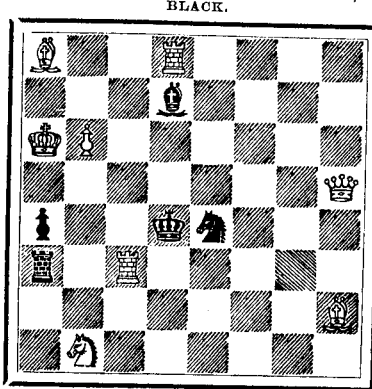
CHESS.

All communications intended for this department should be addressed "Chess Editor," office of THE WEEK, Toronto.

PROBLEM No. 65.

Composed for the WEEK.

By Morley Punshon, Toronto Chess Club.

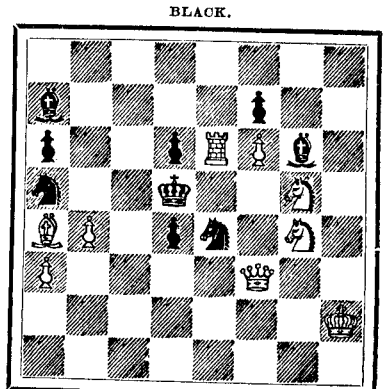


White to play and sui-mate in four moves.

PROBLEM No. 66.

TOURNEY PROBLEM No. 15.

Motto:—"Symphony in Fireworks."



White to play and mate in three moves.

TOURNEY PROBLEMS RECEIVED.

- Motto:—"My lance."
- Motto:—"A Symphony in fireworks."
- Motto:—"Indicium duplex."
- Motto:—"All's well that ends well."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D. J. W., Brantford.—Thanks. Hope this will continue. Have you not something of interest from your city.  
W. A., Montreal.—Sorry to mislead you as to that "sui-mate." E. B. G.—Ditto. C. P., Ottawa.—See Mr. M's explanation in Q. M. C.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

- No. 57.—Kt Q B 5, solved by W. A., D. J. W.
- No. 58.—B K 7, solved by W. A., E. B. G., D. J. W., J. M.
- No. 59.—Impossible.
- No. 60.—Q Q R 3, solved by W. A., D. J. W., E. B. G., J. M.

PROBLEM NO. 59.

In this problem the Black king should be on Q R 4.]

TORONTO vs. QUEBEC.

The Quebec *Morning Chronicle* seems inclined to attribute the Quebec Club's defeat to the absence from their ranks of three or four of their usual team. We simply remark that Toronto played minus Messrs. Northcote, Rose and Littlejohn.

TORONTO vs. QUEBEC.

BOARD "B."

Played in the Toronto vs. Quebec telegraphic match, on the 24th and 26th November, 1884 between Messrs. W. Boulthbee and Russell Greenwood of Toronto, and Messrs. C. P. Champion and W. D. Campbell of Quebec.

White.		Black.	
Messrs.	Messrs.	Messrs.	Messrs.
Boulthbee & Greenwood.	Champion and Fry.	Boulthbee & Greenwood.	Champion and Fry.
1. P K 4	P K B 3 (a)	23. Q Kt 4	Q B 4
2. P Q 4	P K 3	24. Q takes Q (b)	R takes Q
3. P K B 4	Kt K 2	25. P K R 4	B Q 2
4. B Q B 4 (b)	P Q 4	26. P K Kt 4 (j)	K R B sq
5. P takes P (c)	Kt takes P	27. B Q 2	P Q R 4
6. Kt K 2	B K 2	28. P Q B 3	B K sq
7. K Kt Q B 3 (d)	P Q B 3	29. P takes P	P takes P
8. Q K R 5 ch	P K Kt 3	30. Kt takes B	K takes Kt
9. Q R 6 ? (e)	B K B sq	31. K Kt 2 (k)	B Kt 3
10. Q R 4	B K Kt 2	32. P Q R 4	B K 5 ch
11. Castles	Castles.	33. K B 2	P takes P
12. K Kt K 2 (f)	P K B 4	34. R takes P	R K R sq (l)
13. Q R 3	Kt Q 2	35. R K Kt sq	R R 7 ch
14. Kt Q 2	P Q Kt 4	36. K K sq	B Q 6
15. B takes Kt (g)	B P takes B	37. P Q Kt 4	P B 1
16. Kt K B 3	Q K B 3	38. B K 3	R K 7 ch
17. Kt Kt 5 (h)	P K R 3	39. K Q sq	R takes B
18. Kt K B 3	Q B 2	40. K Q 2	P B 7
19. Kt K 5	Kt takes Kt	41. R K B sq	B takes R
20. B P takes Kt	P K Kt 4	42. K takes R	B Kt 4
21. Kt Kt 3	P K B 5	43. Resigns.	
22. Kt R 5	Q Kt 3		

NOTES.

- (a) A defence which Barnes handled very well against Morphy. Very conservative.
- (b) A bad move. Q 3 is the correct square.
- (c) B Q 3 now is better.
- (d) We do not understand this move.
- (e) Q K B 3 looks more to the point. The move made only brings Black B where it is wanted.
- (f) Kt K 4 we prefer for many reasons.
- (g) Once more we prefer B Q 3. White are dallying while Black develop.
- (h) Kt K 5 would have been very forcible here.
- (i) After this move White have, we believe, a winning game.
- (j) P K Kt 3 would probably have won.
- (k) K B 2 or R B 2 would have been better.
- (l) After this White have a lost game.

CHESS AT SOUTHAMPTON.

From *The Field*.

The subjoined game was played with eleven others simultaneously, blindfold, at the Victoria Rooms, Southampton, on the 14th inst. :— (Irregular Opening.)

White.		Black.	
J. H. Zukertort.	Mr. Kenny.	J. H. Zukertort.	Mr. Kenny.
1. P to K 4	P to Q 4	15. Q to R 4	Q to Q 2
2. P takes P	Kt to K B 3	16. Kt to K 2	Kt to R 4
3. B to Kt 5 ch	B to Q 2	17. B takes P	P to Kt 3
4. B to B 4	P to Q Kt 4	18. P to Q 6	P to K 3
5. B to Kt 3	P to Q R 4	19. P to Q 4	B to Kt 2
6. P to Q R 3	B to Kt 5	20. Castles	Castles
7. P to K B 3	B to B sq	21. Kt to R 7	Kt to B 3
8. Kt to B 3	B to R 3	22. Q takes Q	Kt takes Q
9. P to Q 3	P to Kt 5	23. B to R 4	R to R sq
10. P takes P	P takes P	24. B takes Kt	R takes Kt
11. Kt to Kt 5	B to Kt 2	25. B to Kt 5	R to R sq
12. R takes R	B takes R	26. B to Kt 5	B to K B 3
13. B to K B 4	Kt to R 3	27. R to R sq	P to R 4
14. Q to R sq	B to Kt 2	28. P to Q 7	Resigns.

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LESLIE, EDINBORO'  
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**WHAT IS CATARRH ?**  
*From the Mail (Can.) Dec. 15.*

Catarrh is a mucous-purulent discharge caused  
by the presence and development of the  
vegetable parasite amoeba in the internal  
lining membrane of the nose. This parasite is  
only developed under favourable circum-  
stances, and these are:—Morbid state of the  
blood, as the blighted corpuscle of uerucle,  
the germ poison of syphilis, mercury, toxo-  
mosa, from the retention of the effeted matter  
of the skin, suppressed perspiration, badly  
ventilated sleeping apartments, and other  
poisons that are germinated in the blood.  
These poisons keep the internal lining mem-  
brane of the nose in a constant state of irrita-  
tion, ever ready for the deposit of the seeds  
of these germs, which spread up the nostrils  
and down the fauces, or back of the throat,  
causing ulceration of the throat; up the  
eustachian tubes, causing deafness; burrow-  
ing in the vocal cords, causing hoarseness  
usurping the proper structure of the bronchial  
tubes, ending in pulmonary consumption and  
death.

Many attempts have been made to discover  
a cure for this distressing disease by the use  
of inhalants and other ingenious devices, but  
none of these treatments can do a particle of  
good until the parasites are either destroyed  
or removed from the mucous tissue.

Some time since a well-known physician of  
forty years' standing, after much experiment-  
ing, succeeded in discovering the necessary  
combination of ingredients which never fail  
in absolutely and permanently eradicating  
this horrible disease, whether standing for  
one year or forty years. Those who may be  
suffering from the above disease, should, with-  
out delay, communicate with the business  
managers,

Messrs. A. H. DIXON & SON,  
305 King St. West, Toronto, Canada,  
and inclose stamp for their treatise on Catarrh

What the Rev. E. B. Stevenson, B.A., a Clergy-  
man of the London Conference of the Metho-  
dist Church of Canada, has to say in regard  
to A. H. Dixon & Son's New Treatment for  
Catarrh.

Oakland, Ont., Canada, March 17, '83.

Messrs. A. H. Dixon & Son:

DEAR SIRS,—Yours of the 13th instant to  
hand. It seems almost too good to be true that  
I am cured of Catarrh, but I know that I am.  
I have had no return of the disease, and never  
felt better in my life. I have tried so many  
things for Catarrh, suffered so much and for  
so many years, that is hard for me to realize  
that I am really better.

I consider that mine was a very bad case;  
it was aggravated and chronic, involving the  
throat as well as the nasal passages, and I  
thought I would require the three treatments,  
but I feel fully cured by the two sent me, and  
I am thankful that I was ever induced to send  
to you.

You are at liberty to use this letter stating  
that I have been cured at two treatments, and  
I shall gladly recommend your remedy to  
some of my friends who are sufferers.

Yours, with many thanks,  
REV. E. B. STEVENSON.

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**Testimonials Selected.**  
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purities or adulterations, and can strongly recommend it as perfectly pure, and  
a very superior malt liquor.  
HENRY H. CROFT.

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examined both the March and October brewings, and find them of uniform  
quality. They may be recommended to invalids or convalescents where malt  
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Phy., Professor of Chemistry and Public Analyst.

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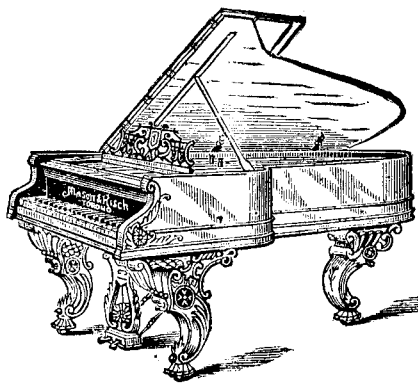
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