

DeRoberval.

The subject of this latest contribution to the literature of Canada is well chosen. There is much of true poetry in the story of the first band of adventurers who left the shores of Old France in the summer of 1542, to seek fortune, under the direction of Roberval, and found a colony on the shore of the mighty St. Lawrence. The story, as we have it, is not burdened by detail—ample room is left for the play of the poet's fancy.

The success of Cartier's expeditions had suggested the idea that France might bear a part in Christianizing the savages of the New World, and obtaining the prestige due to nations which have colonies, besides the wealth to be gained by dealing in pelts and finding precious metals. One of the leading spirits of the colonization party of that day was a Picard noble, named Jean Francois de La Roque, Superior of Roberval, whom King Francis, playfully called "the little King of Vimieu." Roberval had won his royal master's esteem by his bravery and fidelity in the wars, and he readily obtained a right to govern, in the King's name, all the countries newly discovered. Armed with the powers of a Viceroy and a fleet of ships, he found little difficulty in raising a body of volunteers to found a permanent settlement. The accounts of his first voyage are conflicting. It is at all events certain that Roberval reached his destination in safety. He sent home, in the autumn following, two of his lieutenants to inform the King of his arrival, and to request a supply of provisions; and undertook an expedition into the interior in the vain hope of discovering the gold, silver and precious stones which the Indians reported as abounding in the west. Instead of sending the succor that was required, the King ordered him to return home, where his valor and influence in Picardy, a province then about to become the seat of war, might be useful. After the war was over, Roberval again set sail for Canada but perished on the passage, together with all his followers, including his brother, who, we are told, "was almost as distinguished a warrior as himself." This is, in brief, the interesting fragment of history on which our poet has constructed his drama.

The play begins at the Court of France, at Fontainebleau. The courtiers had, evidently, "nothing else to do"; for one of them proposes—

"Come, let us imitate the peasantry."

This was, however, impossible; and so they talk about poetry and love. As the discussion of these topics proceeds, many very pretty verses are said or sung. We quote the following:—

LOVE, THE HUNTER.

Allay thy terror, flying heart,  
Behold, before, and at thy side,  
The sly love, lurks with his dart.  
A hunter he, and not a foe,  
Although his shafts lay many low.

Come cease thy trembling, timid heart,  
Accept thy doom at love's decree,  
For true love doleth leniently—  
A sudden stroke, an instant smart  
And lo! the victim hath not swooned,  
But kisses love and hugs the wound.

From scenes like these, the drama leads to topics of the gravest import. The times then, as now, were somewhat "out of joint." Roberval says:—

"It strikes me

We live now at the juncture of two times,  
Two eras—cultures, worlds, or what you will,  
This present age we live in we know well,  
A world hard, selfish, open in its wrong  
Stiff-necked, perhaps, not on the whole un-  
sound;

But men and things are changing day by day  
So rapidly, no day is like the last."

This, no doubt, the sober truth about the situation—poetically and truly expressed. Finally the expedition of De Roberval is determined upon and the preparations made. The adventurers, were, of course, men of "great expectations"; but there were some who doubted.

Quentin.—But tell me, Viceroy, this new land of yours,

Is it a pleasant land that bears the vine,  
Is your chief city built? The boulevards,  
Are they shaded? Are the hostels good?

Roberval.—Ask our Lieutenant; he knows well as I.

And has, besides, a much more vivid fancy.

D'Arx.—The land, as yet, is rather in the rough.

No city, town, bourg, hamlet or hameau.

Quent.—How can we dwell there?

D'Arx.—Well, I scarcely know. For some weeks we shall have to roost on trees.

Roberval.—Remember, each shall have a seigneurie.

Laverdy.—What is the use to have a seigneurie

If all the vassals are wild savages

That take pot shots at us with slings spears?

Roberval.—I am empowered to say His Majesty

Will keep us well supplied with emigrants,

So in short time you may surround yourselves

With your dependents from your own cantons.

Quent.—That is the future. For the present time

I must beg to be excused:

I know that I could not live up a tree.

The first act closes with an adieu to France, and the second opens on "the Canadian shore" where

"All the natural features of the scene  
Excel description with reality."

And Roberval says, emphatically:—

"A noble land indeed, and well beset  
To take it to our hearts and love it well."

After planting his colony at Quebec, Roberval ascends the St. Lawrence, contemplates Niagara Falls—"The masterpiece of Thine Almighty hand," listening to the roar of which—

"What can the hearer do but reverent say  
This is the voice of God."

Here Ohnawa appears—a very beautiful Indian girl who speaks good French, learned from a trapper, and falls in love with Roberval. Ohnawa proves herself a very practical guardian angel standing between him and death on several occasions, and at last falls before an arrow intended for his breast. The Iroquois are prominent actors in the drama; the missionaries make trouble for the secular leader; the doctors quarrel about his case when he is ill; he would have died if Ohnawa had not rescued him. There is much of movement and life in the drama; and the wit and wisdom of

the author are well set forth in his smooth lines. Here are a few quotations:

"Rob.—Grumbling is the flood-gate to the dam  
And carries of the surcharged waters safely."

"Rob.—Man's conscience may be likened to a plant  
Of strong vitality, which dormant lies  
Long time, yet oft puts forth new buds  
And leaves.

A scamp is scidom quite incorrigible,  
Yet does he not evade his punishment,  
For in his inner breast awakes a pang  
Of that dread punishment we call remorse."

"Rob.—My friend, we rarely know God's special reasons."

"Rob.—On board the other, the combustibles—  
I mean the woman and the powder kegs."

Roberval receives the King's commands to return with regret, and has some difficulty in persuading the colonists that it is their duty to leave all in the new land and return with him to France—"Dear France," now "fighting for her life." Shortly before his departure, an anchorite,—

"The aged, holy man  
Who lived a hermit half way down the cliff,"  
Was found dead on his pallet, leaving behind him, inscribed, a prophecy concerning the future of Canada. "I see," he says,—

"I see a congeries of lesser states  
Moulding by destiny towards one whole,  
Under a Statesman, genial, strong and sage,  
Till they absorb in one sole commonweal,  
Constructive, one, and indivisible,  
With laws well codified, with vital force  
To cope with evils of her inner life,  
And put down treason, treachery and wrong;

Unlike the social systems of to-day,  
In her the unit, from his being such,  
Carries responsibility of the whole;  
And the whole, from its being aggregate,  
Exists but by equality of the unit.  
Rank is therein, for life is based on rank,  
But here 'tis the rank of pre-eminence,  
The decades pass like flashes. Then I see  
This new and welded State of Canada  
Take her place on the nation's roll beneath  
A broad emblazoned banner of her own,  
Until she shines a light among the lands,  
With keels of commerce upon every main.  
Then follow peace, strength, and prosperity."

Roberval's second expedition in 1549, is artistically treated. The author calls "spirits from the rusty deep;" and they come to predict the disaster which finally overwhelmed Roberval and his fleet. This event is referred to in the beautiful lyric dirge at the end:

"A gallant fleet sailed out to sea  
With the pennons streaming merrily;  
On the hulls the tempest lit,  
And the great ships split  
In the gale,  
And the foaming fierce sea-horses  
Hurled the fragments in their forces  
To the ocean deeps,  
Where the kraken sleeps,  
And the whale.

The men are in the ledges' clefts,  
Dead, but with motion of living guise  
Their bodies are rooking there.  
Monstrous sea-fish and efts  
Stare at them with glassy eyes  
As their limbs are stirred and their hair.

Moan, O sea!  
O death at once and the grave,  
And sorrow in passing, O cruel wave!  
Let the resonant sea-aves ring,  
And the sorrowful surges sing,  
For the dead men rest but restlessly.

We do keep account of them  
And sing an ocean requiem  
For the brave.

On the whole, the drama, DeRoberval, is, in our opinion, well conceived and well wrought out—a very valuable contribution to the literature of Canada.

DeRoberval,—a drama; also the Emigration of the Fairies; and The Triumph of Constance, A Romantic; by John Hunter Duvar, author of The Enamoured, etc.; dedicated to Sir John A. Macdonald, G. C. B., and published by J. & A. McMillan, St. John, N. B.

The Flowers Were Artificial.

AN IDEA OF HOW THE "GLORIOUS CLIMATE" OF CALIFORNIA IS WORKED.

Dell Matchett, an arrival from the southern boom country of Los Angeles, is at the Union, says the Chico (Cal.) Enterprise. Mr. Matchett said: "I arrived in California some three months ago from Ohio and proceeded at once to southern California, and was stopping at a suburban hotel near Pasadena. Well, to a certain extent I liked the country, though it was fearfully cold some mornings, but I thought it was all right, for just under my window was a rosebush in full bloom, and above it was a bed of pansies and hot house exotics that for beauty and freshness I had never seen the like. You may believe I wrote long, flowery and eulogistic letters of the country and place to eastern friends.

"But now for the sequel; the flower bed was protected by a barbed wire enclosure, and it was impossible to reach them. One evening several ladies and myself impromptu the proprietor for a bouquet each to wear to a reception that evening, but to no avail, so I determined I would have one at my cost. Shortly after dusk that evening I lowered myself from my window, made three or four grabs for the flowers, and then climbed back thoroughly disgusted. They were imitation, and nothing but these paper flowers that the ladies make. They were so artistically manufactured that they would deceive the most experienced.

"I paid my bill next morning and left for the upper country without waiting to see whether the oranges were tied on the trees or the grass was green through the copious washings of paris green or not.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once; it produces natural quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain; and the little cherub awakes as "bright as a button." It is very pleasant to taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for diarrhoea, whether arising from teething or other causes. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, and take no other kind. (April 1, '88.)

AMERICAN Oak Tanned Sole Leather at J. H. Bell's. s t—may 12

Varia.

There is a passage of unusual significance in the speech of Mr. Goschen, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, at Croyden last week. It is not the business of one occupying his position in the Government, to stimulate the expenditure, and when he dwells on the necessity of national insurance against war, there must certainly be some reason for it. "There are heavy clouds," he said, "hanging over other parts of Europe as well as over Berlin, and the temper in which to contemplate the political horizon is one of sober anxiety." That is precisely the counsel which a minister ought to give to the country in a crisis like this, and the pity is that it is not given oftener. If less was said about local government and the adjustment of rates, and a little more attention paid to the dangers which may some day confront England, and which when they do come will probably come very suddenly, this "sober anxiety" will be more common than it is now. There are three things in the present situation which bode the Mother Country no good. The first is the probable succession to the throne of Germany of a young, fiery, warlike prince who is popularly supposed not to have very much love for England; there is the very humble attitude of Prince Bismarck towards Russia, which betokens the adoption by him of a policy which might involve large concessions to that power; and there is just a possibility that France may have a military dictator, and that a war may be undertaken with England, as a makeweight in the popular estimation of the people for any concessions that will have to be made to Germany. Nothing may come of any of these contingencies but none of them were thought of a year ago, and their appearance all at once in the political sky is not to be put aside by Englishmen as something that has no concern for them.

The health of the German Emperor varies from day to day, though the very slight improvement which has lately been recorded is sustained. The heroic patience with which he bears his sufferings is beyond praise. It is said that the Empress Victoria, whom, everybody would think, had enough to bear, should have another burden laid upon her by the quarrels between the doctors and journalists. The Queen, who visited Charlottenburg lately, was received with much enthusiasm. Personal intercourse still counts for much with continental sovereigns, and the fact of the Queen having within so short a time seen the King of Italy, the Emperor of Austria, and the German Emperor, may conduce to that cordial understanding which it is so important for England to maintain with all three powers.

Your correspondent "F." anticipated me in answering "Scipio," as to where the euphemism, "the dark house," was to be found. I give an extract from the essay of Macaulay's which contains it. It is from his review of Mitford's History of Greece, which is, I think, one of the most brilliant of all his essays. "F." is in error in saying that it first appeared in the Edinburgh Review in 1840, for I think it will be found that it first appeared in Knight's Quarterly Magazine, November, 1824:—

"All the triumphs of truth and genius over prejudice and power have been the triumphs of Athens. Wherever a few great minds have made a stand against violence and fraud in the cause of liberty and reason, there has been her spirit in the midst of the thien; inspiring, encouraging, consoling;—by the lonely lamp of Erasmus; by the restless bed of Pascal; in the tribune of Mirabeau; in the cell of Galileo; on the scaffold of Sidney. But who shall estimate her influence on private happiness? Who shall say how many thousands have been made wiser, happier and better by those pursuits in which she has taught mankind to engage; to how many the studies which took their rise from her have been wealth in poverty—liberty in bondage—health in sickness—society in solitude? Her power is, indeed, manifested at the bar, in the senate, in the field of battle, in the schools of philosophy. But these are not her glory. Wherever literature consoles sorrow, or assuages pain—wherever it brings gladness to eyes which fall with wakefulness and tears, and ache for the dark house and the long sleep,—there is exhibited, in its noblest form, the immortal influence of Athens.

The euphemisms on death have caused more correspondence than anything else I have written about. In THE EXAMINER of the 8th inst., a letter over the well-known initials "E. J. H." takes me to task for the extract from Gray, "Gone to salute the rising morn." I admit he makes what he would call a prima facie case against its use. When I saw that quotation it was used as a euphemism for death, and I verified it, but did not carefully examine the context. I have not been able to since his letter appeared, but I shall do so, and will then venture to reply to his criticism.

But Mr. Hodgson falls foul of me upon another question,—a question of constitutional law,—and here I feel I must yield to him in this his own special province, but in yielding I think I may be pardoned for the error I made, which, if I mistake not, is not an uncommon one, and moreover the distinction seems somewhat difficult to understand, and I think I may claim Mr. Hodgson himself as a witness to this. I say that for this reason. No one can make a point more clear and plain than he can. Now listen to what he says: "The tenure of the Bishops was not at any time per baroniam, but in frankalmoigne, so that they were not barons in right of their possessions, but the possessions were baronies in right of the holders as customary barons." My error is thus clearly and simply pointed out, viz.: I mistook their tenure to be "per baroniam," instead of being in "frankalmoigne" (to speak the truth I know nothing of either one or the other) but I committed a still further error in supposing "that they were barons in their right of possessions," whereas "the possessions were baronies in right of the holders as customary barons." This is as clear and as plain as Mr. Hodgson can make it, and I hope that to your readers it may be plain and clear too.

I shall be glad to give an additional number of euphemisms of death, as requested by "G. P." in yesterday's issue. But I am not sure of the authors, and when I do give the latter as I have not verified the quotations therefore they cannot be relied upon with certainty.

STEAMER ELDON, Next Week's Trips.

TUESDAY, May 15—Pinette and Orwell, lat 3 o'clock, p. m.  
WEDNESDAY, May 16—Verdon River Bridge, at 3 o'clock, p. m.  
THURSDAY, May 17—Murray Harbor, Wood Islands and Little Sands, at 3 o'clock.  
Freight received at Queen's Wharf.  
W. W. CLARKE, Agent.  
may 12—41

Prince Edward Island Hospital.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that in pursuance of the Act of Incorporation, a Public Meeting of all contributors to the above Institution will be held in the Reception Room of the Prince Edward Island Hospital, in the City of Charlottetown, on WEDNESDAY, 30th May, 1888, at the hour of 4 o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of electing Trustees for the government of the Institution, in accordance with the by-laws, and for the transaction of such other business as shall be brought before the meeting.  
B. B. LDBERSTON, Secretary of Trustees.  
may 12—dy 21 law

PUBLIC NOTICE.

E. KINSMAN, General Agent for the Province of Prince Edward Island for the sale of the well-known line of Goods handled here before by him, has taken the Premises of A. L. DODD, ESQ., who has retired from business. In addition to line of COMMISSION and AGENCY BUSINESS heretofore done by me, I am prepared to conduct

AUCTION SALES

of Real Estate, Bank Stock, Lumber, Household Furniture, Horses, Carriages, Fruit, General Merchandise, &c., at Sales Room or elsewhere to suit customers.  
Also, to sale of consignments of Flour, Tea, Sugar, Molasses, Apples and other goods, for which purpose the Premises are specially suited, being central and having large Sales Room and first-class Warehouse and Cellar accommodations.  
Having secured the services of Robert Bearist, late of the firm of William Bearist & Son, Summerside, who after an experience of over twenty years in the Commission and Auctioneering Business, will manage that branch, and trust that by careful attention and prompt returns will receive a share of public patronage.  
Just Received:—50 BUGGIES, for sale low.  
E. KINSMAN.  
Ch'town, May 11, 1888.

CHILDRENS' ENTERTAINMENT,

—IN—  
St. Peter's Schoolroom.

THE ENTERTAINMENT lately held in St. Peter's Schoolroom, will be repeated

On Tuesday Next, 15th Inst.,  
With a slight Change of Programme.

Come early and avoid a crush.  
Admission, 15 cents.  
Entertainment to begin at 8 o'clock.  
may 8

"ALL RIGHT."

ALL RIGHT will be in Charlottetown EVERY THURSDAY during the season, and remain till Ten o'clock the following Saturday.

He will be at County Line EVERY WEDNESDAY, from One o'clock until Five, and at Cape Traverse every Wednesday night.

NEWTON LEE.  
April 23, 1888.

Dwelling House

BY AUCTION

I AM instructed by G. A. SHARP to sell by Auction, on the premises, on WEDNESDAY, 23rd inst., at 12 o'clock, noon, his Two-and-a-half Story Double Tenement House on King Square, at present occupied by the owner and Mr. Carter. The House contains 15 rooms, and has a good stone cellar. There is a good Coach House and Stable on the premises.

This property is situated in one of the most pleasant parts of the City.  
Terms at sale.  
G. M. HARRIS,  
may 9—11 s/c Auctioneer.

Freehold For Sale.

THE Heirs of the late William B. Whitshire will offer for sale by Public Auction, on TUESDAY, the 15th day of May, instant, the Dwelling House and Premises formerly owned and occupied by deceased, situated on Gerald Street, at the head of 1st bar street.

Sale will take place on the premises at Twelve o'clock, noon. Terms cash. Good title given.  
For further particulars apply to  
R. F. FITZGERALD,  
may 9—dy 11 s/c Solicitor for Owners.

FIRST ARRIVAL.

Biscuits and Confectionery.

JUST RECEIVED:—A Large Assortment of Plain and Fancy BISCUITS, a lot of splendid CONFECTIONERY, Jonas Triple Concentrated EXTRACTS, and a full supply of GROCERIES.  
RACKHAM & PHIPPS,  
Corner of Kent and Prince Streets.  
may 8—1w pd

Livery and Exchange Stables,

(Opposite St. Dunstan's Cathedral.)  
GREAT GEORGE STREET,  
CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I.

P. P. GILLIS, PROPRIETOR.

Horses, Coaches, Buggies, Barouches and open Wagons on hire daily at all hours.  
Telephone to all parts of the city.  
may 10—3m

In the Vice Admiralty Court

of Prince Edward Island.

The Queen vs. the Boats and Seines of the American Schooners Argonaut and Col. J. H. French.

IN pursuance of Commissions of Sale issued out of the above Court, dated the 26th March, 1888, and to me directed, I will set up and sell, or cause to be sold, at Public Auction, at noon on the SECOND DAY OF MAY NEXT, at Conolly's Warehouse, in SOURIS, the following:—  
1 Seine Boat and 1 Seine, with gear thereto, belonging to Schooner Argonaut.  
1 Seine Boat and 1 Seine, with gear thereto, belonging to Schooner Col. J. H. French.  
FRED. W. HYNDMAN,  
Marshal Vice Admiralty Court.  
Ch'town, March 27, 1888.—2aw 11 s/c  
may 1

NEW STOCK

—OF—  
BANKRUPT STOCK

CLOTHING.

—FOR—  
Men, Boys & Children,  
Bought at Bankrupt Sale in Montreal at a great Sacrifice, and will be  
SOLD OFF VERY CHEAP.  
Don't Buy until You see  
this Stock at  
J. B. MACDONALD'S. J. B. MACDONALD'S.  
Charlottetown, May 12, 1888—dy wky

Grand Show Day.

—O—  
JAMES PATON & CO.

Invite the Ladies to walk through their Establishment  
ON SATURDAY, 12th INST.

Grand Show of English Millinery,  
Grand Show of Millinery made on our premises,  
Grand Show of Dress Goods,  
Grand Show of Trimmings,  
Grand Show of Silks, &c.,  
Great Display of Carpets, &c.

JAMES PATON & CO.,  
May 9, 1888—dy & wky MARKET SQUARE.

ALL NEW! ALL CHEAP!

PERKINS & STERNS'

Spring and Summer Dry Goods.

In advertising our New Goods, we cannot enumerate the variety and novelties we have in every Department, but we feel assured that an examination of our Stock will repay any intending purchaser. We have great confidence in offering this season's purchases, containing, as it does, the Best Goods to be found in the leading markets of the world. We are going to sell so cheap, you will find our Store

The Shopping Centre of the City

—FOR—  
NEW DRESS GOODS, NEW JERSEYS, NEW SATEENS,  
NEW MILLINERY, NEW MUSLINS, NEW HOSIERY,  
NEW JACKETS, NEW PRINTS, NEW CLOTHS,  
HATS, BONNETS, FEATHERS, FLOWERS, FRILLINGS, RIBBONS, &c.

PERKINS & STERNS.

Charlottetown, May 8, 1888.

NEW STOCK

—OF—  
DRY GOODS

AND CLOTHING,

Now Opening and will be sold at Bottom Prices.

GEO. E. FULL,

QUEEN STREET,  
Ch'town, May 10, 1888