

THE WEEK

Canadian Journal of Politics, Literature, Science and Arts

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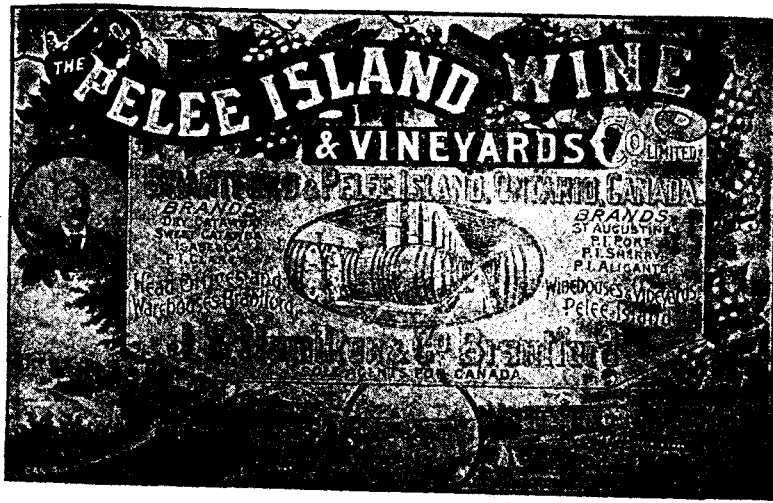
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THE WEEK.

Vol. X

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

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is now definitely announced, on apparently good authority, that the rejection of the Army Bill by the German Reichstag, which is now almost certain to take place, will be followed by a dissolution of the House in April. In that event the German Empire will probably be for a few weeks the theatre of the most intense political struggle it has ever known: a struggle fraught with results of the highest importance to the welfare of the country, the constitutional liberties of the people, and possibly to the prerogatives of the crown. It is hard to say what will be the strength of the influences which the Emperor may be able to bring to bear. That his appeals to the national pride, and above all to their "loyalty," will be fervent and impassioned, may readily be believed. Yet, judging from the

present attitude of the majorities, it would seem highly improbable that the imperial and "imperious" will can prevail.

One of the most inconsequential and fallacious ways of arguing that a reduction of the tariff upon British and American goods would not benefit the Canadian farmer is to quote the tables of articles imported into Canada from these countries, in a given year, under the present high tariff, with a view to showing that the goods so imported are mainly of kinds used only by the wealthier classes. What was the high tariff imposed for if not to keep out the articles which the people would be most likely to import but for the obstacles thus put in their way? The true test, and the only one worth applying, it cannot be too often urged, is to remove the tariff from the articles which the farmer most needs, or to reduce it to a revenue basis, and then see whether he will import them or not. If he does not the fact will prove that the tariff is no longer needed. If he does it will prove that the tariff compels him to buy the article which he does not prefer instead of that which he would like to have, thus interfering with his rights as a free citizen.

Among the various services which the Government Experimental Farms are rendering to the farmers of the Dominion one of great and immediate practical value is the free testing of the germinating power of grain and other agricultural seeds. This work is now in active progress at the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, and farmers are invited to avail themselves freely of the opportunity for testing the quality of any seeds which they may be proposing to use in the coming spring. Any farmers desiring to send samples for test should forward them without delay. The packages should weigh about one ounce each, and they can be sent free through the mails. In Manitoba and in some other parts of the Dominion the weather last autumn was very wet, and the grain in the stook was liable to sprout before it could be housed. "A large proportion of such samples," Professor Saunders says, "show a low degree of germinating power, and if sown as seed will be likely to result in poor crops." The samples can be tested and reports made usually in about ten days after the grain is received.

Referring to Mr. McCarthy's speech, the Quebec Chronicle, though a supporter of the Government, frankly admits that the

protectionist business has been greatly overdone since the introduction of the National Policy. The thin edge of the wedge was slipped in, it says, in 1879, and ever since, the burdens of the people, the great consuming classes, have been piled higher and higher, making the rich richer and the poor poorer. But this is the natural and inevitable outcome of protection as a policy. This was pointed out and insisted on with great emphasis by the abler opponents of the N. P. when it was under discussion in Parliament and in the press, prior to its adoption. It was then prophesied that the result of a few years of protection would be to create manufacturing and other interests and monopolies so powerful that the Government and Parliament would come largely under their control, thus rendering it very difficult, if not impossible, to undo the bad legislation and return to a sound fiscal policy, even after the evils and abuses of the protective tariff should have become apparent. Who can deny that these forecasts have been verified to an alarming extent? What possible motive can the Government have, apart from the influence of the powerful interests it has created, including its obligations to the Red Parlor, for delaying or refusing to reduce the burdens at the demand of the people?

A recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States is of considerable interest to all interested in labour legislation, but especially to Government employees. Ever since 1868 a law has been upon the statute book of the Republic making eight hours a day's work "for all labourers, workmen and mechanics" employed by the Government. For a time this law was evaded by giving full pay to those only who were willing to work ten hours per diem. This led to an agitation which compelled the President to issue a proclamation in the following year, and from that date till 1877 full pay was given for eight hour's work in all the navy yards and stations of the country. Then the Secretary returned to the plan of compelling all who would not work ten hours to accept a proportionate reduction in wages. After a time this ten-hour day was made to apply only from March to September. But the men have claimed extra pay during those months, and the Committee on Labour reported in 1890 that the Government could not escape responsibility for its payment. Now, by a decision of the Supreme Court, the same thing is affirmed in reference to the Post-office, which has

been trying similar evasions. The result is that the Departments must either employ smaller staffs, or obtain increased appropriations, or procure the repeal of the law, unless, that is, it is found that the average employee will do as much work in eight hours per day as in ten.

President Cleveland's action in withdrawing the Hawaiian Annexation Treaty from the Senate has put the political wiseacres at fault. No one seems to know whether this means that the scheme is to be dropped, or merely that the business is to be gone about in a more deliberate and dignified fashion. Perhaps the most probable interpretation is that the President has not made up his mind and is of opinion that the information necessary to wise and right action is not yet in his possession. If it be true that a competent and trustworthy commission is to be sent to the Island to ascertain the facts of the situation, including the feelings and wishes of the natives, such a course will add to Mr. Cleveland's reputation for statesmanship and love of fair play. If the majority of the Hawaiians proper desire to become a part of the great Republic and satisfactory terms can be arranged, we do not suppose that any other nation will seriously object or has any right to do so. On the other hand, to connive at the attempt of a few selfish and grasping Americans to bring an unwilling people into the Union by intrigue culminating in an underhand plot, would tarnish the good name of the nation and be a disgrace to the Government and party responsible for countenancing the treacherous deed. Meanwhile the fact which was admitted by Mr. Thurston, one of the Hawaiian Annexation Committee, in a recent address before a Washington club, that the Sugar Trust had forced an arrangement upon the sugar-planters of Hawaii under the contract with them, in virtue of which the said Trust is to receive one-half of any bounty which may hereafter be paid said planters, is, to say the least, remarkably suggestive.

So long as the mercantile business of the world is to so large an extent a vast system of credit, in which the safety of sellers of every grade depends upon the solvency, honesty and business capacity of the buyers, so long such agencies as the great Bradstreet Company will be an indispensable part of the machinery of trade. Such an agency is the confidential friend of the business men of every community. Its sole business is to ascertain and supply the facts upon the strength of which business may be done with intelligence, and therefore with reasonable assurance. It may justly claim to be the friend of every worthy business man, not only as it supplies him with the information necessary to enable him to deal safely with those in every section of the land with whom he may be brought into business relations, but as de-

fending also his own good name and credit by supplying correct information concerning his standing against all who would ignorantly or maliciously detract from the one or the other. From this it follows that every merchant has a personal interest in the reliability of the information supplied to the fraternity through such agency, and will naturally be disposed to examine with care such evidences of reliability as it may be able to put before him. Acting on this principle, the well-known Bradstreet Company began four years ago to carry out a plan whereby it might afford to its subscribers a means of testing the value of its credit-ratings. This plan, which has never, we believe, been adopted by any other company, is nothing less than the examination of the records of each of the eleven to fifteen thousand failures which annually take place in the United States and Canada. The amount of labour involved in this examination, involving, as it did in 1892, taking cognizance of more than 1,330,000 names of individuals, firms, and corporations, and requiring the co-operation of more than 100,000 correspondents at 77,917 cities and towns throughout the United States and Canada, must have been enormous. The result, so far as the primary object of the Company is concerned, may be given in a word, for, according to the published tables it appears that 93 per cent. of all the cases of failure loss were practically guarded against, as that proportion had no credit-rating, or only very moderate credit.

The foregoing fact is one of special interest to the mercantile community, but other facts incidentally brought out in the course of the investigation are no less important to the general public. This is especially true with reference to the causes of failures. The most fruitful cause of failures in both the United States and Canada is lack of capital, but it is noteworthy that while the proportion of failures from that cause in the United States in 1892 was less than in 1891, and the liabilities not half so much in amount, in Canada from 1890 to 1892 the proportion failing because of lack of capital increased from 55.8 to 65.1. A deplorable fact with reference to both countries is the large and increasing number of failures due to fraudulent disposition of property. In the Republic the record of failures from this species of dishonesty was 10.3 per cent. of the whole number in 1892, as compared with 7 per cent. in 1891 and only 4 per cent. in 1890. In Canada the failures from fraudulent disposition of property rose from 1.8 per cent. in 1890 to 5.2 per cent. in 1892, or from thirty in number in 1890 to eighty-nine in 1892, the liabilities represented rising from \$278,000 in 1890 to \$528,000 last year. There may be a grim satisfaction in learning that the proportion of dishonest failures among ourselves is still only one-half as large as that

among our neighbours, but it is alarming to reflect that while it is increasing by leaps and bounds in both countries, the ratio of increase in Canada has been even greater than that in the United States during the last two years.

"Some one has blundered" in the French Treaty business, but whether the Ottawa Government or the High Commissioner is not yet clear. The answer to that question depends mainly upon the answer to another: Had the Government seen and approved the draft treaty before it was signed by the High Commissioner? From Mr. Foster's remarks in the Commons it would be natural to infer either that he and his colleagues were not acquainted with its provisions, or that important changes had been made without their consent in the original draft before it was signed, though we do not think that Mr. Foster explicitly said the one or the other. If the draft treaty had received the approval of the Government and no changes except such as are in favour of Canada were made after it had been thus approved, the fault can hardly have been Sir Charles Tupper's, unless, indeed, he acted precipitately in signing it, when he should have waited for final instructions. The fact that he received a cablegram from Sir John Thompson the next day, instructing him to withhold signature until further orders, gives colour to the latter supposition. From another representation it might be inferred that Sir Charles had accepted, on his own responsibility, the change making the most-favoured-nation clause applicable not only to articles named in the treaty, but to all articles whatsoever, trusting to his "explanations" to make the change acceptable at Ottawa. This is a most important point, and if the fact be as intimated it might well be deemed sufficient to justify the Government in refusing to accept the treaty thus changed.

Whosoever the blame should fall, it is clear that the business has been bungled, and it is fortunate for Canada that her first essay in this direction should have been mismanaged. It is very true, as Mr. Mills said, that the submission of such a treaty to Parliament for ratification cannot be regarded as a merely formal matter. It must mean that it is competent for Parliament to reject the treaty or it means nothing. But in this case the rejection, so far as there has been anything of that kind, is not by Parliament, but by the Government, which is a very different matter. It is surely a very serious reflection upon the business capacity of a Government that it should be obliged to repudiate, or should even hesitate to recommend, a treaty drawn up by its own Commissioner and supposed to have its full approval at every stage. There is certainly good reason for complaint, on the part of both the British and French Governments at such a fiasco, should

MARCH 24th 1890.]

it really take place, and in any case, at such remarks as those of Mr. Foster in explanation of his delay in submitting the treaty for ratification. A Government is naturally supposed to have control of its own accredited agent and to hold itself responsible for whatever he may do in its name. Neither of the Great Powers concerned is likely to take kindly such trifling with their diplomatic dignity. If Sir Charles has, by taking too much upon himself, or by undue impetuosity, put his Government in so awkward a position, he can hardly hope to escape the consequence. Unfortunately his recall would not restore Canada's lost prestige.

History records many instances in which a number of contiguous tribes have been subdued, one after another, by some ambitious and powerful neighbour, simply because they were too selfish, or too deficient in foresight, to unite their forces at the proper time in each other's defence. A somewhat similar series of events is, it sometimes seems to us, taking place from year to year in this Province of Ontario, in the realms of restrictive and monopolistic legislation.

One by one various professional and business interests are, in the name and guise of protectors of the health and property of the people, skilfully procuring from a professedly Liberal Administration and Assembly a species of legislation which is in its essence unjust to individuals and detrimental to the rights and liberties of citizens.

The close corporations which have long existed and operated, under theegis of law, in the legal and medical professions, will at once suggest themselves as the most conspicuous examples; but the special and remarkable powers and privileges which have been conferred upon the members of these professions are very naturally stimulating many others to seek similar advantages by similar methods.

Hence we see the spectacle, at every session of the Legislature, of the members of various trades and callings combining to procure such legislation as may enable them to suppress all competitors who may not be able or may not choose to identify themselves with the combines. These efforts on the part of these applicants are perfectly natural and their arguments are perfectly logical.

By precisely the same kind of reasoning which has prevailed in the legalizing of the close societies, with all their extraordinary powers, in law and medicine, it can be shewn to be in the public interest that plumbers and undertakers and architects and the skilled practitioners in a dozen other callings should be granted similar charters. In fact, the tendency of Ontario's legislation, so far as it has gone and is now being sought, in this respect, is to bring back the old days when the members of every trade and business constituted a guild which none might enter save under such onerous conditions as its members chose to prescribe.

These remarks are just now suggested by the copy of a Bill, entitled "An Act to Further Amend the Pharmacy Act," which lies before us, together with a circular from the Medicine Manufacturers of Canada. Now we dare say that not only these medicine manufacturers but all those interested in the three or four thousand general stores and groceries, a portion of whose legitimate business would be arbitrarily cut off should the bill in question become law, have been accustomed to look on with indifference, possibly with approval, while some lawyer or other man or woman of education and intelligence, who had not procured permission from the lawyers' corporation of the Province, was forbidden to conduct the case of a client in the courts; or while detectives in the employ of the medical combine were pursuing, with a view to fine or imprisonment, some English or American physician, for the crime of trying to cure a suffering patient without having first obtained the leave of those to whom the Provincial Legislature has granted a monopoly of the emoluments of the healing art. They failed to make their neighbour's case their own, or to consider what was consistent with the rights of a free and intelligent people. But now their turn has come, and they cry aloud against the threatened injustice. Well, they are right so far, and we hope that their cry may prevail. The cloven hoof of downright selfishness plainly protrudes from beneath ostensible regard for the public safety, in the provisions of this Bill. Its effect would be, should it become law, to prevent any one but a registered druggist from selling the simplest medicine, such as castor oil, salts, senna, turpentine, or any of the useful or useless "patent" medicines for man and beast, which so abound in these days of scientific discovery and experiment. Such a law would not only be a gross injury to thousands of tradesmen, but would inflict serious inconvenience and loss upon the people, by increasing the price of various useful appliances, while it would be at the same time an insult to their intelligence. We hope not only that its passage may be prevented but that its discussion may be the means of opening the eyes of many to the injurious character and tendency of all such restrictive and class legislation.

THE SECOND TARIFF DEBATE.

"To admit that one has changed his mind is to admit that he is wiser to-day than he was yesterday." The old proverb is a sufficient answer, if answer were needed, to those who think to break the force of Mr. McCarthy's arraignment of the tariff by proving that he at a former time supported the National Policy. A good deal of Dr. Montague's reply on behalf of the Government was devoted to showing that Mr. McCarthy formerly expressed different opinions from

those enunciated in his tariff resolutions and the accompanying speech. Mr. Ives, President of the Council, thought it not beneath the dignity of his position and the importance of the question to remark that Mr. McCarthy's movement would have been much more threatening to the Government if the belief of the country that he was still a Conservative and protectionist had not been dissipated, just as if the party name by which the speaker might be called could add to or detract from the weight of his facts and arguments.

Mr. McCarthy's motion was based upon several allegations of fact of the very first importance to the welfare and progress of the country. Of these the most important are the following:

That, under shelter of the protective tariff, many manufacturers have formed combinations and trusts which prohibit competition and create and maintain monopolies.

That the existing tariff has proved in many instances oppressive and burdensome to the great mass of the consuming classes, and especially to those engaged in agricultural pursuits.

That it is unfair and unequal in its incidence, and has been productive of discontent, verging on disloyalty, among those who suffer from its injustice.

These are very serious propositions. If and in so far as they are capable of proof, they unquestionably demand prompt and serious action—not necessarily, perhaps, the particular action recommended by Mr. McCarthy, but immediate action of some kind and the most effective action which the wisdom of our statesmen can devise. It would be a dark day for Canada, and we believe a darker day for the Conservative Party in Canada, should the leaders and members of that party accept the view implied in the taunt of Mr. Ives above quoted, and in other remarks by some of the Conservative speakers, which identifies protectionism and Conservatism, and thus irrevocably pledges the great Conservative party to stand or fall with the National Policy. What is there inherent in the principles of Conservatism which warrants its leaders in taking any such position? Protective legislation is essentially class legislation, but surely Canadian Conservatism is not so closely identified with old Toryism that it is bound to legislate for the few against the many, or for the rich and influential against the poor and obscure.

The question whether and to what extent the speeches of Mr. McCarthy and others made good the assertions contained in the three propositions above quoted is one which every intelligent Canadian ought to examine and decide for himself, with the aid of all the sources of information at his command. It is a question with which partyism should have, in the first instance, nothing to do, though the policies proposed by the party leaders would necessarily come up for consideration at a later stage, should the allegations be found true. Dr. Montague's policy

—confidence in the Government, instead of reliance upon personal, intelligent use of the means of information within their individual reach—is unworthy of the dignity and responsibility of members of Parliament, elected as representatives of the people of independent and intelligent constituencies. And what is true of the members in relation to their respective constituencies is equally true of every intelligent individual elector in each constituency, at least within the range of his own personal observation and experience. It is as ignominious for the individual citizen to leave a question so vital to the well-being and progress of the Dominion to the opinion of his representative, as for the latter in his turn to throw the responsibility for using his own brains and doing his own duty upon the Government. What the country needs, in Parliament and out—what it must have if it is ever to develop its resources and prove itself worthy of free institutions, is citizens capable of doing and resolved to do their own thinking on all those great questions which stand so closely related to the life and growth of the commonwealth.

It is not our purpose here to attempt to prove or disprove one or another of Mr. McCarthy's propositions. We would merely insist with all the force at our command that it is the duty of every good citizen to satisfy himself, by the faithful use of all available sources of information, of their truth or falsity. It is surely competent for any intelligent elector to inform himself by personal observation and investigation whether injurious combinations and monopolies have been formed under shelter of the tariff; whether that tariff has in many or in any instances proved itself burdensome to the great mass of consumers; whether it presses unfairly upon large or small sections of the population; and whether it is producing among such discontent, verging on disloyalty. It is doubtful whether more important questions were ever before the Parliament and people of Canada for decision. Dr. Montague made some observations, which, if we rightly apprehend their meaning, were intended to describe Mr. McCarthy's resolutions as intricate and vague. They seem to us, on the contrary, to be admirably clear and direct, and we think they will appear so to every reader who has taken the trouble to look at them at all closely.

Is it or is it not true that the price of cotton fabrics has not fallen in Canada to a degree at all proportionate to the fall in the price of the raw material, and of the cost of manufacture—that, in other words, Canadians have to pay for articles of clothing made of this material a good deal more than the sum for which articles of equally good quality could be procured in England or the United States, plus the difference in cost of delivery? Is it true that farmers and other consumers of iron goods in Canada are obliged by the tariff to purchase agricultural implements

and other articles made of an inferior quality of iron at a greatly increased cost? Is it true that the price of an article in so common use as wall-papers is enormously enhanced by the protective tariff? Is it true, in a word, that on the average the cost of goods manufactured under the National Policy is increased to the extent of thirty per cent. to the consumer? If not, is it increased twenty per cent., or fifteen per cent.? Mr. Ives is reported as having said in his speech that it was not possible to show that a farmer with a family of seven would have to expend twenty dollars a year more because of the N. P. Twenty dollars a year! Did Mr. Ives stop to think what twenty dollars a year means to the ordinary farmer, or to any other man who earns his living by the sweat of his brow? He would probably admit that the additional cost of living entailed by the tariff would be greater for most other families than for that of the farmer, for no other produces anything like the same proportion of what he consumes. But take twenty dollars as the average. Assume that there are the equivalent of 700,000 such families in Canada. The people are, then, mulcted to the tune of \$14,000,000 for the benefit of the protected manufacturers! That is to say, fourteen millions of dollars are transferred from the pockets of the many to those of the few by act of Parliament.

No intelligent person will be deceived by the fallacy, so constantly repeated by the advocates of protection, of assuming that the amount of the tax paid under protection is represented by the amount of the revenue derived from a given article. The tax is often heaviest when the revenue is smallest. There is just one short and decisive way in which to determine the amount of tribute exacted for the protected classes in the case of a given article. That way is by finding the answer to the question, what would be the price of that article or one equally good if imported under a revenue tariff? That can, in many cases, be easily ascertained. The answer, sought and found, should settle the question of the future fiscal policy of Canada.

COLERIDGE.—I.

It has often been remarked how difficult it is for the later age to understand the secret of the influence of books or of men of earlier times. We are told that a certain book was epoch-making, that it gave men new thoughts inspiring them with fresh ideas, whilst to ourselves its contents seem a mere matter of course. It is not difficult to explain this seeming difficulty. That which was new to our fathers has come to us through many channels as the accepted belief of educated men. We have absorbed it into our spiritual system, and when we go back to the source from which it flowed, we find nothing of novelty in its utterances. The revelations of an earlier generation are the commonplace of a later.

For this reason it is difficult for young men of the present time to understand the feelings with which the writings of Coleridge were regarded forty or fifty years ago, when books like the "Aids to Reflection" and the "Biographia Literaria" were fountains of fresh and living thought to eager souls who were striving to solve the hard problems of life. Yet there are few who have even the most superficial acquaintance with the current of English theological and philosophical thought who can be altogether destitute of interest in this great writer. A great writer he was, and a vast and almost universal genius, if he cannot be called a great man. If his infirmities were manifold, his intellect was vast. An exquisite scholar, an omnivorous reader with a most retentive memory, a politician, a philosopher of wonderful insight and compass, a profound theologian, and a poet whose place must be assigned to the first rank. It is related of the late Lord Tennyson that he had declared: "If Keats had lived, he would have been the greatest of us all;" and it may well be believed that he should have held such an opinion of a poet who influenced his own genius more directly than any other; but we may confidently assert that, if the genius of Coleridge had free and full play unimpeded by constitutional infirmities and depressing habits, he would have been not merely in potency, but in fact, one of the greatest of English authors. As a matter of fact, his life was maimed, marred, unsatisfactory, although the products of his genius were vast.

It may be worth while to support the judgment here expressed by testimonial from authors of eminence. They are taken almost at random, as they have come to the writer's hand, and could easily be added to. Hazlitt declares of Coleridge: He was "the only person I ever knew who answered to the idea of a man of genius. . . . The only person from whom I ever learnt anything." De Quincey spoke of him as "the largest and most spacious intellect. . . . A most original genius." We will try to forgive Hazlitt and De Quincey some harsh things written of Coleridge for the sake of these testimonies. Professor John Wilson (Christopher North) said, "If there be any man of grand and original genius alive at this moment in Europe, it is Coleridge;" and Walter Savage Landor made the strong assertion that to Coleridge "Byron and Scott are but as gunflints to a granite mountain," while Shelley declared that he was "a hooded eagle among the blinking owls." Wordsworth, while lamenting his weaknesses, recognized his transcendent genius. "All other men," he said, "whom I have ever known are mere children to him, and yet all is pained by a total want of moral strength." Perhaps this is a little too strong; but here is the rift within the lute.

Let us understand clearly the state of the case. The evil in the life of Coleridge has been exaggerated. Perhaps it has also been extenuated. To a large extent the evil was beyond his control. But however it may be explained or excused, his life was marred, and so was his work.

It is a prodigious mistake, however, to say that Coleridge did little or nothing. Even his printed writings are of considerable extent and of profound interest. The late T. N. Talfourd remarked during the

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poet's lifetime, "He has yet completed no adequate memorials of his genius, yet it is most unjust to assert that he has done little or nothing. To refute this assertion there are his 'Wallenstein'; his love poems of intensest interest; his 'Ancient Mariner' with its touches of profoundest tenderness amidst the wildest and most bewildering terrors; his holy and sweet tale of 'Christabel,' with its rich enchantments and richer humanities; the depths, the sublimities and the pensive sweetness of his Tragedy, the heart-dilating sentiments scattered through his 'Friend.'"

It may be convenient to divide our remarks into three parts. 1. Treating of some incidents in his life; 2. Of his genius and influence generally; 3. Of his poetic genius.

1. We begin with his history.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge was born at Ottery St. Mary, in South Devon, October 24th, 1772. His father, the Rev. John Coleridge, was Master of the Free School there, and afterwards Vicar of the parish. Sir John Taylor Coleridge was a grandson, and the present Lord Coleridge is a great grandson of Coleridge's father. The poet was two years younger than Wordsworth, one year younger than Scott, two years older than Southey, and two and a half older than Lamb.

His father was a remarkable and somewhat eccentric man. He wrote a Latin Grammar, in which he changed the names of the cases, putting for the Ablative, the "Quale, quare, quidditive case." We can quite understand whence Coleridge drew his taste for hard and unusual terms. His mother was a sensible and somewhat common-place kind of a lady who had an impatient, perhaps a contemptuous feeling for "harpsichord young ladies." Could she but have seen the kitchens at the close of the nineteenth century.

Coleridge's father died when he was about nine; in 1782 the future poet entered Christ's Hospital (the Blue Coat School) where he remained until 1791. He seems to have had a miserable life there. Boyer the head-master, was an excellent scholar, and he imparted his scholarship to Coleridge; but there does not seem to have been much to cheer or comfort the sensitive boy and he was so far from being contented with his position that he wanted to apprentice himself to a shoemaker whose acquaintance he had made.

Before the age of fifteen Coleridge was deeply interested in theology and metaphysics, as he tells us in his Biographia Literaria, and as Charles Lamb chronicles in his Essay on "Christ's Hospital five and thirty years ago," published in 1830. Lamb was about two years and a half younger than Coleridge, and the friendship which began between these two men at Christ's Hospital, ended only with the death of Coleridge, followed in the same year by the death of Lamb. Here is Lamb's remembrance of his friend: "Come back into memory like as thou was in the dayspring of thy fancies, with hope like a fiery column before thee—the dark pillar not yet turned—Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Logician, Metaphysician, Bard! How have I seen the casual passer through the cloisters stand still entranced with admiration. . . . to hear thee unfold in thy deep and sweet intonations the mysteries of Jamblichus or Plotinus (for even in these

years thou waxedst not pale at such philosophic draughts), or reciting Homer in his Greek, or Pindar—while the walls of the old Gray Friars re-echo to the accents of the inspired charity boy."

While at Christ's Hospital Coleridge swam the New River and allowed his clothes to dry on his body, an event to which many have attributed the chronic rheumatism to which he was subject in after years. During his time at school his faith had got greatly unsettled. Boyer suggested that he should go to Cambridge and prepare for Holy Orders, when the pupil astonished his head-master by explaining that he was an infidel, a confession which was followed by a flogging. Coleridge afterwards declared that the flogging was well deserved, we may take leave to doubt whether it was quite wise. A story goes that once after flogging him, Boyer added, "There is one more, because you are so ugly." Coleridge never was quite beautiful. He had flabby cheeks, and a large mouth; but his forehead was "divine" and his eyes were beautiful.

In 1791 he went to Cambridge and was an undergraduate at Peterhouse until 1794, when he left without taking a degree. In 1792 he gained the gold medal for a Greek ode on the Slave Trade. In 1793 he ran away from Cambridge—apparently on account of some not considerable debts which he had incurred in no dishonourable manner, and enlisted in a Regiment of Dragoons under the name of Silas Titus Cumberbatch, thus preserving his initials—S. T. C. In 1794 he was bought off and returned to Cambridge for the Michaelmas term; but this was his last.

About Christmas he was lodging at the "Salutation and Cat," a tavern near Temple Bar. There he met Charles Lamb and other choice spirits; and his conversation is said to have been so entertaining that the landlord offered him free board and lodgings, if he would only remain and entertain his other guests. In the long vacation of 1794 he had gone to Oxford and there had met Robert Southey who was then an undergraduate at Balliol College, and next year he went to visit Southey at Bristol. Mr. Joseph Cottle, subsequently the generous publisher of these men's works, speaks of the impression made upon him by Southey and Coleridge. We may note, in passing, that Joseph Cottle is the brother of Byron's "Amos Cottle" in "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers." "Never," he says, "will the effect be effaced produced on me by Southey. Tall, dignified, possessing great suavity of manner, an eye piercing, with a countenance full of genius, kindness, and intelligence." Of Coleridge he says, "I instantly desecrated his intellectual character, exhibiting as he did, an eye, a brow, and a forehead indicative of commanding genius."

During this visit Coleridge made the acquaintance of Sara Fricker to whose younger sister Southey was engaged. Coleridge became engaged to Sara but with characteristic indecision seems to have paid very little attention to her, seldom writing, until Southey went and told him that he had gone too far to draw back. In 1795 he married, and so did Southey. It is to this that Byron refers when he says in "Don Juan":
"When he and Southey following one path,
Espoused two partners (milliners of Bath)"

The milliners appear to have been of Bristol, not of Bath, and his Lordship did not show himself quite the gentleman by this reference to them.

Coleridge and his wife resided for some time at Overstowey and at Clevedon, in Somersetshire. Here they seem to have been very happy; and here some of Coleridge's best poetical work was done. In 1800 they removed to Greta Hall in Westmoreland. In 1806 Coleridge almost ceased to write poetry. A gradual estrangement seems to have taken place between him and his wife. It would serve no purpose to enter into the details which would make it intelligible. It would be easy to hold a brief on either side or on neither or on both. When Coleridge could go travelling in Italy and leave his family for six months without any notice of his existence, there must have been something wrong on his side. We must here remember his opium habit and other things. At any rate, in 1810 he left his family in Westmoreland, and never went back to them. At the same time he gave up entirely to them an annuity of £150 which had been settled upon him by the Westwoods about the time of his wedding, in order to enable him to continue his literary work.

Coleridge's efforts to make a living were quite sincere but never very effectual—partly through his own want of business habits, partly through his unfortunately not meeting with just and generous treatment. In the first instance, he and Southey thought of emigrating to America, and setting up a socialistic community—a Pantisocracy, as they proposed to call it. But this came to nothing. Then Coleridge thought of becoming a Unitarian minister, and amusing stories are told of his appearing in the pulpits of that denomination, clad in a blue coat and white waistcoat. Sometimes his sermons were rather ridiculous—on corn laws, hair tax and such subjects—and sometimes, Hazlitt assures us, they were full of power.

From the pulpit he turned to the press; and tried to set up a newspaper called the Watchman. He got a good many subscribers. But he offended a large portion of them by denouncing the exaggerations of Liberty, and another portion by speaking in condemnation of fasting, so that the list of subscribers which began with 1,500 soon dwindled to nothing. From this he went to the Morning Post on which he worked until 1800; and there can be little doubt that his writings were the making of this paper. As a simple fact, Stuart, the proprietor, bought the copyright of the paper for £600 and sold it for £25,000. Moreover, he offered Coleridge half shares in the profits if he would bind himself to the paper and give all his writing to it. But Coleridge wouldn't be bound. He little thought how he would have, in a few years, to work on a paper under far less favourable conditions.

In 1809-10 he put forth, somewhat irregularly, a periodical called The Friend. If we were to judge from the selections from this paper which the author republished in 1818, we should wonder at the dullness of a public which could not appreciate such literature. If, however, we consider the business arrangements of the author, we may cease to wonder.

At various times during Coleridge's life he sought to make something by lectures.

Curious stories are told of the misadventures by which these endeavours were brought to nought. Once, at least, in 1818, his lectures were not only appreciated by a brilliant assembly of hearers, including Lord Byron, Lamb, and others, but brought him a considerable sum of money. It is useless to dwell longer on these subjects.

Something, however, must be said of that malady which was the curse of what might otherwise have been the best period of Coleridge's life. We refer, of course, to his dreadful opium habit. It seems certain that Coleridge acquired this habit quite unwittingly. He suffered from chronic rheumatism and internal pains; and was recommended to try some Black Drops as a remedy. He did not know that these black drops were made of opium. The habit grew on him from 1810 to 1816. By 1814 he was a complete slave to it. Coleridge seems to have done all that he could do to beat the habit. He prayed against it. He hired men to keep him out of the druggists' shops; but he could not overcome it. Great schemes were marred and his life was maimed in this manner. Yet it is hardly true to say that he did nothing. He did a great deal of arduous, unpleasant, and ill-requited work on the *Courier*; and he wrote (1814-16) one of his greatest works, the *Biographia Literaria*, which was published in 1817.

In 1816, Coleridge, finding his own unaided efforts insufficient to emancipate him from the opium habit, placed himself under the charge of Mr. Gillman, a medical man at Highgate, with whom he remained until his death in 1834. He was then only forty-four, but he was a broken-down, white-haired man. Under the faithful and affectionate care of Mr. and Mrs. Gillman he partly recovered his health and did some considerable literary work, but was perhaps, during that period, best known by his oral utterances which were listened to by a number of highly intellectual men who gathered around him as a kind of oracle. His principal publications were the *"Biographia Literaria"* in 1817, and the *"Aids to Reflection"* in 1825.

Sir T. N. Talfourd, referring to this aspect of Coleridge's influence, remarks: "If he had a power within him mightier than that which these glorious creations (mentioned above) indicate, shall he be censured because he has deviated from the ordinary course of the age in its development, and instead of committing his imaginative wisdom to the press, has delivered it from his living lips. He has gone about in the true spirit of an old Greek Bard, with a noble carelessness of self, giving fit utterance to the divine Spirit within him. Who that has ever heard can forget him? His mild benignity, the unbounded variety of his knowledge, the fast-succeeding products of his imagination, the child-like simplicity with which he rises from the driest and commonest theme into the wildest magnificence of thought, pouring on the soul a stream of beauty and of wisdom to mellow and enrich it forever. The seed of poetry, the materials for thinking, which he has thus scattered will not perish. The records of his name are not in books only, but on the fleshly tables of young hearts, who will not suffer it to die even in the general ear, however base and unfeeling criticism may deride their gratitude."

Of the wonderful conversations of Coleridge, Hazlitt declared, "He talked for-

ever, and you wished him to talk forever." Even Carlyle, although he presented the ludicrous side of the subject, involuntarily becomes eloquent as he speaks of Coleridge as "a sage escaped from the inanity of life's battle—attracting towards him the thoughts of innumerable brave souls still engaged there. . . . a sublime man." Around that "old man eloquent" gathered bright spirits like John Sterling, Edward Irving, Julius Hare, Frederick Maurice and Arthur Hallam. John Mill said he influenced the thoughts of all young men who had any thoughts.

A short time before his death in 1834, he wrote to Charles Lamb, asking his forgiveness if he had seemed to forget or neglect him. We know that Coleridge, with the kindest heart in the world, lacked the energy to keep up frequent communication with friends. Lamb was much touched and wrote: "Not an unkind thought has passed in my brain about you. If ever you thought an offence, much less wrote it against me, it must have been in the times of Noah, and the great waters swept it away. Mary's most kind love. Here she is crying for mere love over your letter." One of the last lines written by Coleridge was in a copy of *Beaumont and Fletcher*. They are: "God bless you, dear Charles Lamb. I am dying. I feel I have not many weeks left." Lamb died in the same year, 1834, not quite sixty. Coleridge was nearly sixty-two. They had a friendship of fifty years, Lamb said, without a dissension. We hope to return to Coleridge's work and influence.

WILLIAM CLARK.

PARIS LETTER.

The rehearsal of a universal suffrage vote or plebiscite, irregularly called a referendum, seems to be the coming new factor for gauging public opinion on important political issues. It possesses the merit of showing how the wind blows. The real referendum exists in Switzerland, where, after a bill has duly passed through the federal legislature, it is submitted for final ratification, before being promulgated as law, to the manhood vote of the electors of all the cantons. The Scandinavians have recently held an unofficial referendum to feel the pulse of the electorate on some political reforms; the Belgians have just followed suit, to ascertain the strength of the current in favour of universal versus restricted voting; fifty per cent. of the electors on the existing registers took part in the amateur polling, and the recorded votes were as 5 to 1 in favour of universal suffrage. The Government cannot shut its eyes to this spontaneous verdict. True, fifty per cent. of voters abstained in the case of the Belgian experiment; but in Switzerland and France, from 23 to 30 per cent. of the electors never vote at all. The drink bill of the Gladstone Cabinet, in leaving to two-thirds of the parochial or district electors, the right to close or keep open pubs and rum holes, is a referendum. The latter will be largely employed next October at the general elections in France, to weed out superfluous or obstructive candidates, and so get rid of that cumbrous and irritating safeguard—the second ballot.

The physiological feat of walking one thousand miles in as many hours, has been paralleled by cycling 1,000 kilometres, about as far as from Paris to Marseilles,

in 42 hours, being a consecutive wheeling at the rate of nearly fifteen miles an hour. Terront beat his competitor Corre, by nearly six miles. The cycling came off in the Machinery Hall of the late exhibition—evidence that the retention of that relic serves some purpose. The gate money amounted to 34,000 frs. The initial stakes, planked down by rival bicycle fabricants, were 2,500 frs. The men were in excellent form, and the admiring crowds, during the night as well as days, sustained and stimulated their endurance by applause. The race can have no very practical importance; the cycles have no need now to be popularised; they are accepted as necessities, and simply "wants long felt in the hygienic and business worlds. The contest marks the supremacy, the domination of mind over matter. It is the head, the brain, not the feet or the muscles that have to meet the strain. A psychological reporter avows, it is "a great victory for the spinal marrow, the true seat of the will;" the ancients localized the latter in the stomach. Not sufficient justice has been done to Corre; he commenced to fall behind when the moiety of the distance was wheeled, and, convinced he could not recover the odds, he rolled along to his close with bull dog obstinacy, even when his victorious rival having completed his ride, had descended and walked around the arena, bowing to the spectators and gathering up showered bouquets like a *prima donna*.

As lions of the day, Terront and Corre, cut out M. Jules Ferry. Terront aged 36, is an experienced velocipedist and much of his victory is due to scrupulously adopting the dietary regime of his doctor; no solid food; meat soups thickened with eggs; cocoa wine; a little brandy, caffeine to drive away sleepiness, and much blis-muth. Corre devoured 15 mutton cutlets, a roast fowl, and some pears before starting. Both men had their faces sponged with vinegar and water at every turn of the arena, and applied an eye wash or ointment to numb the irritation from the dust raised. On completion of the race both men took a Turkish bath and a massage; ate as usual, slept fairly, but only experienced brain fatigue. It is estimated that 250,000 coups de pedals were given by each during the race. Only during the first three hours the rivals perspired Terront, to protect himself against the chill night currents, wore over his jersey, a paper breast plate; Corre not having done so caught a cold.

The elevation of M. Jules Ferry to the Presidency of the Senate, though unexpected, is not viewed as time elapses, to be pregnant with the political disturbance that was at first attached to it. By nature he is a parliamentary pugilist; neither giving nor seeking quarter; thus he made many enemies, that a sly and ingenious politician would avoid. However, M. de Freycinet embodied the latter strategy, and see where he is now? Jules Ferry has paid for his crookedness in his Tonkino-Chinese policy eight years ago, the penalty of a severe ostracism and a terribly organized unpopularity. He is as opportunists, a party that has been wrecked by Panamaism. A man of M. Ferry's intelligence cannot but have profited by the lessons of the past and present, and the fire-brandism which the advanced republicans accuse him of, must

have by this time burned down near to the socket. In his inaugural speech he was "sweet as honey and the honey comb;" those he was expected to curse, he positively blessed; he wants an open, not a party republic—"so say we all of us." He can do good by cracking up the Senators to prove they are a utility, not an encumbrance for the state coach; make the patricians initiate social reforms, and not drop into Rip Van Winkle naps over the bills sent up to them by the Deputies. The Senate saved the Republic from Boulangism, let it save the Legislature from the popular reproach of neglecting the nation's affairs. It is not improbable that it is stimulating the opening up of the French foreign possessions, that the hand of M. Ferry will be visible. It is in the gathering complication with Siam, that is, the counter checking of English enterprize into Western China by Tonkin-Mekong, that Jules Ferry's influence will be felt. Should he in general lick the moderate republicans into a party-phalanx, that new department would not be bad. It would compel the advanced republicans to produce, and fight for, an opposition programme.

According to the latest Bar Statistics, France has an army of 11,000 lawyers, including only one Portia; this body of eloquence is independent of politicians, lecturers, and the professional Demosthenes of public meetings. What a number of suits the stuff gowns and square block hats must make out in order to exist. However, one-half of the army is briefless. When a son is undecided what profession will suit his genius, his parents cut the Gordian Knot by agreeing to in any case make him a barrister. Subsequently, he may become a politician, a rentier, or a cabman. The honourable guild of the latter, includes 13 authentic barristers, but a far larger number become company promoters, music hall managers—the most lucrative of employments for university men—or funeral undertakers.

M. Georges Thiebaud, the man who invented Boulanger, has now started the saving of the expiring Panama Canal Co.—may his second adventure be more successful than his first. He is executing a tour of France to crack up the people to make an effort to save the enterprise for the glory of the material interests of their country. He lectures on the state of the works, and by lime light illustrations forcibly shows what has been achieved and what remains to be accomplished. The last appearance of the poor, old ex-grand francis, was precisely on the same lines as those adopted by M. Thiebaud. The latter states, the execution of the works has cost the lives of 141 engineers and 1800 navvies; he demands that England and the United States by virtue of their mutual 1850 treaty, to support any company resolved to pierce the Isthmus, be called upon to interfere, and save the moribund society from falling into the hands of the Colombian Government. The latter may, or may not have its own designs, the works and concessions, etc., being now at its mercy, but unless the French Government backs the required loan of 700,000,000 frs., it is absolutely living in a fool's paradise to count upon private capitalists financing a new company.

M. Charles de Lesseps and his co-accused, save one—having appealed against their sentence and failed, they must now strip for the felon's costume; by putting

in their terms of imprisonment—three to five years in the solitary cell, they can reduce its duration one-half. Had M. de Lesseps made an appeal and been declared "not guilty" at his new trial, it was his intention to retire to Mauritius and there live and die. At the approaching trial for bribery and corruption in the Assize Court, contradictory evidence and searching cross-examinations can take place, and all secret and criminatory documents be produced, protected as they will be from every liability after being once read in the Court. It is here, say the wire-pullers of the Panama exposures, that the real drama will be represented. Perhaps, the public has had enough of the whole scandal, and relies on the general elections to complete the work of justice.

That Antiquary, the Journal des Debats, has at last plunged into the Bain de Jouvence, and so has come out rejuvenated and modernized. Its price will be reduced 50 per cent, and it will sell at the orthodox two sous. It will have a morning edition on white paper, an evening edition on rose paper; the "pink un" will not be a rehash of the morning sheet. Only no French paper brings out a "weekly budget," the Debats might try one, but in this case with blue paper. The Debats was read chiefly by the literate; it had no important circulation, but had weight in every foreign office. To unite for it was a password to the French Academy; it put many readers to sleep, so in this sense was merciful and economical, for Qui dort dine. A young man who subscribed for the Debats, or at least carried it under his arm so that it could be seen, was viewed as marked by destiny for high position. It is intended to be run against the Temps, a respectable evening paper, of late vixenish, perhaps because getting grandmotherly and so rheumatic. The transformation of the Debats into the orbit of the daily penny sheets, is an event. Wags assert, that the respected Paris correspondent—a right good fellow—of a London daily, died of a broken heart, because his paper scaled down from the fossil three pence, to one penny a copy.

There are censors who condemn the French stage as being they say, not moral; while others denounce it as irreligious. Not a few think that the object of a play is to amuse. The Grand Theatre has just brought out the Pêcheur d'Islande, dramatized from Pierre Lotis' romance of that name. One sailor recites the Pater Noster when his comrades drop on their marrow bones. Another scene consists of the priests in canonicals, preceded by the mass-boy, arriving with the Eucharist, etc., to administer the last sacraments, when the people fall on their knees as he passes to the chamber of the moribund. The leading actress in the piece nurses in her arms a dead kitten. There is a kind of requiem music, Wagnerian because scientific whose melody has been caught up from the "air" circulating through telegraph wires—a tune familiar to those in the vicinity of overhead lines. There is a carpenter, who appears to be the funny man of the piece, who proposes to make for those he meets, and at first cost, a beautiful coffin in deal, so that they can have it ready for their interment. He must have executed orders for the Chinese, or has been furnisher to Sarah Bernhardt who is a great friend of Pierre Loti. No

wonder Parisians are a trifle sad just now. Only the incorrigible prefer the "Boxing Kangaroo," or the Nora Creina Chromatic dress evolutions of Miss Lole Fuller.

The Faculty of Medicine has indicted ex-cabman, Pomerol, for illegally practising the healing art; when a ballet girl met with a sprained joint, or a contorted tendon, she went to Pomerol, who remitted the joint in order, executed a massage and applied a bandage. When he recently advertised for an assistant, he received 485 applications from members of clubs, agreeing to aid him in his duties for nothing.

The 1900 Exhibition is to be erected on the Champ de Mars: the present buildings are to disappear.

The early bird: a house agent in Chicago, advertises in the French press, that he can supply apartments cheap, on a first or twenty-first story, as desired.

Z

THE GLASGOW SCHOOL OF PAINTER

Currency is given in your issue of the tenth of March, to a misconception regarding this promising group of painters. "The commercial atmosphere of Glasgow" did not drive the members of the group "to spend their student life in Paris." The remarkable feature in the work of the group is that it is not an exotic but a native growth. Very few of the Glasgow painters have ever been in Paris; yet fewer have spent any great length of time there; perhaps of none of them could it be said that he "spent his student life there." Moreover, some of them in so far as they have studied elsewhere than at Glasgow, have studied at London, at Antwerp, at Seville, as well as at Paris. French influence is not manifest in the work of more than one or two, and these not the most typical of the group. While it would be absurd to deny the potency of foreign influence, in forming their manner, the peculiarities of their artistic method do not depend upon these. They have mainly taught themselves, or taught each other. The work of the group as a whole has obtained distinction because it is original, even because it is largely experimental. Though not distinctively national in any recognizable sense, their work is yet native owing in so far as it is not quite individual, more to Constable than to any of the numerous groups of French painters. The name 'Glasgow School' by which, with common consent, the group has come to be known, was given in the first instance rather in derision; but since the Munich Exhibition in 1891, it has been applied in earnest.

Individually many of the painters who belong to the group might have attained distinction anywhere; but the impression which their work as a whole has made upon the mind of the artistic public would certainly not have been made had the men suffered themselves to be drawn into the vortex of London, or had they attached themselves to one or other of the French schools. They held together and they remained at home, despising of course no suggestions in technique they might get from abroad; and this was undoubtedly the reason why they succeeded in establishing a position for themselves.

Yet the recognition of the merits of the group did not come from Paris. The usual fate of all pioneers was theirs. They were neglected, almost starved, laughed:

at, rejected, finally accepted and patronized, the latter perhaps the most trying experience of all. It was only when Paris, Munich, London saw virtue in them that they came into vogue. This is not particularly creditable to the "commercial atmosphere of Glasgow," but it is true. Yet unless the Glasgow school had persisted, and unless the group had held together and remained on their native soil, one of the most important of recent artistic developments would probably never have existed.

That the Glasgow school has survived "commercial atmosphere" notwithstanding, is encouraging to artists who may elsewhere be struggling for a livelihood under similar conditions. The commercial man likes to patronize art, he likes even to spend ostentatiously upon its patronage; but he likes to be sure that in addition to a picture for hanging upon his walls, he may have an investment for his money. He likes the "active stock" of a well known name; and as most of the well known names are those of artists who have no longer need for a livelihood, the results of commercial patronage of pictures are inflated prices for the passee in art, and starvation prices for the non-arrivee. But one day some at least of the non-arrivee will arrive and pictures that are now selling for a few dollars will be purchasable only at a ransom; while some of those that are now fetching extravagant prices, may be a drug in the market. Then the commercial investor and patron of art will discover that he has made a bad bargain, and that it had been even better for his pocket had he bought of a living artist and so helped to keep art alive, than to have been a dealer in the pictures of the dead, and so have helped to kill it. All this is not without serious meaning on this continent where schools of art are struggling into existence, fighting on the one hand against Cockney and centralizing influences, and on the other to keep the wolf from the door, while large sums of money are being transferred from one dealer to another in the ostensible service of art, and to the real imperilling of its existence. Merely to awaken the cupidity of the amateur picture dealer were after all an unworthy business; it were better if the diffusion of knowledge of art should ultimately reach those who are able to exchange for the products of it, the wherewithal for the artist to live, and that instead of merely indulging in Pocerantism, those who buy pictures should know and should buy good contemporary work. I am told, though I trust the information is incorrect, that not a single picture was sold from the excellent little exhibition of pictures held by Canadian artists in this city recently. How is it possible to stay the tide of immigration from Canada on such terms as these? JAMES MAVOR.

Toronto University.

OTHER PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS.

To say that all platitudes were at one time profound truths is in itself a platitude, but one not altogether devoid of significance. Many a hackneyed phrase was, when first uttered, the spontaneous expression of poetic fancy. Many a well worn formula was once the courageous utterance of untrammelled thought. The sonorous epithets of Homer are merely af-

fectations to-day. The glorious word—pictures of Milton with us degenerate into bombast. We can look at the sea and fancy that it smiles, but it is not for us to speak of its "innumerable laughter." We can imitate, but we cannot recall. If our age has gained in experience, it has lost a naivete, which no studied simplicity can replace. The poets who are the genuine products of our century speak of progress, of combat, of doubt, they are not children pouring forth deathless strains of melody, unconscious of any purpose, doing "what is right without knowing it." They are typical of their age even the greatest of them—Wordsworth, Tennyson, Shelly, de Musset, Hugo, Browning. Each of these creators is essentially the product of his time and of his race. There is a conscious struggle for a recognized end in the most exquisite lyrics of Shelley. There is the same life-purpose visible in the impassioned eloquence of Hugo. We discern it in the calm of Wordsworth, we feel it in the storm of de Musset. Tennyson is distinctly national in his sympathy with the new hopes and possibilities of his race. With Browning modern subjectivity has reached a climax.

And it is well that they have shouldered the burden of the present instead of simulating the insouciance of the past. It is right that they should voice new aspirations instead of repeating old maxims. Life to them has been complex. There is not the rapture of children of those earlier times who chanted the artless joys and sorrows of an age when life was lived rather than spoken about. They have struck a deeper note, but the simpler music had a charm of its own which no art can ever recall.

It is the spirit of the age which forbids it, which makes it impossible. There are some, however, who cannot render articulate the vague whispers of this spirit. They would go back to simpler grooves of thought. They would give us archaic phrases moulded in a flexible rhythm, quaint settings for a modern sentiment. And as we read these productions it seems strange to us how the charms and the freshness of the word-pictures have vanished. We feel that it is the husks and not the grain which is offered to us. It is not the words which have changed, but the people who utter them. And in changing themselves they have rendered the old simplicity impossible. In the artificial and the spontaneous alike there is often the quality of grace. But in the one it is the outcome of mere form, in the other it is the harmony of word and thought. We see many of these soulless imitations in the metrical exercises which are ambiguously styled current literature and in a confused way we recognize that "what was imagination is imagination no longer."

There have been, however, poets in the true sense, who have never caught the spirit of their age. Some have been silent, others have gone back to the past for inspiration. Grey was not born for the times in which he lived, and in the words of Matthew Arnold he "never spoke out." The marvellous boy of Bristol produced forgeries more wonderful than realities. Strange associations cluster around the name of Chatterton. Madman, dreamer, humourist, a writer of forgeries and a genuine poet, it is impossible to class him

—like Homer and Shakespeare "he stands alone." His short life was as a nightmare, not without exquisite pictures. The mingling of contrasts which composed this extraordinary nature seem to find expression in his "Will" and that is as inexplicable as his life.

The "Rowley Poems" are not classed with the letters of Junius. We have no need of recalling the icy criticisms of Horace Walpole to substantiate the acknowledged fact that the priest of St. John's Church and Thomas Chatterton were one and the same person. The forger's poetry has lived because the man was real. He has taken back from the past the stronger and less subtle forms of human emotions. He has not merely taken the form, he has caught the spirit. He died at the age of seventeen by his own hand, but he left two names in the literature of his country—Chatterton and Rowley.

It is wonderful, this titanic effort to create anew the past in the present, which is so different from burying the present in the past. All honour to this madman poet whose writings ring true through all their borrowed forms. To him the term splendide mendax may be in a sense applied, but there is nothing false in his poetry. There is a gloom which lurks throughout even his lighter verses. Such lines as:—

See! See! the pitchy vapour hides the lawn,
Nought but a doleful bell of death is heard,
Save where into a blasted oak withdrawn
The scream proclaims the curst nocturnal bird.
are the outpouring of an imagination powerful, but diseased. He has given a brief picture of his life in these dismal words:—
Few are the pleasures Chatterton e'er knew,
Short were the moments of his transient peace;
But melancholy robbed him of those few,
And this hath bid all future comfort cease.
Such indeed he was, but his was no ignoble triumph. Alien to his own age he created phantasies of another, kindred to his soul. In spite of his age he spoke out, and in spite of all his faults, the world is not yet weary of listening.

CLOUDS AT SUNSET.

Adown the western sky on crimson'd tide
The sun-god slowly sinks and floats and falls
Toward that great city, on whose far-off walls
The sentinels of day are faint despaired,
By Sunset's gleaming portals, open'd wide
To give him entrance; there still Echo calls
With wailing music thro' funeral halls,
Mourning a monarch fall'n in his pride.

Silent from East, where once victorious rose
The day-beams seeking refuge in the West,
The legion of the night, in blackness dress'd,
Hurls the dark javelins on its fleeing foes,
And o'er the blood-red plumes of Even's crest
The lonely pall of death and silence throws,
JAMES T. SHOTWELL.

Strathroy, Ont.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MANITOBA SCHOOL CASE.

To the Editor of The Week:
Sir,— So much has been written and said in public discussions in this matter, that it is with some reluctance I venture to obtrude on your generous columns on the theme. I say theme, for it strikes me that much—if not most that has been ad-

vanced in such discussion—especially in Parliament—is essentially academic; much of it irrelevant and inflammatory; the whole alloyed somewhat, with the sophisms of political partizanship. To counteract such mischief is the special function of a free and independent press; and I now address myself to it.

Needless to state the facts of the case; or even the line of argument on either side. The whole especially in the singularly loose recent debate of the House—loose, and almost incoherent, on both sides—is a petitio principii—a begging, really, of the question—showing—as all experience in such matters shows—the propriety of relegating such questions to the purely judicial decision of our highest Court. That, it may be said, has already been done in the cases of Barrett and Logan in connection of the Manitoba Act of 1890, with regard to local assessments for public school purposes. The judgment of the judicial committee of the Privy Council rendered on 30th July last, in these cases, seems to cover the whole ground. The elaborate, exhaustive and unanimous judgment of the whole court of six Law Lords as delivered by Lord Macnaghten—touching and incidentally passing on the fact that subsequently to the “union” of Manitoba to the confederation, viz., between 1870 and 1890, by a course of legislative acts of date, respectively, 1871, 1875, and 1881, a “system of denominational education in the common schools as they were then called” (such are the words of the judgment) was established, divided into two classes, viz. Roman Catholic and Protestant, in equal or nearly equal proportions; with powers of assessment “on the property of each school district,” which—says the judgment—“must have involved, in some cases at any rate, an assessment on Roman Catholic schools.” Other incongruities in the system are stated in the judgment—all pointing to the necessity of a change in the system with a view to the removal of features in it which, by its working, gave, out of the assessments—i.e. general assessments—to Roman Catholics what was denied to Protestants. The details on this head are set forth in the judgment.

In this connection it is to be remarked that neither in the judgment, nor in the legislation therein referred to, nor in the case as presented in Court, is there any relative designation of either of the parties being, in any respect, of the minority; in this regard they are on the same plane.

That fact—and, in fact, all the circumstances of the case as stated and collated in the judgment in their bearing on the arguments on both sides, show, at least, as the writer reads the judgment—that there was not any establishment of a system of separate or dissentient schools (these are the words of the B. N. A. Act, sec. 98 ch. 3), in Manitoba, either at the time of the union of the Dominion, or by the “Legislature” of the Province after that.

On this head the writer presents the following citations from the judgment: “But their Lordships are satisfied that the provisions of subsections 2 and 3 (i. e. of the Manitoba Act, 1870, its constitution and predominant ad rem) do not operate to withdraw such a question as that involved in the present case from the jurisdiction of the ordinary tribunals of the

country. Subsections 1, 2 and 3 of section 22 of the Manitoba Act of 1870, differs but slightly from the subsections of section 93 of the B. N. A. Act, 1871. The only important difference is that in the Manitoba Act, in subsection 1, the words ‘by law’ are followed by the words ‘or practice,’ which do not occur in the corresponding passage of the British North America Act, 1867. Evidently the word “practice” is not to be construed as equivalent to custom having the force of law. Their Lordships are convinced that it must have been the intention of the Legislature to preserve every legal right or privilege, and every benefit or advantage in the nature of a right or privilege, with respect to denominational schools which any class of persons practically enjoyed at the time of the Union. What then was the state of things when Manitoba was admitted into the Union? On this point there is no dispute. It is agreed that there was no law, or regulation, or ordinance, with respect to education, in force at the time. There were, therefore, no rights or privileges with respect to denominational schools existing by law. The practice which prevailed in Manitoba before the Union is also a matter on which all parties are agreed. The statement on the subject by Archbishop Tache, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of St. Boniface, who has given evidence in Barrett’s case, has been accepted as accurate and complete.”

The judgment cites the deposition of the Archbishop on the subject; it is too long to give in full in this writing. He states that there were “a number of effective schools for children, some of them being regulated and controlled by the Roman Catholic Church, and others by various Protestant denominations. That the means necessary for the support of Roman Catholic schools were supplied to some extent by school fees, paid by some of the parents of the children who attend the schools and the rest were paid out of the funds of the Church contributed by its members. During the period referred to Roman Catholics had no interest in, or control over, the schools of the Protestant denominations, and the Protestant denomination had no interest in or control over the schools of the Roman Catholics. There were no public schools in the sense of State schools.” These are the very words, in testimony of record of that dignitary. “Now,” proceeds the judgment to say, “if the state of things which the Archbishop describes as existing before the Union had been a system established by law, what would have been the rights and privileges of the Roman Catholics with respect to denominational schools? They would have had by law the right to establish schools at their own expense, to maintain their schools by school fees or voluntary contributions, and to conduct them in accordance with their own religious ‘tenets.’ “In their Lordships’ opinion it would be going much too far to hold that the establishment of a national system of education upon an unsectarian basis is so inconsistent with the right to set up and maintain denominational schools that the two things cannot exist together; or that the existence of the one necessarily implies or involves immunity from taxation for the purpose of the other.”

LEGISLATION AFTER THE UNION.

The statement, in narration, in the judgment on this head, is as follows: “In

1871, a law was passed (by the Provincial Legislature of Manitoba) which established a system of denominational education in the common schools as they were then called. A board of education was formed, which was to be divided into two sections, Protestant and Roman Catholic. Each section was to have under its control and management the discipline of the schools of the section.

Under the Manitoba Act (constitutional) the province had been divided into twenty-four electoral divisions for the purpose of electing members to serve in the Legislative Assembly. By the Act (Provincial) of 1871, each electoral division was constituted a school district, in the first instance. Twelve electoral divisions ‘comprising mainly a Protestant population’ were to be considered Protestant school districts; twelve ‘comprising mainly a Roman Catholic population’ were to be considered Roman Catholic school districts. Without the special sanction of the section there was not to be more than one school in any school district. The male inhabitants of each school district assembled at an annual meeting, were to decide in what manner they should raise their contributions towards the support of the schools, in addition to what was derived from public funds. The laws relating to education were modified from time to time, but the system of denominational education was maintained in full vigour until 1890. In 1890 the policy of the past 19 years was reversed, and the denominational system of public education was entirely swept away.”

And then after giving certain details in the working of that “denominational system,” the judgment proceeds: “But what right or privilege is violated or prejudicially affected by the law (of 1890)? It is not the law that is in fault, it is owing to religious convictions which everybody must respect, and the teaching of their church, that Roman Catholics and members of the Church of England find themselves unable to partake of the advantages which the law offers to all alike.

They doubt whether it is permissible to refer to the course of legislation between 1871 and 1890 as a means of throwing light on the previous practice or on the construction of the saving clause in the Manitoba Act. They cannot assent to the view, which seems to be indicated by one of the members of the Supreme Court, that public schools under the Act of 1890, are, in reality, Protestant schools. The Legislature has declared in so many words that the public schools shall be entirely unsectarian, and that is carried throughout the Act.

With the policy of the Act of 1890 their Lordships are not concerned, but they cannot help observing that, if the views of the respondents were to prevail, it would be extremely difficult for the Provincial Legislature, to which has been entrusted the exclusive power of making laws relating to education, to provide for the educational wants of the more sparsely inhabited districts of a country almost as large as Great Britain, and that the powers of the Legislature which on the face of the Act appear so large, would be limited to the useful but somewhat humble office of making regulations for the sanitary condition of school houses, imposing rates for the support of denominational schools, enforcing the compulsory attendance of scholars, and matters of this sort.”

OPINION OF WRITER.

As to the case, as above adjudicated, the plea of *Res judicata*, should hold good in all courts, and even with the Governor in council in their judicial or "quasi-judicial" capacity, under the provisions of the British North America Act of 1867, section 93 subsection 3, and section 1146; and of the so called Manitoba Act of 1870 (of the Imperial Parliament) under the purview of said section 146, the particular terms of which in this relation—under the general caption "Admission of other Colonies" are: "Into the Union on such terms and conditions in each case as are in the addresses (from the Houses of Parliament of Canada) expressed, and as the Queen thinks fit to approve subject to the provisions of the Act (B. N. A. of 1867); and the provisions of any order in council in that behalf shall have effect as if they had been enacted by the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland."

QUAERE.

In face of such judgment is it competent for the "Governor in Council," of Canada, to entertain now an appeal in the matter?

ANSWER.

Certainly; provided it be not the same complainant or complainants. That is to say—the Governor in Council is bound by law as made by subsection 3 of section 93 of the British North America Act, 1867, and by subsection 2 of section 22 of the Manitoba (Imperial) Act of 1870 to listen to, and pass on such appeal, either in "bar," in limine, as *re judicata*, or on its merits; and in either case, with or without reference for directory opinion to the Supreme Court.

In case of such reference—as in the present instance—and in case—as probable of opinion, by that Court, as heretofore given ad hoc the—"Governor in council" may still exercise a judicial discretion in the matter. Should they act on it, (or irrespective of it) in the way of compulsory remedy against the Provincial Authority, the conflict, say by suit by party aggrieved would—most probably—be carried to the same court, paramount, whose judgment *ad rem* had just been cited.

Possibly an attempt might be made by some legal technicality, to block such appeal to the Privy Council (England), but that can scarcely be assumed. It would be too dangerous.

Such a case, with whatever modifications, brought before that court, could meet with only the same judgment. To assume otherwise would be worse than folly; a fatality in civil government calling for the strongest condemnation. We have to make allowance for so called "political difficulties" in the administration of public affairs; but in that, as in all affairs mundane or honestly, and even boldly face and grapple with such difficulties is ever the best policy. The matter is one of utmost gravity to all Canada; and even beyond, and unfortunately, as just shown by the remarkable debate in Parliament at Ottawa, there seems to be an utter lack of due appreciation of the facts and bearings of the case in the light and plane of the highest public interest.

There is one point which should not be left to the mere bare terms of the judgment perfunctory perhaps on that point. It is on the question whether the Provincial Legislature *ad hoc* prior to 1890, did in

law, create a "system of separate and dissentient schools" in such sense as to give the Roman Catholic, or any religious denomination any "right or privilege" within the purview of subsection 3 of section 93 of the British North America Act, 1867.

It is to be observed, that although the cases in question (Barrett and Logan) were based and argued on the Manitoba Act 1870 (Imperial) there was, in the course of the argument an allusion—how, exactly, does not appear in the report of judgment—to such special provision in the B. N. A. 1867—and on that, the judgment in question, incidentally or, at least, inferentially passed. The words of the judgment on this point, as already given by me, are as follows:

"They (their Lordships Watson, Hannen, MacNaghten, Shand, Morris, and Couch, constituting the Court) doubt whether it is permissible to refer to the course of legislation between 1871 and 1890, as a means of throwing light on the previous practice, OR ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SAVING CLAUSE IN THE MANITOBA ACT."

That saving clause, as cited in the judgment thus:—"Subsection 2 gives an 'appeal,' as it is termed in the Act, to the Governor General in Council from any act or decision of the Legislature of the Province or any Provincial authority 'affecting the right or privilege of the Protestant or Roman Catholic minority of the Queen's subjects in relation to education.'"

This is the rule of constitution of the Province on this subject. It embraces—as the judgment in turn declares, as already cited, all that the British North America Act, 1867, enacts in the matter. Such is the judicial interpretation of both texts *ad rem*. Right or wrong it is conclusive. If wrong, the remedy rests with the Imperial authority, and there alone. But even it is bound—in national life—by principles, fundamental, of the British Constitution which cannot well be violated. Sic, semper!

I. E. X.

ON READING "FAUST."

For Marguerite the wild love and the woe,
And then the sweet, still grave—the woman's lot.

For Faust the impotent remorse, the blow
To sense, and the experience pain-bought.

ARTHUR J. STRINGER.

ART NOTES.

We shall notice Mr. J. Wells Champney's lecture in next issue.

It is expected that the Paris Salon will open on May 1st, and that the Salon in the Champ de Mars will open ten days later.

Mr. Ernest Thompson's wolf picture having been rejected by the selecting committee at Montreal, was on Monday afternoon last referred back to the Commissioner by the Executive Council of the Ontario Society of Artists.

Mrs. Dignam's collection of pictures, including work of her own and that of other artists, will be sold at Oliver and Coates (the mart) by auction on Wednesday, 29th inst. This collection is choice and includes some valuable works of art. An unusual opportunity is offered to art lovers in this sale.

Mr. Wyly Grier's portrait of Mr. Dalton has been hung in the chambers room, where he so long presided, right over the bench. It is considered a good portrait,

and as a work of art is one of Mr. Grier's best; those who have seen his portrait of his father and that of Miss Cawthra know how good his best is.

At a loan exhibition in the Fine Arts Building, New York (where, besides those filled with pictures, is a room devoted to ceramics and porcelains of various ancient nationalities) are two antique bronzes. One of these, a statue of "Eros" bears this suggestive inscription:—"On this figure, 2000 years old, the United States imposed over \$450 duty in order to protect American manufactures."

There has been in Paris an exhibition of the work of two Japanese artists, Ontamaro and Hiroshigee. The crowds attending have been large, and the most exquisite taste has been shown in every arrangement. "Ontamaro has made his subjects, generally the women of his country, the pretext for a thousand brilliant fantasies, in which design and colour are beautifully harmonious. Hiroshigee is a poet as well as a painter of genius, and is endowed with an extraordinary imagination. The power and diversity of his work is surprising." So says *L'Art Francais*.

In speaking of Mr. Whistler's exhibition of Venetian etchings, the London correspondent of the *New York Nation* says:—"That which gives special importance to the present exhibition is the fact that these plates have been destroyed. But it seems that Mr. Whistler can do nothing in a commonplace way. Instead of defacing them with meaningless scratches and scrawlings in the usual fashion, he has covered them with butterflies, and the result is delightfully decorative. Lacquered and framed they hang beneath the prints—an assurance to the doubting amateur, that never again can they be printed from."

L'Art Francais publishes a letter from Henri Rochefort, whose uncle, Saint-Maur, was brother-in-law to the French Ambassador to Constantinople at the time, in which he states that when the Venus (so called) of Milo was found by some peasants and shown to Dumont-Durville, a lieutenant in the navy, she "held in her right hand the apple which Paris had just placed there, and, with the left lightly held up her robe, doubtless to show to the judge her foot." When the ambassador sent his first secretary immediately on receiving the detailed account of this work of art, he was familiar with, both arms gone. What had happened in the interval, made long by the poor facilities for travel, could not be found out. This was in 1820.

St. Peter's Church, Vere Street, London, now possesses three pictures by Mr. Burne-Jones. The central one is Mary Magdalene at the sepulchre, the others are two parts of a whole and represent the Annunciation; in the one the angel of the virgin's chamber, and in the other the virgin, clad in white, receives his mysterious message. Much indignation has been expressed that Mr. Burne-Jones had not before this been chosen an Academician. In the *English Illustrated Magazine*, Miss Honora Brooke gives a glimpse of this artist at work. "There is not a day of his life in which he does not make some small picture in pencil as a study. His pictures are never painted in a hurry; they often hang for years on the walls of his studio, looked at thought over, but never touched unless he feels drawn towards working at them; but his art is his life; he lives in and through his pictures. The only time he was known to complain of weariness was in doing one called *The Golden Stairs*, and this had to be finished for an exhibition. He said, "I am so tired of those girls."

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Dr. S. Jadassohn's second *Serenade* for Grosse's orchestra, has recently been performed in Moscow with unusual success.

An invitation recital by pupils of the Election Department of the Toronto

College of Music was given on March 16th assisted by Mrs. Lee and Miss Topping pianists; and Miss Rutherford and Miss May Taylor, vocalists.

New York is to have Grand Opera again next season as a new company has been formed with a capital of \$1,050,000. A magnificent building will be erected on the site of the one recently burned, so ideal representations of German Opera in the near future is an assured fact for which all music lovers will feel thankful.

The mother of Madame Sophie Menter, the famous Bavarian pianiste, recently died near Munich, in consequence of which M^{rs}. Menter has cancelled all her engagements. She is a pianiste of great gifts, probably the greatest of her sex, and was for a time teacher of the piano in the St. Petersburg Conservatory, but now lives in a beautiful castle near Vienna.

It seems the Philharmonic Society have abandoned their intention of going to Chicago to sing a few choruses at the World's Fair. We fail to see any advantage in going over there to interest visitors to the Fair gratis, or any particular benefit to be gained for the musical reputation of Toronto. Good chorus singing is valuable in its way, but is no extraordinary evidence that the people are musical or are even fond of the best music. Any city of the size of Toronto or even smaller could get together a good chorus, and by diligent practice could do efficient singing, but this in no wise proves that the people are genuinely musical, or are even cultivated in music. Berlin, Vienna, Paris, Leipzig, or New York have not made their reputation as musical cities by their choruses singing, and the few towns in England where chorus singing is made a specialty are not considered to be musical in a really artistic sense. Of course, a chorus from here singing in Chicago, during the Fair would acquaint some people with the name "Toronto" who had not heard it before, but it would readily be forgotten if nothing more tangible than chorus singing did not impress it on their mind.

THE GRAND.

During this week Charles Frohman's company have been holding the boards of Grand Opera House. The company is good all around, and each member of it has an ample opportunity of displaying his or her talent in "Jane," not to mention that bright comedietta "Chums." Mr. Alf Fisher as "Lieutenant Jack Bandle" in the former and as "William" in the latter is really admirable. "Jane" is not a very brilliant comedy, there are features in it which belong more properly to the farce than to say to the burlesque, but such as Mr. Herbert Fortier as "Mr. Charles Shakleton" is decidedly a success. His manner is free from stagginess and he delivers himself of stage lies with a smoothness worthy of the old comedy. Mr. Arthur Boylan as "Claude" is not at all bad, while Mr. W. Henderson's face (as "Pixton") is a draw in itself. "Jane" herself is played by Miss Lena Merville, and it is the nerve and artistic vulgarity of the lady which keeps the thing, that is to say the plot, going from the first line to the last. Mr. Harris as "Mr. Kershaw" is worth looking at. Miss Lucy Norton is captivating and acts with a certain restrained grace which is an admirable foil to the more pronounced character of "Mrs. Chadwick" so ably impersonated by Mrs. John Peadar.

Next week the Hanlon Bros.' Grand Fairy Spectacular Fantasma will visit the Grand.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

Mr. Riley is popularly known as the "Hoosier Poet" and his pathetic and descriptive ballads, together with his dialect verse, have given him a wide and deserved reputation as one of the sweetest, most natural and popular poets of the United States. Though Mr. Riley has already appeared before a Toronto audience his name as the chief attraction on the programme

of the third concert of the Kleiser Star Course drew a large and appreciative audience to the Pavilion on Thursday evening last. In appearance the poet is not poetical, one would rather take him for a shrewd, determined and forceful commercial traveller than for the author of the humorous, pathetic and charming lyrics with which his name is associated. A decidedly United States voice and delivery, at first, rather marred his efforts, coupled with the length of some of the recitation prefaces. It soon however became evident that the reader was master of himself, his subject and his audience, and whether in presenting the humorous, dialectic, or pathetic phases of his poetic work, could at will, touch the hidden springs from whence issue the laughter and the tears of men. The grumbling and grudging farmers, the rough romantic squire; the afflicted Dutchman; the precocious stripling and "That old sweetheart of mine" were all graphically pictured and poetry was diversified with effective anecdote to the thorough enjoyment of the auditory.

Miss Lillie Kleiser's sweet, sympathetic, mellow voice and modest demeanour added much to the charm of the entertainment.

Mr. Kleiser is winning deserved success in making such excellent provision for the enjoyment of Torontonians, he has shown enterprise, judgment, and tact, which augur well for the future.

Mr. Lincoln, the renowned mimic, will appear in this course on Tuesday the 11th of April.

LIBRARY TABLE.

A WILFUL HEIRESS. By Emma Scarr Booth. Buffalo: Charles Wells Moulton. 1892.

Here is a book which recalls the old form of novel-writing by means of letters. "Clarissa Harlowe" was universally read in the days of Dr. Johnson. It would be too much to say that this method has ever been entirely discontinued, but it has become infrequent. Here, however, is a specimen of story-telling by means of correspondence, which is not at all bad. We cannot say that the characters are particularly probable, but the letters are good, and the situations are not bad. We can hardly let the reader know any of the plot without revealing the whole. The "heiress" was not exactly a fool, but she was rather easily taken in. The gipsy, whose relation to the real hero we can guess, appeared in time, and all ends quite well. We read a good many worse stories than this.

GLIMPSSES OF THE PAST IN THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT, 1805-36, from the letters of Mr. John Pritchard, with notes by the Rev. Dr. Bryce. Middle Church, Manitoba, Rupert's Land Industrial School Press, 1892.

This pamphlet of 25 pp. was set up by Indian boys. Its price is fifteen cents or \$1.50 per dozen. It contains six letters written by Mr. Pritchard, an authority quoted by all Manitoba historians. As early as 1805 he was stationed at the X. Y. or new North West Company's Fort at the mouth of the Souris. He appears to have been a devout Christian man. Apart from this pleasing consideration, he was a pioneer in the wilderness, and his contemporary records of the early settlements, though in small compass, are full of interest. It was a good thought to place those relics in permanent form, and it is to be hoped the Industrial School will gain by the circulation of the pamphlet, which does the boys credit.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL SUB-SECTION OF THE BIOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR 1890-91. By the Editing Committee. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Company. Price twenty-five cents.

The Ornithologists of Toronto send their large octavo, 63-paged pamphlet to The

Week with their compliments. These scientific gentlemen are very numerous, so that one fears to make enumeration of them from a survey of the various reports, lest some one, as important as the others, should be left out. The document is largely a diary of observations, telling when new birds arrived at or near Toronto, but many other places, very far distant, are included in the observations, and many facts of abiding interest are chronicled for the benefit of posterity. The English sparrows have not driven all the native birds away by any means. Reliable and very interesting data are furnished, so far as all kinds of birds go, for a gossip book in the line of White's Natural History of Selborne or Gosse's Canadian Naturalist.

STIRRING THE EAGLE'S NEST, AND OTHER PRACTICAL DISCOURSES.

By Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D. New York: The Baker and Taylor Company. Toronto: William Briggs.

This handsome 12mo volume of 313 pp., bound in blue and gilt topped, contains eighteen sermons, the last being Dr. Cuyler's valedictory to the Lafayette Ave. congregation. Everything Dr. Cuyler writes is worth reading by those who read sermons and similar productions. There is nothing very novel in his matter nor startling in his style; but he puts old truths in new dress, and his language is chaste and simple. There is something very devout in all his utterances, and his great aim, to build up pure Christian character, is one that all right minded people must sympathize with. For printed sermons, which generally lack the personality of the living preacher, these are very readable, and the reading of them cannot fail to do good. The valedictory is peculiarly interesting as a piece of modern Christian autobiography, which many who are familiar with Dr. Cuyler's name would not willingly miss.

THE CRUSADERS: By Henry Arthur Jones. Price 75 cents. New York and London: MacMillan & Co; Toronto: The Williamson Book Co. 1893.

While this volume comes into our hands we read of the success of a later play of Mr. Jones's on the London stage, "The Bauble Shop;" and our readers may remember a favourable review in The Week of an earlier production of the same writer "Saints and Sinners." Mr. Jones, then, is a successful dramatist and his work may be studied from various points of view. It would be quite easy to be morally indignant with Mr. Jones because of his turning into ridicule the philanthropists of the day who are bent upon making London—England—the World—good and happy by short and easy methods. But we are not quite sure that Mr. Jones is not right in what he does. Of course, most of his characters are caricatures, but it would be very difficult to interest the public in characters and incidents like those represented here without a touch of caricature. Upon the whole, we may say, that we have here living work, and work decidedly interesting. If the reader wishes to see its limitations, he will find them set forth in the Introduction by Mr. William Archer.

THIS CANADA OF OURS and other Poems.

By J. D. Edgar, M. P. Toronto: William Briggs. 1893.

We have read this volume of Mr. Edgar's from cover to cover and we can honestly declare that we have not found a single page of it uninteresting. Of course there are themes in which the author is more at home than in others, but at his best he is very good, and his second or third best is never bad. A prominent place is held in the volume by two ideas, the enthusiasm for the Canada to which he belongs, and for the Scotland from which he draws his origin. The first poem, which gives its name to the volume, has the true patriotic clash and clang and at the

same time reminds us of our origin and our glory

"Proud Scotia's fame, old Erin's name,
And haughty Albion's powers"—

although we fancy that Albion designated the whole island and not the southern portion of it. To the same key are set Canadian Autumn Tints, Arouse ye, brave Canadians—a reminiscence of 1812—The Canadian Camping Song, and other poems; whilst Scotland is glorified in the Thistle of Scotland and the Lia Fall, the Stone of Destiny, brought by Edward I. from Scone to Westminster. The White Stone Cancee is a very pretty poem drawn from the same sources as Longfellow's Hiawatha, and we can only say that, if it had appeared as an episode in that charming poem we should have believed that we were reading pure Longfellow.

THE MOTHER AND OTHER POEMS;
FRANCIS DRAKE: A TRAGEDY OF
THE SEA. By S. Weir Mitchell, M.
D., LL. D.; Harv., Boston and New
York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.; Tor-
onto: The Williamson Book Com-
pany, 1893.

The first of these poems, "The Mother," is a strange and powerful conception. In "Rizpah" Tennyson has fathomed to its depths that ferocity of love which is at once the most sublime and the most human of all earthly passions. In the poem before us, we see a woman filled with this same unreasoning love, a mother with a dead baby. A vision comes to her and in it she grasps the supreme meaning of pain. She sees that to "Be mother of one joyous race" is not the noblest destiny. She learns that, "These but born for joy's inaction, these who crave no added life" are on a lower plane than those whom sorrow urges to look beyond; that in very truth "imperfection is the noblest gift of God." The vision passes, the living baby is seen beside the dead:—
"Closer, waking all the mother, as he
drew the aching breast,
While twain spirits, joy and sorrow, hover-
ed o'er my plundered nest."

There are lighter poems in the book. The "Quaker Lady" is a charming little poem, while of the lines on "Dreamland" we can only say that they are worthy of their title. "Francis Drake" shows Mr. Mitchell in the role of a dramatist. The tragedy is played upon the decks of three British ships and is strictly historical. On the one hand we have an English admiral, bluff, outspoken Francis Drake. On the other we see a strange mixture of good and evil in the person of Thomas Doughty. Subtle and amiable, a traitor and apparently sincerely attached to the object of his treachery, this man is indeed a powerful study. The minor characters are well drawn, particularly the mirthful Vicary.

PERIODICALS.

Frederic Harrison opens a discussion on the Home Rule Bill in the Contemporary Review for March in which he is joined by Messrs. J. E. Redmond, M. P., and D. Crawford, M. P. T. Archer contributes a searching and critical, yet most gentlemanly attack on the Quarterly Reviewer who has sought to prove Mr. Freeman's untrustworthiness as a historian. Pleasant reading is Miss Wedgwood's paper on "Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, and profitable is the Rev. Mr. Weldon's on "The Teacher's Training of Himself." The literary reader will turn without delay to Miss Weld's absorbing "Talks with Tennyson," the theologian to Mr. Bartlett's clever paper on "The Holy Catholic Church" and the scientist to Herbert Spencer's able second paper on "The Inadequacy of Natural Selection."

Helen E. Gregory Fisher has an article in the March number of the Dominion Illustrated Monthly on Japanese Actors and Dancing girls, which will be read with interest by those to whom the manners and customs of our terrestrial celestials are attractive. Mr. A. A. Macdonald's spirited contribution on "Dwelling among

German Students" is one of the most graphic descriptions of the sport(?) we have read. "Hockey in Ontario" is in this number written by Mr. W. H. A. Kerr and sung by Mr. Charles Gordon Rodgers.

The March issue of The Idler opens with G. B. Burgin's contribution entitled "The Lyceum Rehearsals" which is well worth reading. "A Blessing Disguised," a good story by F. W. Robinson is followed by an additional sketch in that most interesting series "Lions in Their Dens." George Newnes, the subject of the present sketch is discussed by Raymond Blathwayt. "Novel Notes" are as vigorous and racy as ever. "On Pilgrims and the Pilgrim Spirit" is the title of a humorous contribution from the pen of A. Adams Martin. "A College Idyl" by S. Gordon is rather a clever rendering of a very old story. The March number is a good one all round.

"The Higher Criticism is a method of knowledge of literature," writes Professor E. L. Curtis in his learned and able opening article in the Andover Review for March-April. The Rev. G. F. Genung in the same number writes thus of the nature of Christ's authority as a law-giver: "It is as if the words which he spoke were finally true and compelling." The Rev. C. C. Starbuck provides the third of his studies of "Missions and Civilization." Appreciative and graceful is the Andover's tribute to the memory of Phillips Brooks in the article of Professor W. Lawrence, and the admirable editorial. The Rev. J. T. Bixby discusses "Morality on a Scientific Basis" in this number.

The March number of that aggressive quarterly, the New World, in its leading article on "The place of the Fourth Gospel in Literature," shows that the reasons adduced for the post apostolic authorship have not, to some, been fully answered. Karl Budde's "Folk-Song of Israel" is a little tedious. "Cosmopolitan Religion" is a well merited rebuke to religionists who take the cackle of the bourg for the great wave that murmurs round the world. An appreciative article on "Whittier's Spiritual Career" brings out some fine characteristics of the Quaker poet, and the article on the "Briggs Heresy Trial," is a fair resume of that living struggle against traditionalism which is gaining strength in this new world. Indeed, the New World as it lies before us is a manifest indication of the presence of the growing Hercules of the higher criticism which is plainly here, in some form or other, to stay.

Justice Lamar, late of the Supreme Court of the United States, is represented in frontispiece in the March number of the Review of Reviews. It is amusing to read the serious statement of the U. S. editor, "As a matter of military economy we cannot afford to be without Hawaii." Still more amusing are the editorial comments on the subject "Canada and 'Continental Union'." The number contains a full page portrait of the Pope; and President Cleveland and his Cabinet also appear in full page illustration. A truly leonine head is that of the new President. The article entitled "American Politics: a Study of Four Careers," from the pen of H. P. Judson, deals with Blaine, Lamar, Hayes and Butler. "Phillips Brooks" is eulogized by Archdeacon Farrar and C. F. Thwing. Sereno Bishop discusses "America in Hawaii," and other articles are "England in Egypt," and "A Royal Road to Learn Languages."

The Californian Magazine for March comes to us with a tinted photogravure frontispiece entitled "Early morning at Mount Tamalpais"; a pretty poem to San

Francisco Bay by Ceryl Kerr facing it; then follows a full page illustration of Algeirs from the sea. Canadian readers will at once turn to the suggestive lines, "Moments," from the pen of George Martin, and the splendid sonnet "Sirius," from that of Archibald Lampman. This number is unusually attractive in subject matter and illustration. Among the articles of travel or description may be noted: "The Gate of the Orient," by Fannie C. W. Barbour; "Masks and Maskers," by J. J. Peatfield; "At the Base of Tamalpais," by C. F. Holden; "Among the Black Fellows," by C. M. Waeger, and "Among the Californian Glaciers," by F. M. Carlin, Ph. D. Of "Letters to a Lady," the head note is sufficient evidence that they should not have been published; they are private letters, and never were intended for publication, the eminence of the writers is but a poor plea for the injustice done to their misappreciated confidence.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL

Katherine Conway will issue through Cupples of Boston, a book for the coming Easter Season, entitled, "A Dream of Lilies."

The April number of the Century will contain an important article on the Trial of the Chicago Anarchists by the Judge who presided.

A new novel by that brilliant French writer, Paul Bourget, is announced by The Waverly Company, New York, under the title of "The Son."

J. M. Barrie, the Scotch novelist, is described as being "a very modest and diffident little man, whose large, luminous eyes always seem to be asking to be forgiven for rushing into print."

A volume of short stories by Thomas Hardy, J. M. Barrie, Clark Russell and others will be brought out by the Appletons, with the title "Stories in Black." It will have portraits and illustrations.

In their Great Commanders' Series the Appletons will soon issue a volume on General Jackson, by James Parton. Mr. Parton finished writing the book a short time before his death.

Mr. G. H. Needler, B. A., Ph. D., delivered an able lecture at Toronto University on Saturday 11th inst. on "The Nibelungenlied," and gave an exposition of the history and theory as to the authorship of the great German heroic poem.

W. D. Howells has just completed an account of his early life when he worked with his father editing and publishing a country newspaper in Ohio. The paper will appear in the exhibition number of Scribner's, illustrated by A. B. Frost.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Martin's "Castorologia" has proved such a pronounced success that a new and improved edition is to be brought out. "Castorologia" deserved to succeed, it was a credit to Canadian authorship and research. We anticipate with pleasure the new edition.

Two new novels, it is said, are in an advanced state of preparation with M. Pierre Loti. One is to be entitled Une Exilée, and according to rumour will tell the story of a certain unhappy and sentimental queen; and the other will bear the name of Matelot.

An article by Herbert Spencer on the Inadequacy of "Natural Selection" will be printed in The Popular Science Monthly for April. Mr. Spencer maintains that naturalists have been led, by the similarity of the phrase, to believe that natural selection can do what artificial selection does.

M. Francisque Sarcey of the Temps, the leading dramatic critic of his time, has

READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

"SO SHORT THE TIME."

"So short the time! So much to leave undone!"
Frets my impatient heart.
Hush! for with God's time. Though I've begun,
To end is not my part.
Perfect, or broken, is not mine to say;
I can but do my best
Until the Master bids: "Leave work to-day
For new work and for rest."
Rest he will give, and labor will he give
In that day as in this,
For Life is both, and on through Death we live
And love and nothing miss.
Blanche Atkinson, in Good Words.

TREE WORSHIP IN EUROPE.

Even in the midst of our own struggling civilization we shall not look in vain for obvious traces of this earliest and crudest form of tree worship, where the ghost itself is actually supposed to inhabit the branches of the sacred pine or the ancestral poplar.
"The peasant folk lore of Europe," says Tylor, "still knows of willows that bleed and weep and speak when hewn; of the fairy maiden that sits within the fir tree; of that old tree in Rugard forest that must not be felled, for an elf dwells within; of that old tree on the Heizenberg near Zell, which uttered its complaint when the woodman cut it down, for in it was Our Lady, whose chapel now stands upon the spot. One may still look on where Franconian daisies go to a tree on St. Thomas's day, knock thrice solemnly, and listen for the indwelling spirit to give answer by raps from within what manner of husbands they are to have. These cases fall at once into places if we recollect that elves and fairies are mere minor varieties of ancestral spirits, and that Our Lady often replaces for modern votaries the older and pre-Christian divinities of very ancient origin.—From Ghost Worship and Tree Worship, by Grant Allen, in The Popular Science Monthly for March.

RAILWAY SIGNALMEN.

In consideration of the fact that so great a proportion of railway accidents have been occasioned by errors in making or in reading signals, it is clear that too much attention can hardly be paid to this department of railway management. Our readers will therefore excuse another reference to a subject, well worn indeed but unhappily never trite. Three weeks ago while discussing the Thirsk accident we suggested the adoption of some system that would obviate as far as possible the necessity of depending for security of life and limb upon the limited and variable capacity of any railway servant. An incident which occurred the other day near Wakefield, is worth noting in this connection. In this case a signalman, apparently in his usual health and on duty, died suddenly, the fact being only discovered when inquiry was made as to why his signals were not working. Of course it is impossible, by the most perfect method, to obtain absolute immunity from the risk of accident. We are also pleased to note the great skill and energy which has been expended by railway companies upon this part of their organisation, and the large measure of success which has rewarded their efforts. Not even these considerations, however, can diminish the pressing necessity for further improvements which are suggested by the incident above mentioned. In particular we would again direct attention to the advantages connected with a system of interlocking signals. Such a system, controlled by electricity and capable of acting only in obedience to that control, is now, we understand, in action upon some lines. It by no means does away with the labour of signalmen, but it greatly diminishes its anxious responsibility. We should therefore welcome its more general introduction. Such a reform, combined

Carthy's "happiest hours are those which he spends at the Remington type-writer, especially if the work he is engaged in be fiction." He knows four or five languages and can read Greek as fluently as Mr. Gladstone himself. He is a fastidious writer and likes time, though he is capable of writing sweetly and well under pressure.

The book publishers of Boston entertained several hundred guests at an "authors' and publishers' luncheon" at the "Vendome" in that city recently.

Mr Houghton, of Houghton, Mifflin and Co., made the address of welcome and introduced Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes who made a pleasant speech in reply, and closed by reading the following verses, which he said were not in existence before 10:50 o'clock on that day:

Teacher of teachers, yours the task,
Noblest that noble minds can ask,
High up Aonia's murmurous mount,
To watch, to guard the sacred fount
That feeds the stream below;
To guide the hurrying flood that fills
A thousand silvery rippling rills
In ever-widening flow.

Rich is the harvest from the fields
That bounteous nature kindly yields;
But fairer growths enrich the soil,
Plowed deep by thought and wearied toil
In learning's broad domain,
And where the leaves, the flowers, the fruits,
Without your watching at the roots,
To fill each branching plain?

Welcome! the author's firmest friends,
Your voice the surest good deed lends,
Of you the growing mind demands
The patient care, the guiding hands,
Through all the mists of morn.
You knowing well the future's need,
Your prescient wisdom sows the seed,
To fire the years unborn.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- Bowen, H. Courthope, M. A., Froebel, \$1.50. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Field, Henry M. The Story of the Atlantic Telegraph, \$1.50. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Fisher, Geo. Park, D.D., LL.D. Manual of Natural Theology, 75c. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Ford, Isaac N. Tropical America, \$2.00. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Grinnell, Geo. Bird. Blackfoot Lodge Tales, \$1.75. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Imbert, De-Saint-Amand. The Duchess of Berry, \$1.25. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Le Row, Caroline B. Werner's Readings and Recitations, New York: Edgar S. Werner.
Lysaght Sidney. The Marplot, \$1.00. New York: Macmillan & Co.
Marvel, Ik. Reveries of a Bachelor and Dream-Life, 75 each. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Pyat, Felix. The Rag-Picker of Paris, 50c. New York: Worthington Co.
Rhoades, Walter C. The Story of John Trevennick, \$1.00. New York: Macmillan & Co.
Stenson, F. J. In the Three Zones, \$1.00. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Sloane, Wm. Milligan, Ph. D., L. H. D., The French War and the Revolution, \$1.25. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Weismann, August. The Germ-Plasm, \$2.50. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Van Dyke, John C. Art for Art's Sake, \$1.50. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.

written an autobiographical volume of which the Messrs. Scribner will publish at once a translation entitled "Recollections of Middle Life." The work is bound to be witty and entertaining. It will contain a portrait of the author.

G. P. Putnam's Sons, of New York and London, have in preparation a new illustrated edition of "Old Court Life in France," by Francis Elliot, author of "The Diary of an Idle Woman in Italy." They have also in preparation a new illustrated edition of "Woman in France during the 18th Century," by Julia Kavanagh.

Count Tolstol, says the New York Tribune, has learned a little reason and justice and has at last been persuaded to settle his estates on his wife and children. Up to this time he had absolutely refused to do this, contending that as all land belonged to the public at large his property ought to be divided among his poorer neighbours.

Dodd, Mead and Co. make a specialty of old and rare books. Among others, their collection contains a New English primer of 1738, the only one known to be extant; an original edition of Poe's "Tamerlane," now valued at \$2,750; a school atlas used by Tennyson; several illuminated manuscripts and a number of books from the presses of Guttenburg and Wynkyn de Woode.

Two New York publishing-houses, Eftingham Maynard and Co., recently of 771 Broadway, and Charles E. Merrill and Co., of 52 and 54 Lafayette Place, have just consolidated, and will hereafter continue the publication of educational, miscellaneous and subscription books in the new building, 43, 45 and 47 East 10th St., between Broadway and Fifth Ave., under the name of Maynard, Merrill and Co.

The N. Y. Critic Co.'s sign was hung up, on March 4th, above the third story windows of the Scribner building, 743-745 Broadway, New York. The offices of the Critic now occupy the suite of rooms formerly occupied by The Magazine of American History, and still earlier by the department of The Century. Scribner's Magazine and The Book Buyer are published in the same building; and the offices of McClure's Magazine also are there.

Mr. Joseph Gould of Montreal has, we learn with sincere regret, determined to discontinue the publication of "Arcadia." The Week has had nothing but kind thoughts, and good words for that ably edited and admirably sustained journal, since its first appearance. It was a credit to all concerned in it, and its discontinuance will be a felt loss to all who are interested in the advancement and development of literature, music and art in Canada.

M. Emile Zola, undaunted by his bad reception at the French Academy, has informed a Temps reporter that he remains a candidate for the chair of Renan, and that he will offer himself for that of John Lemaitre: "From my deathbed, if there were a vacancy, I should offer myself as a candidate. You know my feelings. I believe that since an Academy exists, I ought to belong to it, and that is why I offer myself. Whatever people think, I am going to continue the fight.

Harper and Brothers will publish immediately White Birches, an American novel, by Annie Elliot; Katherine North, by Marie Louise Pool's new novel; Whittier: Notes of His Life and His Friendships, by Annie Fields; Athelwold, a tragedy, by Amelie Rives; Giles Corey, Yeoman, a play founded upon incidents in the Salem witchcraft delusion, by Mary E. Wilkins; The Japanese Bride, by Naoml Tamura, a native of Japan; and Coffee and Repartee, a series of humorous sketches by John Kendrick Bangs.

The Westminster Gazette, says the N. Y. Critic, is trying the experiment of publishing a novel serially in its columns. Justin McCarthy, M. P., is the author Mr. Cook M. P., introduces his colleague to the Gazette's readers. He tells us that Mr. Mc-

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with a considerable addition to the numbers of the working staff, should go far to secure for travelers by rail that safety which is their minimum of right.—Lancet.

WOLVES AND THEIR WAYS.

While following the life of the gentle shepherd, on the plains of Montana, a couple of years ago, I used to watch the wolves a great deal while tending the sheep, and though I usually had my good rifle in my hand, I once had the opportunity of facing a wolf empty-handed, and I don't know which was the worst scared. It happened thus. The sheep had bunched during the heat of the day upon one slope of a little valley, and I occupied the opposite slope, the better to see that they came to no harm, and since I knew that they would not move for hours, I was taking a bit of a doze, now and then opening my eyes wide enough to see my sheep, and then dropping off again with my face on my arm, stretched out on the hot rock. Suddenly, when I looked up, in a somewhat dazed condition, I became aware that a very large wolf was coming right at me, not 60 yards away, his red tongue lolling out, and his yellow summer coat reminding me of a hyena at first sight, coming as I did so abruptly from the land of Nod. I actually thought it was his intention to try me a few rounds, as he did not notice the sheep, but was coming straight in my direction with murder in his eye, I thought. Being without arms, as it happened, my first impulse was to snatch up a stone and let him have it, and it was when I jumped up that he seemed to see me for the first time, and turned tail for all the world like a huge cur dog, and loped off with many a fearsome glance over his shoulder. The stone did not quite reach him, but when he saw it coming he put his tail between his legs, exactly as a dog would have done under similar circumstances, and if I could have hit him I am satisfied he would have kiyed. I had to laugh at his comical aspect and at myself for being so rattled, but I did not leave my rifle in camp very often after that, not because I had any idea the wolves would tackle me, but because it "broke me all up" to miss so good a shot.

The probability is that this wolf had no evil design in his head, either toward the sheep or the shepherd, but happened to be headed my way, while travelling across the country on business of his own. Probably he was more startled by my sudden appearance in the way than by my projectile, or my ferocious aspect.—Forest and Stream.

LENT.

Lent is near at hand. What, after all, is the spiritual meaning of it? It is not a mere scenic imitation of our Lord's fasting "forty days and forty nights." In these Western and Northern regions of the world such exact imitation is physically impossible. What we should call fasting in the United States is the normal condition of Eastern or tropical climates. The ordinary habits of such regions would be death to the American. Therefore, perhaps—but, at any rate, certainly—the Protestant Episcopal Church has laid down no minute rules of dietary for the season of Lent. It is physiologically certain that rigorous fasting, or even abstinence from meat, for forty days, would render a great majority of Americans absolutely incapable of unusual acts and exercises of devotion. And if fish, for instance, be substituted for "flesh," everybody knows that a rich man can live as luxuriously in Lent as during Eastertide. His Lent would differ from Eastertide only in being very much more hypocritical and ruinous to his soul. Moreover, self-indulgence lies in very many different directions. How could any hard and fast rules about diet have the same significance for a society man and a vegetarian? The real significance of Lent is self-denial. It is no self-denial to a millionaire to give \$1,000 to a missionary society or a hospital. To give \$10 to either, might, for a clerk at \$50 a month,

with a wife and children, be next to a mortal sin. But nearly everybody knows that he is allowing himself in many indulgences which, though generally harmless, may in time make a slave of him. He hardly knows whether this be so or not until he makes the experiment. Can I do without them? It is absolutely essential, not only for the religious life, but for any truly noble life, that a man should have perfect command of himself. If he cannot give up his wine, or his cigar or his regular courses at dinner, or his amusements—supposing these things to be lawful in themselves—he is a slave to these indulgences; and being a slave to them he "cannot serve two masters." Lent comes to everybody, then, with this question: "Are you so far your own master that you cannot devote yourself utterly to God?" Nobody can pretend that this question is irrelevant. "To serve God and keep his commandments" is, or is not, "the conclusion of the whole matter." If it be, it must be the object of serious and fixed attention. Religion does not grow up and bear fruit like a weed, that springs up of itself and may be left to chance.—The Churchman (Episcopal).

THE TOMBS OF THE CALIPHS.

The exterior of El Ashraf's Mosque has a network of arabesques, and its cupola is especially graceful; in contradistinction to the minaret, which is dwarfed, and consists of three stages—square, octagonal, and circular. The interior is oblong, divided by two ranges of pointed arches, resting on columns. The pavement, consisting of coloured stones, is very fine; but on the impression of the interior is more or less that of a ruin. Above the tomb-chamber rises the exquisite dome. In the immediate neighborhood of this mosque are other mosques and tombs, cupolas, domes, and minarets; one, the burial place of the members of the family of Mabel er-Rafae, the great saint; another called the tomb of the Seven Maidens—a legend supposed to be borrowed from the Seven Sleepers, for there is no other record of their existence. Still with our faces turned southward we passed into a somewhat different scene. Before us rose the wonderful tomb-mosque of Kait-Bey, the most important of all the sultans of his dynasty; the most important of the tombs, though not the largest, and giving its name to the whole district of the Tombs of the Caliphs. It stands on a considerable elevation, so that its solitary cupola and minaret are, as they were intended to be, every conspicuous. It appears to be the centre of a small village or settlement, for here amidst the tombs of the dead, are small habitations for the living. Such as they are, they are crowded with beings, who were in full evidence. Hitherto our progress through the Tombs of the Caliphs had been marked by a profound silence, abandonment, and desolation. Our own footsteps, our own voices, alone awoke the startled echoes of the desolate quadrangles and melancholy tomb-chambers. Here, on the contrary, surrounding the tomb of Kait-Bey, were sounds and signs of life in its most commonplace element. Narrow lanes or thoroughfares ran between the high walls; and here children played, and ran up to us with outstretched hands asking for backsheesh; and women and maidens went to and fro to the well, filling their pitchers, and carrying them with that grace which seems inseparable from the Eastern women. The tomb is the best preserved of all the tombs of the Caliphs. As a model of the grace and elegance of the Eastern school of architecture, it is unrivalled, far surpassing all the Western buildings of its age. The style is the very antipodes of the Greek school, with its simplicity, its pure and severe outlines; yet though one may appeal more forcibly to the intellect, one's sense of severity, the other more closely appeals to the imagination.—Argosy.

HOW TO TRAP A TIGER.

In trapping tigers for export the Malays dig a hole about ten feet deep, making the bottom twice as large in area as the top, to prevent the animal from jumping out after being once in. The whole com-

pleted, small brushwood is lightly laid over its surface, and close by in the direction of the mouth of the pit a bullock is chained to a tree. On seeing the prey, the tiger springs for his expected prey, and alights in the pit. A bamboo cage is placed over the pit, which is then filled with earth, the tiger gradually coming to the surface. Once in the cage, the Malay lace and interlace bamboo and ratan under the tiger. Spring-guns are sometimes used, but not often, as they are dangerous to dogs and human beings.

I once went on a tiger hunt, but it ended in a buffalo-hunt. We organized a party of five Europeans and ten natives. We started on foot, because it is impossible to ride through the jungle on horseback. On finding a tiger's footprints, we followed them to a ravine, where the tiger had been drinking. Here we took our tiffin, and, while eating, heard groans which we thought were from the tiger. Following the sound, we saw an enormous man-eating tiger dashing away through the brush. Shots were fired without effect. On going farther, we discovered that he had found a buffalo, and had been making short work of him. These buffaloes are not like those found in America, but are smaller, and more like an ox. Later this same tiger was caught in a trap. We knew it was the same, for not more than one is found near a village at a time. On an average four or five people were killed by tigers on this road in the course of a year. They generally seize their prey after dusk, and for this reason it is never safe to travel on these roads after six o'clock at night. It is said that a tiger often selects his man during the day, and perhaps follows him for miles, until overtaken by dusk, when he springs upon him. Two gentlemen were once walking over a pine-apple plantation, when they discovered that they were followed by a tiger. They were three miles from home, and, having nothing but shot guns for weapons, could not fire at the animal. He kept at the same distance behind them all the way, and they reached home ere he attempted to attack. The natives are in constant terror of these animals, and it is almost impossible to send them out after dark. I have paid twenty dollars to a native for taking a message to the Maharajah after six o'clock at night.—John Fairlie, in the February Century.

On the occasion of the Pope's golden jubilee, February 19, the special service in St. Peter's was conducted by the venerable pontiff in person. Sixty thousand persons gained admittance, and forty thousand were crowded about the doors.

A New York paper has the following interesting note on a young Canadian author of unquestioned ability:—Mr. Gilbert Parker, who has risen to considerable notice in England as a writer of stories within the past two years, recently came to New York to arrange for the publication of his books, and will remain here until March. He is a rather short man, with a dark though sparse beard trimmed short and round, a restless manner, and keen, penetrating grey eyes. In conversation he is easy, free and perhaps Bohemian—certainly he is not formal. He started as a journalist some eight or ten years ago in London, and tried to make his way among the magazines as a story writer, but without success for nearly eight years. But for two years past all this has been changed, and he finds a ready market and good prices for all his productions. He has travelled a great deal, and is scrupulously accurate in gathering the materials for his stories as well as in his use of English. His idea of fiction is to make it represent the strong emotions of men and women realistically and powerfully, and his use of local colour is only as a spice to flavour the style. He is a proficient in the use of the Scotch dialect, but he never makes it obtrusive.

THE FEDERAL LIFE

Assurance Company.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of this Company was held at the Company's head office in Hamilton, on Tuesday the 7th inst., at 1 o'clock p.m., and was well attended. The President, Mr. James H. Beatty, occupied the chair, when the following reports were submitted:

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

Your Directors have pleasure in submitting to your consideration the Eleventh Annual Report of the Company, including a statement of receipts and disbursements for the year, and the assets and liabilities on 31st December last, to which is appended a report from your Auditors. During the year 1,233 applications for assurance, to the amount of \$2,115,000, were received. On examination 1,164 of these applications were accepted for \$1,916,000 of insurance; the others were declined because the risks offered were not up to the standard required by the Company.

The new assurance written is of a most satisfactory character, being mostly on our investment plans, which have continued to grow in favor with applicants and have largely increased our premium income. The premiums for the year amounted to \$254,198.32, an increase of \$29,613.30 over the preceding year.

Claims by death during the year amounted to \$100,269 (re insurance deducted) under 87 policies. In addition to which two endowment policies matured for \$7,000. The claims by death were \$17,600 less than in the year preceding.

It will be seen from the accompanying statement that your Directors have, as heretofore, practised economy in the management of the Company, while having due regard for its welfare in the promotion of legitimate business. In pursuance of this policy a reasonable amount of assurance has been written (\$157,000 in excess of the previous year) on carefully selected lives and on plans believed to be the best in the interest of the policy-holders and of the Company.

The results of the year afford much gratification in the important items of premium income, interest income, and in surplus assets over liabilities, all of which show a marked improvement. The assets assurance amount to our policyholders now are \$882,919.78, while the liabilities are but \$192,706.90.

Our record of the previous year, for the highest rate of interest earned on its investments by any Company in Canada, and the low rate of expenses to the aggregate amount assured, has been well maintained. Great care is exercised in making investments, and none are made excepting on first-class securities.

The accompanying certificate from the Company's Auditors, vouchers for the correctness of the financial statement submitted herewith. All accounts, securities and vouchers have been carefully examined by them.

James H. Beatty, President.
David Dexter, Managing Director.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

To the President and Directors of the Federal Life Assurance Company: Gentlemen.—We beg to advise completion of the audit of the books of your

Company for the year ending 31st December last. The books, vouchers, etc., have been carefully examined, and we have much pleasure in certifying to their accuracy. As usual, all assets of a doubtful character have been eliminated. The accompanying statement indicates the financial position of your Company as at 31st December.

Respectfully submitted.
H. Stephens, Sherman E. Townsend,
Auditors.
Hamilton, March 1st, 1893.

Financial Statement for the Year Ending 31st December, 1892.

INCOME.		
Ledger Assets, January 1st, 1892.....		\$163,466.73
Premiums.....	\$254,198.32	
Less re-insurance.....	12,402.58	
	\$241,795.74	
Interest.....	13,446.37	
	<u>255,242.11</u>	
	\$418,708.84	
DISBURSEMENTS.		
Claims by death.....	\$111,834.91	
Less re-insurance.....	10,000.00	
	\$101,834.91	
Matured endowments.....	7,000.00	
Dividends to policyholders.....	32,313.76	
Surrendered policies.....	1,813.99	
	<u>\$142,462.66</u>	
Total to be paid to policy-holders.....		\$142,462.66
Commission and medical fees, salaries and other expenses.....	71,955.68	
	<u>214,418.34</u>	
Balance.....		\$204,290.50

ASSETS.

Municipal Debentures, bonds and mortgages.....	\$121,335.51
Loans on policies.....	30,192.77
Cash in banks and in hand.....	49,096.44
Other ledger assets.....	11,771.40
Premiums deferred and in course of collection.....	\$42,769.61
Short date notes for premiums on policies in force.....	17,932.94
	<u>\$60,709.55</u>
Less 10 per cent for collections.....	6,070.95
	<u>54,638.60</u>
Interest accrued.....	2,092.06
	<u>263,116.78</u>
Guarantee capital, subject to call.....	619,803.00
Total Resources for security of policy-holders.....	862,919.78
Reserve funds.....	192,706.90
Surplus to policy holders.....	\$690,212.88
Amount assured.....	<u>\$10,564,393.22</u>

Mr. James H. Beatty, the President, in moving the adoption of the report, called attention to the large increase in income over previous years, to which both premiums and interest had contributed a large percentage, also to the very considerable addition to the assets of the Company, increasing the already ample security offered to policy-holders. The experience of the two months already past strongly indicated that a similar addition to the income and assets would be made during the current year. He said that though the amount of risk carried by the Company had not been increased owing to the termination of many term policies for large amounts, which had fulfilled the purpose for which they had been taken, the number of lives assured had been increased. The premium income had advanced nearly 12 per cent, through the encouragement given by the Company to applicants for investment insurance and the substitution of contracts of this kind for less desirable forms when the latter had been discontinued. He believed that the care and foresight with which the management of the Company had directed its course through the most difficult periods of its earlier history would become more apparent from year to year.

Mr. Kerns, Vice-President, in seconding the motion, stated that no doubt some would be disappointed because we had not written more business during the year, thus leaving more insurance in force at

31st December last, but the Directors felt that it would be largely a waste of money to attempt to write too much new business while the state of trade throughout the Dominion was somewhat depressed. We therefore followed a conservative course, and believe the wisdom thereof will be demonstrated later on. Our agents can now point with satisfaction to our low ratio of expenses, which taken together with our high rate of interest earnings (already referred to by the President), augurs well for future profits to our policy-holders. With the foregoing conditions fully established and a premium income which now amounts to over a quarter of a million dollars annually, I feel that we have strong grounds for congratulation as to the past and good reason to predict a very prosperous future. I second the adoption of the report.

The report was unanimously adopted. Dr. Wolverton read a carefully prepared analysis of the mortality experience of the Company for the year and a comparison with the previous year, for which the thanks of the Shareholders were tendered him.

On motion of Dr. Burns, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Dexter, the Managing Director; his assistants, and to the agents of the Company, to which the Managing Director responded briefly, warmly commending the faithful attention of the officers and the good work done by the agents of the Company.

The retiring Directors were all re-elected. At a subsequent meeting of the Directors the officers were all re-elected.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE.

There are certain corporations in whose welfare a large number of our people are concerned. Among these are banking, insurance and other similar monetary institutions. The depositors and stockholders of a bank eagerly scan the balance sheet submitted, and the review of the year's work made by its president at the annual meeting; the policy-holders of a life insurance company do likewise, for, in many cases, they have invested all their surplus earnings in a policy of life insurance to be paid to their wives and children at their decease, or to themselves on attaining a specified age, thus forming a basis for a competency in old age, when enterprise and energy begin to flag.

In reading over the report of the North American Life Assurance Company, and the remarks of the president and others at its meeting, one is impressed with the great financial strength of the institution and the splendid results accomplished for its members. Permanence, profit and progress appear to characterize the workings of the company, and in all the elements which go to build up a successful life insurance company the North American Life appears to very great advantage.

The year's income amounted to \$446,474.40; its assets at December 31st, 1892, were \$1,421,981.80; its net surplus for security of policy-holders, \$226,635.80, and its payments to members, \$118,436.73, while its accumulated reserve fund now stands at \$1,115,846.00. As is shown by perusing the report, these highly satisfactory results have not been attained spasmodically, but by steady effort and adherence to those principles of life insurance underwriting which prudence and experience dictate as being not only desirable but necessary in the proper conduct of a life insurance company, to secure the best possible returns for the investments of its policy-holders.

No doubt the marked success of the company's business, especially noticeable during the past few years, in which the first series of its investment policies have been maturing, can be attributed to the fact that the company, out of its surplus earnings, has been able to pay the holders of these policies exceedingly gratifying results. The reports of the consulting actuary, and the remarks of the president on the surplus earning power of the company, will be read with special interest by those who have taken out this form of insurance.—Globe, February 18, 1893.

A NORWOOD MIRACLE.

HEALTH REGAINED AFTER SEVEN
DOCTORS HAD FAILED.

The Remarkable Experience of Mr. John Slater Knox—Two Hours Sleep all the Benefit Derived From Six Weeks Medical Treatment—Rescue From Suffering Came After the Doctors Had Pronounced His Case Hopeless.

Norwood Register.

The readers of The Register will remember having read in this paper during the early part of last year of the very serious illness of Mr. John Slater Knox, who lives on lot 20, in the 3rd concession of Asphodel township. They will remember how in January, 1892, Mr. Knox was stricken down with la grippe, how from a man of about 185 pounds he fell away in flesh in a few short weeks until he was a mere skeleton of his former self, weighing only 120 pounds; how he was racked with the most excruciating pain; how he longed for death to relieve him from his suffering; how he consulted doctors near and far, and how they failed to successfully diagnose his case. In fact they confessed their ignorance of his malady and said he could not recover. But so much for the profession. Mr. Knox is alive to-day. He has recovered his wonted vigor and weighs 180 pounds, and his many friends in Norwood look upon him in wonder. Of course Mr. Knox is questioned on every hand about his recovery, as to what magic influence he owes his increase in flesh, and his answer to each interrogation is "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills did it," and he is never too busy to extol the merits of his now world famous remedy. This is what he said to a reporter of the Norwood Register the other day, when asked about his illness and his wonderful cure:—"I will tell you all about it. In January, 1892, I had la grippe, which was prevalent at that time. It settled into pains in the calves of my legs. I was drawing lumber at the time and thought it was caused by sitting on the load and allowing my legs to hang down. I consulted a doctor, in the matter, who told me it was rheumatism. He treated me, but did me no good and I kept getting worse daily. Altogether I had seven doctors in attendance, but none of them seemed to know what my ailment was. Some said it was rheumatism, others that that my nerves were diseased, one said locomotor ataxia, and another inflammation of the spinal cord, another inflammation of the outer lining of the spinal cord, and still another said neuralgia of the nerves. I did not sleep for six weeks, and no drug administered by the medical men could deaden the pain or make me slumber. I will just say this: at the end of that time some narcotic administered made me doze for a couple of hours, and that was all the relief I received from the disciples of Esculapius. They said that I could not recover, and really I had given up hope myself. My pain was so intense I wanted to die to be relieved of my suffering. From a weight of 184 pounds I had dropped to 120. I was a skeleton compared with my former self. I had often read in The Register of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, but did not think of taking the remedy. About this time my father purchased some from Dr. Moffatt, druggist, Norwood, and bringing them to me requested me to take them.

They remained in the house perhaps a couple of weeks before I commenced taking them, and then I must confess I had not much faith in their efficacy. Before I had finished taking the first box I felt a little better, and when I had taken two boxes I was convinced that the Pink Pills were doing me good; in fact that they were doing for me what seven doctors had failed to do—they were effecting a cure. I felt so much better after taking three boxes of Pink Pills that I ceased taking them, but I had not fully recovered and had to resume, and I then continued taking them until now I am as hale a man as you will meet in a day's travel. I am positive that this happy result has been brought about by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I recommend them to my neighbors and my friends as I am thoroughly convinced of their great curative properties. There is a case a short distance from my place of a man, who has been a cripple for some time, recovering after taking eight boxes of Pink Pills. In December last I could only manage to lift a bag of oats, now I can toss a bag of peas into a load with ease. Isn't that gaining strength? At one period since I began taking Pink Pills I gained thirty pounds in six weeks. To-day I feel as well as I ever did in my life. I have been skidding logs in the bush all winter and can do a day's work with any of them. I believe it my duty to say a good word for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills whenever I can."

"I hear you are making preparations to build a house, Mr. Knox," said the reporter.

"Yes," replied Mr. Knox, laughingly. "I am about building a house and barn, which I think will demonstrate that I am trying to enjoy my new lease of life."

Calling on Dr. Moffatt, druggist, The Register reporter asked him if he knew of Mr. Knox's case, and that that gentleman ascribed his cure to the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

"Yes," replied the doctor. "I have been talking with Mr. Knox and his is certainly a most remarkable cure. But speaking of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills reminds me of the wonderful sale they are having in and about Norwood. I buy a hundred dollars worth at a time and my orders are not few. I sell more Pink Pills than any other medicine and always hear good reports of them." Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a perfect blood builder and nerve restorer, curing such diseases as rheumatism, neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, St. Vitus dance, nervous headache, nervous prostration, and the tired feeling arising therefrom, the after effects of la grippe, influenza and severe colds, diseases depending on humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. Pink Pills give a healthy glow to pale and sallow complexions, and are a specific for the troubles peculiar to the female system, and in the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, over work, or excesses of any nature.

These Pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., and Schenectady, N. Y., and are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trademark and wrapper, at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50. Bear in mind that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are never sold in bulk, or by the dozen or hundred, and any dealer who offers substitutes in this form is trying to defraud you and should be

avoided. The public are also cautioned against all other so-called blood builders and nerve tonics, no matter what name may be given them. They are all imitations whose makers hope to reap a pecuniary advantage from the wonderful reputation achieved by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Ask your dealer for Pink Pills for Pale People, and refuse all imitations and substitutes.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, from either address. The price at which these pills are sold make a course of treatment comparatively inexpensive as compared with other remedies or medical treatment.

Herr Krupp, the great gun builder, is the largest taxpayer in Germany. He pays \$32,400 yearly on an income of \$1,095,000.

Both the Kurds and Cossacks believe that Ararat is guarded by an unearthly being, and that no man can ascend the peak and live.

The last will and testament of Queen Isabella, in which she makes a number of references to the new world will be a very interesting object in the Spanish exhibit at the World's Fair.

There is in China a secret society called the "Triad." It is a capital crime to belong to it, yet it has more than 30,000,000 members. Its object is the overthrow of the present dynasty.

A day or two ago a lady applied for a lost umbrella at the Lost Property Office, Scotland Yard. When it was restored to her she went away, leaving behind her another umbrella and a brown paper parcel.

The officers of the German army are to have a new cloak, the novelty of which lies in the fact that by an ingenious device the cloak may be made thick or thin. It is adapted for summer or winter use.

Probably no living sportsman has shot more big game in South Africa than Mr. F. C. Selous, who for years was more at home in a wagon or a tent somewhere in the far countries of Africa than in the towns and settlements of the Cape Colony or the Transvaal.

Iceland sagas, bearing on the early discoveries of the Norsemen and the stories of their trips to Vinland and possibly North America, will be lent by the Danish government to the United States for exhibition at the World's Fair. The sagas are entitled Codex Fluteyensis.

Arrangements have been made in London to transport to Chicago, for use at the World's Fair, seven English coaches and sixty horses, together with professional drivers and guards. These coaches will carry passengers from the hotels to the Exposition grounds and return, at prices commensurate with such a fad which it is believed will be exceedingly fashionable with wealthy people.

It was Ben Johnson, we believe who when asked Mallock's question, "Is life worth living?" replied, "That depends on the liver." And Ben Johnson doubtless saw the double point to the pun. The liver active—quick—life rosy, everything bright, mountains of trouble melt like mountains of snow. The liver sluggish—life dull, everything blue, molehills of worry rise into mountains of anxiety, and as a result—sick headaches, dizziness, constipation. Two ways are open. Cure permanently, or relief temporarily. Take a pill and suffer, or take a pill and get well. Shock the system by an overdose, or cook it by a mild, pleasant way.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are the mild means. They work effectively without pain, and leave the system strong. One little, sugar-coated pellet is enough, although a whole vial costs but 25 cents. Mild, gentle, soothing and healing is Dr. Sage's Catarrhal Remedy. Only 50 cents; by druggists.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The smallest sea island on record is nine feet across, and was reported some time ago by Captain John Richards, of the British ship Cambrian Monarch, to have been sighted by him in latitude 29 degrees, 2 minutes north, longitude 137 degrees, 59 minutes west. The sea was smooth around it, and it was clearly an island, tapering upward in a pyramidal shape from below the surface of the water.

An imperial hunting party at Westermans, headed by the Emperor of Germany and his guest, the King of Saxony, recently had a very eventful day. The start was fixed for ten o'clock, and in the three-quarters of an hour 127 boars were killed, including twenty-one by William II. of Prussia. After partaking of luncheon served in an extensive tent, the hunters set out again in another direction, when the Emperor's gun fell a third expedition, lasting one and a half hours, finished the day's sport.

English country houses have fires in only a few sitting rooms, the halls are cold, and there are no bath-rooms. When the Romans occupied the same country of the hot air pipes, and had both Turkish and cold plunge baths. Within one enclosure are the remains of a Roman house built more than sixteen hundred years ago every villa was thoroughly heated and bathing appliances, and a modern house—six times the size of the other—warmed with four open grates.—Kate Field's Washington.

Lord Grimthorpe, by whose generosity the ancient Abbey of St. Albans, now the cathedral church of the new diocese, has been completely restored at an enormous cost, has signified his willingness to undertake the restoration of St. Peter's Church, another venerable edifice in the locality. The old church, a very picturesque building, has been in a sadly dilapidated condition for many years and the offer of Lord Grimthorpe has been gratefully accepted. The work at the Abbey being finished, after many years' labour the new work of restoration will proceed as soon as the necessary preliminaries can be arranged.

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Contracts have been let for furnishing 35,000,000 admission tickets to the World's Fair. Of these 5,000,000 will be lithographed, and of such elaborate workmanship that counterfeiting them will be next to impossible. They are designed to meet the orders for tickets which have been flowing in for months, and they will be good whenever presented at the gates. The remaining 30,000,000 will be simply printed after the style of an ordinary railroad ticket. These tickets will not all be alike, and a different style will be used each day. They will be good only on the day on which they are sold, and will not be offered to the public in advance of that day. Thus danger of counterfeiting them will be avoided.

Dr. Carlos Montezuma, a full-blooded Indian who has been appointed Government surgeon at Nisgralein, on the Colville reservation, was stolen from his tribe by a band of Pima Indians in Southern Arizona when he was five years of age, and remembers seeing all his relatives butchered before his eyes. He was sold by the Pimas to Charles Gentile, a prominent newspaper man of Chicago, for \$30. Mr. Gentile took him East and educated him, and, after graduating at the Illinois College of Physicians and Surgeons, Dr. Montezuma became Government Surgeon at a post in Nevada, and was but recently transferred to Colville reservation. He is now twenty-seven years of age.—Portland Oregonian.

The Queen possesses an immense quantity of wine, there being very large cellars, and most of them full, at St. James' Palace, Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace. No great stock of wine is kept either at Osborne or at Balmoral, the supplies for those places being renewed as often as may be necessary. The Queen's collection of old port and sherry, East India, Madeira, and Cabinet Rhine wines is probably the largest and finest in the country, and Her Majesty has a splendid cellar of Imperial Tokay, which was Prince Albert's favourite dessert wine. George IV. purchased vast quantities of port, Madeira and sherry, which he was privileged to import free of duty, and in those days members of the Household were in the habit of getting a great deal of wine in the same way, under the pretext that it was being ordered by them for the king.—World.

A man came to the banker Rothschild, one day, and told him of the unfortunate condition he was in. He had loaned a supposed friend ten thousand dollars without requiring a note, when he came to demand the money back again the man refused to pay. "Well," said Rothschild, "all you want is a note, isn't it?" "Yes," replied the man, "but how am I to get it?" "Write him that you want him to pay you the twenty thousand dollars he owes you." "But he only owes me ten." "Never mind," said Rothschild, "do as I tell you and wait for the result." The man took the advice, and wrote demanding twenty thousand dollars. Ten days later the man called on Rothschild again with a letter in his hand. "It's just as I told you," said he. "Of course the man won't pay me twenty thousand dollars." "Let me see his letter." Rothschild took the letter and read: "Why do you claim twenty thousand dollars when you know that I only owe you ten?" "What more do you want for a note?" said Rothschild.

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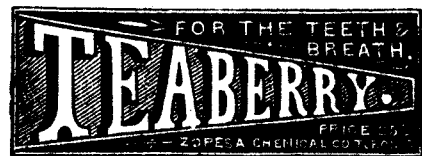
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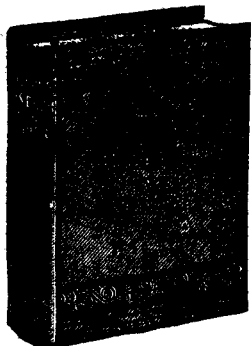


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The Mont Blanc Observatory is practically complete, and will be placed in position as soon as the parts can be carried to the summit. Two huts for the shelter of the workman have already been erected about 900 feet below the top, and a good deal of the woodwork has already been carried up to them.

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Mr. W. H. Preece, the well-known electrician, has succeeded in sending a telephonic message from the shore of the Bristol Channel, near Cardiff, to the island of Flatholm, three miles off, without the intervention of a connecting wire.

Up to the present we have not felt able to advocate the general use of electric motors in place of hydraulic gear or auxiliary steam-engines on board ship; but the effect of the recent frost on the Benbow discloses a weak point in hydraulic machinery which has no parallel in electrical work. The gear of the heavy guns has been not only disabled, but has suffered such serious injury that it has been found necessary to take the greater portion of it to pieces and to forward it to the manufacturers for reconstruction and repair. Electrician.

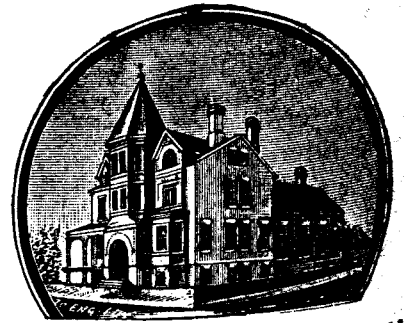
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Dear Sirs,—Last year I was very thin and reducing very fast, owing to the bad state of my blood and appetite. A friend of mine induced me to get a bottle of B. B. B. which I did. I obtained immediate perceptible relief from it, have gained strength and appetite, and now weigh 193 pounds. M. T. Murphy,

Dorchester Bridge, Quebec, Que.

Sir Robert Ball, it is reported held in rapt attention the juvenile audience which assembling to hear the first of his series of lectures on astronomy, over flowed the hall of the Royal Institution. Explaining our indebtedness to the sun, Sir Robert said that if all the coal in the whole world were simultaneously lighted, the heat thus generated, although enormous, would be infinitesimal when compared with that which is derived from the sun in a single second. If our coal became exhausted science, would, no doubt, discover means for giving us sufficient heat. In illustration of this, the Lowndean Professor described an interesting contrivance at the Paris Exhibition, which having collected and concentrated the rays of the sun, transmitted them to a boiler, and in this way supplied the entire heat requisite to work a number of printing machines. The lecturer closed with an amusing anecdote illustrating Moore's words, "The sunflower turns to her god when he sets the same look that she turned when she rose." An explorer, he said, intent on proving the truth or otherwise of this theory, took out a sunflower seed to the Arctic regions and planted it there. In course of time the plant came up and flowered vigorously just, however, at the season when the sun never sets in the Arctic circle. So the poor sunflower, true to its nature, followed the process of the sun, expecting it to disappear at night in the ordinary course. But as the sun did not set at all, the flower strained itself round and round until it twisted its own neck off. Sir Robert announced that his second lecture would be on the moon.

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Mr. George E. Hale writes in *Astronomy and Astro-Physics*:—"In view of the fact that the study of prominences, facula, and sunspot spectra by photographic means has now been taken up by several investigators, it seems desirable to bring together the results of the work in this direction which has been in progress at the Kenwood Observatory since April last 1891." In furtherance of this view he has entered into an interesting series of descriptions in each department, which, though concerned with matters photographic, are not capable of useful abbreviation, and we therefore refer our readers to the original paper in No. 109 of the journal quoted, or as abstracted into the *Chemical News*, p. 4, No. 1,728.—*British Journal of Photography*.

M. Maurice Mallet, in *L'Aeronaute*, describes what he claims to be the longest balloon ascent on record. His balloon, "Les Inventions Nouvelles," started from the gasworks of La Villette, Paris, on October 23, and the voyage terminated at Walhen, in Central Germany, at 6 a.m. on the 25th, after a total journey of 36 hours 10 min. above ground. The flight was interrupted several times by the snow which fell in the higher regions of the atmosphere. When lower strata was reached, the snow melted, and the balloon regained its ascending power. During one of these descents it was stopped and examined by a Prussian gendarme, who had followed it at a gallop for some distance. The route passed over part of Belgium, the Taunus, and the Odenwald, and the towns of Metz and Frankfurt were recognised in passing.

Beware of Cholera.

The healthy body throws off the germs of cholera therefore wisdom counsels the use of Burdock Blood Bitters this spring to purify the blood, regulate the system, and fortify the body against cholera or other epidemics.

What is perhaps a more curious circumstance than divergence of opinion on great and novel doctrines and generalisations is the opposition of giants in science on questions of fact, as in the famous scene in the British Association at Oxford when Owen, having asserted that the brain of the gorilla presented more difference, as compared to the brain of man than it did when compared with the brains of the quadrumana, was answered by Mr. Huxley with a direct and unqualified contradiction. All these details will now be forgotten and the world will think only of Owen's prodigious labours and his unsurpassed knowledge in comparative anatomy, of his genial nature and general accomplishments, of his distinguished appearance, of his enormous public services in the promotion of public health, and of the successful impetuosity which he brought to bear on rigid economists until they yielded and gave the nation a museum of Natural History somewhat proportionate to its own wealth in money and in great anatomists, to say nothing of the greatness of the subject which it is meant to illustrate.—*Lancet*.

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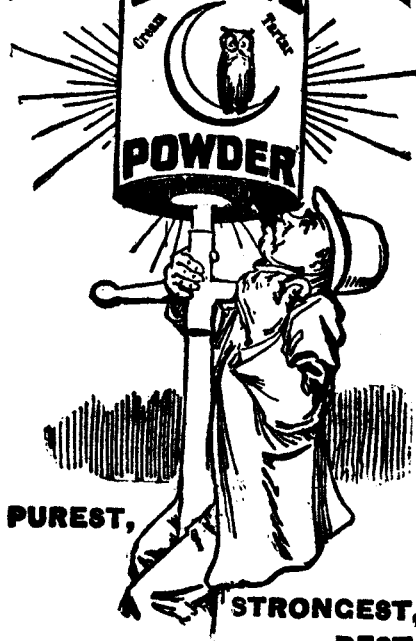
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TORONTO, CANADA

The wages paid to Chinese labourers are about 6d. per diem, with rations. The workers are easily contented demanding only the plainest of food, while for housing they are satisfied in winter to creep all together under a long low mat shed with a solid back to the north wind. The severity of the weather, however, usually stops all such work before Christmas. What the men do when they retire to winter quarters I cannot tell; but Chinamen have a curious hibernating faculty whereby by abstaining from muscular exertion they are able to economize considerably in their eating. In times of scarcity when wages fall below a certain range, poor people sometimes choose not to work, because they consider that they would have to take more food to repair the waste than the work done would produce.—Macmillan's Magazine.

Our migratory birds have to travel pretty far south before they can find a strictly winterless climate, but they enjoy the advantage of frequent resting-places. The feathered songsters of the North European woodlands suffer severely in their passage to the Alps, and often perish by thousands in trying to cross the Mediterranean. In their half-way stations, Italy and Southern France death lurks in another form, and there are districts where almost every farmer has an outfit of traps, nets, and birdlime. Prof. J. Arnot estimates that in the Department of Herault (near Marseilles) eight hundred pounds of small birds are caught and killed every year for the sake of fine feathers. Strong-winged water-fowl avoid such risks by long-distance trips, high above the range of the best rifles, and with a few stops can travel in a single week from the lakes of Northern Sweden to the swamp-meadows of the Senegal.

A Birmingham inventor is the patentee of an ingenious little article which should prove a real boon to smokers. This is a match-box, made in nickel-silver, of about the size and shape usually adopted, but so contrived that, when once charged, the contents are delivered singly, and ready lighted, for the use of the owner. The action is effected by making one end of the box to rock slightly on bearings, the normal position of safety being attained by means of a spring. To obtain a match, all that is necessary is to press one portion of the end of the box, at the same time tilting the box slightly, and a match is presented, stem first, protruding from a hole in the box. Drawing it out briskly suffices to ignite the composition. In order to secure this easy mode of obtaining a light nothing more is required than to be careful in filling the box, to place the matches with their heads upwards.—London Hardware Trade Journal.

A recent experience with a large rattlesnake only serves to confirm what I have written you before as to their character. A neighbour and myself were riding along a trail, when the horse stepped over the rattler who was leisurely crossing the road, and so slow was his movement the wheel of the waggon just missed the end of his tail. The horse showed no alarm, nor did the snake make any movement toward an attack, but crawled slowly toward a pile of palmetto logs. My companion leaped from the waggon to get something with which to kill it; and of course on his approach the snake sprung his rattle, but did not coil and was easily killed by a blow from a light stick. Indeed these people seem to regard a rattler as of no more consequence than a harmless snake, so sluggish is he, and so easily dispatched. The only quick movement he makes is when you are within say 3 ft. of him and he is coiled, has given his warning rattle and is ready to strike. I have noted this common incident because multitudes of Florida's winter visitors come with such absurd ideas regarding snakes, and especially rattlers, that much of their pleasure, if they are in the country, is spoiled by needless fear of meeting venomous serpents, when the fact is that they may spend many winters without meeting with anything but the most harmless grass snake; and if by any chance a rattler should be met, the snake left to himself, will slowly move away.—Forest and Stream.

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"He behaved dreadfully at the swarry" said Mrs. Partington, "acted like a perfect idiot."

The ambitious young man who wants an opening has only to skate where the ice is thin.

I am inclined to think a good many "improptus" have cost many sleepless days.—Dr. Holmes.

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Jargon says he isn't sure whether the bat is a bird or an animal, but he always associates it with the lark.

Widjet: What is the result of casting bread upon the waters? Brooks: In our house it returns the second day as pudding.

Brolic Author: Your boots are pretty muddly to go out into the streets. Friend: Yes, I've just finished wading through that last novel of yours.

Visitor: Is your mother at home, Jimmy? James: Yes, Mrs. Blunderbore, she's at home until somebody calls; and then she's over at Auntie Maud's.

George: But you would learn to love me, Elsie. Elsie: I do not think I could, George. George: Ah! just as I expected, much too old to learn.

A: When a man tries to borrow money from a friend, that is experimental philosophy. B: Yes; and when the friend refuses, that is natural philosophy.

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So says Dr. Curlett, an old and honoured practitioner, in Belleville, Ontario, who writes: "For Wasting Diseases and Scrofula I have used Scott's Emulsion with the most satisfactory results."

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Minnie: Captain Foster has never paid me any attention before, but he danced with me four times last night. Maud: Oh, well, it was a charity ball, you remember.

He (angrily): Look at this bill! Four pounds for perfumery—for mere odours that fade away forever.

She (calmly): Gone to meet the smoke from the eight pound's worth of cigars you have consumed during the last three months.

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Or you've seen a rose unfold; In the jungle's depths you have seen strange birds

In plumage of green and gold— But you never saw in this beautiful world Nor nature nor art reveal

Colours or tints that will ever compare With the pink of a baby's heel. —Puck.

REV SYLVANUS IANE.

Of the Cincinnati M. E. Conference, makes a good point when he says: We have for years used Hood's Sarsaparilla in our family of five, and find it fully equal to all that is claimed for it. Some people are greatly prejudiced against patent medicine, but how the patent can hurt the medicine and not a machine is a mystery of mysteries to me.



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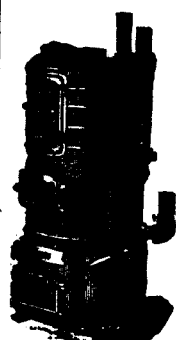
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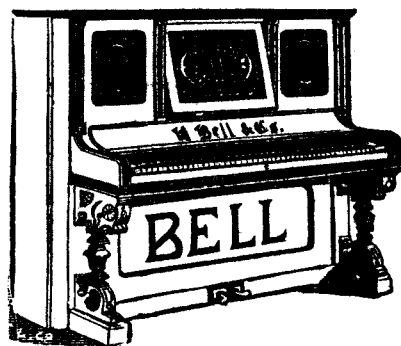
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