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THE MORNING GUARDIAN

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 16, 1903.

AS STRANGE AS FICTION.

From boyhood's early days the elder Dumas has been one of the great joys of our life. From the moment in which we were introduced to D'Artagnan and his yellow horse we have never swerved in our allegiance to their immortal creator. No treasure of Monte Carlo was ever more splendid than the barbaric wealth of Dumas' fancy. He introduces us into a fairy palace in which real figures in history serve as a gorgeous background for real figures of romance all our own and his. Shall we confess it, to our mind Richelieu is a mere dramatic accessory, a misty figure, an unreal creature, and in one of the greatest periods French history a mere setting for the musketeers and their exploits. What of it, though we know their doings were spread over a period of time which would make them engage in athletic adventures at the ripe youth of between seventy and eighty. It is only a tribute to their immortality. Such men can defy chronology. Dumas exploited a rich mine of mysterious episode in the history of France, and with a great wizard's power, he has made its jewels sparkle for all time. He has accomplished the extraordinary feat of reversing history and has forced upon the world his tissues of romance as a prepossession more important than the facts. We find, however, that we have given too much credit to the inventive genius of Dumas, and too little to the extraordinary characteristics of the extraordinary country in which he lived and moved and had his being. Why is Dumas not alive now to do adequate justice to the Dreyfus case and its successor, the Humbert case? Maitre Labori has done very well, but Maitre Labori is not Dumas. He is a counsel, learned in the law supposed to be dealing with prosaic facts. Yet in his speech to the jury in the Humbert case, he suggested, in one paragraph, enough for a whole series of Dumas romances. "Suppose, for a moment," he said, "the existence of a terrible secret, Suppose that Mme. Humbert had heard of this secret three or four years ago and that it was at that time that Frederic wrote the letter with which he is reproached, and in which he said, "Henceforth the Rente Viagere is our sole hope," adding in his own mind, because we can no longer touch the remainder of the fortune,' Suppose, gentlemen of the jury, that the Crawfords bear an odious name, a name so odious that if it were revealed to you your minds and hearts as citizens and patriots would be immeasurably shocked. Suppose that Daurignac pere, in agreement with the Crawfords, and in order to hide the common secret and to conceal the origin of the fortune, had destroyed or done away with the wills by which the truth could be traced in order to maintain only a conventional sequestration." The suggestion evidently is of the existence of a very large fortune procured by the infamy, the infamy of treachery to France. The proof of the infamy would be the connection of the real name of the testator with the money bequeathed. The possessors of the secret, according to this suggestion, are the persons known in the case as the Crawfords, latterly Madame Humbert, and finally, Maitre Labori himself. He was careful to point out that he had it only on the authority of Madame Humbert, and that he had been unable to verify it because any attempt on his part to do so would result in its becoming known. But the eminent counsel showed pretty clearly that he believed it himself. Madame Humbert's final declaration was 'Well, now, if the 'Crawfords' do not bring me my bonds, and all that belongs to me, I will tell everything. But if the bonds come I shall say nothing.' Whether this romantic tale is true or only the invention of an accomplished swindler, it is, of course, impossible to say. But what a romance the elder Dumas could have spun from it! And in what country, save in France, could such suggestions have been made without proof in a court of law? The extraordinary light sentences upon the Humberts, however, certainly give rise to the suspicion that there is something behind which it is perhaps desirable in the interests of everyone should never be disclosed.—Colonist.

The Toronto Mail and Empire calls attention to the stringency of the oath demanded of members of the Typographical Union. It binds those taking it to a duty which "shall in no sense be interfered with by any allegiance that I may now or hereafter owe to any other organization, social, political, or religious." A Roman Catholic priest has pointed out that the oath places the union higher than the church, so that no good Roman Catholic can take it. An inspector investigating the Chicago Postoffice has declared that men who have taken the oath cannot, without perjury swear to support the constitution of the United States.

"I have no more nervous headaches and rest very well at night."

When a woman suffers from female weakness and irregularity or other forms of womanly disease, the effect is certain to be marked in her nervous system, the general effect being, as in Mrs. Woodin's case, "nervous headaches, restlessness at night" and a run-down condition. It is simply common sense then which says if you cure the female weakness, irregularity, etc., you will cure the nervousness, sleeplessness and other consequences of womanly disease.

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22nd, 23rd, 25th, and 25th, September, 1903.

TUESDAY, Opening Day—Addresses by Lieut Governor McIntyre, Premier Peters, Hon. B. Rogers, Commissioner of Agriculture, F. L. Haszard, Esq., President Exhibition Association and others. Judging of live stock will commence.

WEDNESDAY FORENOON—Judging of live stock continues. Afternoon:

HORSE RACES

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2.50 " " and Pace, " 150 00

Short performances between heats by the following, coming direct from New York:
The world famed aerialists, the Flying Dunbars.
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The Nyvajos' comedy casting act.
Balcon Ascension with lady and gentleman to Parachute.
Evening—A full two hours performance by the above named aerialists, comedy acrobats and the Nyvajos, comedy casting act.

THURSDAY—Forenoon—Judging in Exhibition Grounds continues.
Afternoon—Judging in Exhibition Grounds concluded.
Sale of Stock from Government Farm at 1.30 p. m.

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The Flying Dunbars.
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Baloon Ascension again.
Evening—A full two hours performance with change of programme by the above named.
FRIDAY—Grand Parade of Live Stock and close of Exhibition.
Cheap Rates by steamers and railways from all points.
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