

THE SONG SPARROW.

Hail! little bird, in brown and grey,  
That in the earliest spring-time first  
Comes north, to greet us with thy lay,  
Though March winds blow and long delay  
The purple lilac buds to burst.

How cheery, then, sounds thy trill  
How spirited thy brave attack!  
As if ye dared the lingering chill  
Of slow-dispersing snows on hill  
And solitary woodland track.

Our messenger of hope, art thou,  
Of flowers and sunshine yet to be,  
As from the bare and heaving bog  
Thou poorest forth thy ecstasy,  
So joyously, so bravely.

From thy full repertoire of treasure,  
Our own Canadian Philomel,  
Thou bringest forth no stunted measure;  
The pulsing fountain of song that well  
Within thy heart thy strains impel  
From morning star to vesper bell.

High on the spray, thou liftest thy head  
When April wakes the violet,  
And when the summer days have sped  
And autumn shows her robes of red,  
And frosted dews, thou singest yet.

Thine is no pessimistic wall,  
Glad spirit of perpetual song;  
The earth is thy enchanted vale,  
Whose beauties all to thee belong.  
Thou drinkest from the nectar'd gale,  
And thou must sing, sweet nightingale.  
—A. L. O. O.

J. C. FRANKLIN, AGED 109.

Inmate of Toronto Asylum for the Insane  
—Recalls His Youth.

Mr. John C. Franklin, an inmate of the Toronto Asylum for the Insane, can probably lay claim to being the oldest man in Toronto, says The Star of that city. Last fall he was brought from Bowmanville to Toronto, and has since that time been at the Queen street asylum.

Although there is no means of ascertaining his exact age, since one of his sons claims him to be 97, while the other says he is 114, it is probable that Mr. Franklin's own statement, that he is 109, is correct.

Mr. Franklin says he was born on the Bay of Dublin on Halloween night, 1794, before the great Irish rebellion, and that his birth is registered in one of the English churches in Dublin. On account of his being born on Halloween his grandmother made him promise never to play any game of chance, as he would always be made win by the fairies and his winnings would always bring him harm, and so, during his whole life, he has never played any game of chance.

When 19 years of age he went from Dublin to the Loch Erne country to avoid being enlisted against Napoleon, and from that time till 1830 he remained in that part of Ireland.

About that time and the period immediately subsequent Mr. Franklin's memory is most clear. He remembers well the excitement in Ireland regarding the threatened Napoleonic invasions and the misery which followed the close of the wars.

In 1830 he sailed from Dublin to Montreal, where he lived for a year, working at his trade as a mason, and then removed to Cornwall, where he remained until the outbreak of Mackenzie's rebellion. At that time he joined the militia, and was present at the attack on the insurgents at the windmill at Prescott and later fought against the insurgents in Lower Canada, where he was wounded in the thigh by a musket ball and had his knapsack cut off by a sabre slash.

"I was a sharpshooter," said Mr. Franklin, "and gave me three fingers depth of whiskey in a glass and I would never miss."

After the close of the rebellion he went to Marmora, where he remained several years, and since then he has lived at Belleville and Bowmanville.

Mr. Franklin was married twice, having in his first family three girls and one son, who was in the Life Guards, and in his second family two girls and four boys.

In spite of his great age, Mr. Franklin's mind is fairly clear and his memory accurate regarding events which took place in his youth. He is full of anecdotes of his early life in Canada and in Ireland, and is fond of relating tales of those times.

Mr. Franklin has always been a hard worker and has been idle scarcely a day until he became too old to work. "If I were to live as long again," Mr. Franklin said this morning, "I think I would enjoy life as well as ever, and if I had my strength I would take more recreation and less work in my life."

He cannot be called insane, but his age requires that he be cared for at the asylum.

The Late Mr. Foreshaw Day.

The death of Mr. Foreshaw Day, R.C.A., which occurred at Kingston on the 22nd July, will cause deep regret not only in Canada, but throughout the Empire. Wherever the red coats of British regiments are to be seen there may be found an ex-cadet of our Royal Military College, whose memory holds dear the eccentric but kind-hearted old artist who has now crossed the horizon. For eighteen years Mr. Day was professor of free-hand drawing and painting at the R.M.C., and during that time hundreds of young men, many of whom have become distinguished, passed through his hands.

Mr. Day was born in London, England, in 1837, and was educated at Dublin and at South Kensington. He came to this country in 1862 and was for many years draughtsman in the royal naval yard at Halifax, whence he was transferred to the Royal Military College in 1879. Here he remained until the end of the college year, 1897, when old age and ill-health compelled him to retire. In 1880 he was made a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts by His Excellency the then Governor-General, the Marquis of Lorne. The picture that earned him this distinction was a landscape—his forte—"Scene on the Nouvelle River, N. B." Two of his other most celebrated works are "The Grand Pre" and "Louisburg," which gained for him favorable notice in Paris.

Gold from the Yukon.

Gold from the Canadian Yukon district to the amount of \$50,000,000 has been won since the first great discoveries. Last year mining machinery valued at \$5,000,000 was shipped to Dawson.

PIT BROW WOMEN.

Hard Lot of Female Workers About English Coal Mines.

Pit brow women are among the most remarkable women workers in the world. They work as hard as men and dress almost like them. Five thousand of these women find employment in Lancashire, England, in the coal mines. Their work lies on the pit brow at the surface and not down below. Once women were employed in the coal seams, but in 1842, in the face of great opposition from colliery owners, an act was passed prohibiting women and children from being employed below the surface in coal mines.

At present the duties of the pit brow women consist in dealing with the coal as it comes up the shaft to the pit head. When the cargo reaches the top they haul out the wagons, which contain several hundredweight of coal each, and run them on the rails to a sort of tipping machine, which shoots the coal down below to the screen of the ridding machine. Among the other duties of the women is the leveling of the coal on the wagons which receive it as it drops from the screen.

They start work at 6 o'clock in the morning and finish at 4 in the afternoon. They receive 2 shillings or less a day, and men that do the same work get 4 shillings. Their costume consists of trousers and clogs and often enough a cape which has at one time been worn by a brother. When going to and from work the girls and women wear petticoats, which they roll up around the waist while engaged on the pit brow. The hair is closely covered with a handkerchief, on top of which is a soft bonnet.

A Valley of Death in Bolivia.

There is a valley in Bolivia, South America, which might well be called the Valley of the Shadow of Death. It has been inhabited for an indefinite period of years by the Kanaa Indians, who are kindred to the various South American tribes and number now only a few hundred souls. That they were once a very powerful tribe is indicated by the condition of the land which they as a tribe still inhabit. One cannot travel any distance through their land without coming upon the old and forsaken burial grounds of the Kanaa dead. These places cannot be called graveyards, for the bodies are not buried, but rather placed upon elevated platforms, wrapped in the garments of death and bound to the crossbeams that they may not be displaced.

In one of these burial grounds there will be probably fifty high skeleton platforms and on each will lie from three to five of the Kanaa dead. The air in that part of Bolivia is very pure and preservative, for it is one of the highest plateaus of the continent, although Kanaa valley is just a little below the plateau's height. A traveler passing through that land at night and by moonlight would be awestricken at the gloomy vision those graveyards present.

An Affair of Letters.

We are much surprised at meeting little Polly Contosel, formerly of Bowersville, in England.

"Why, Polly?" we say. "How is it we find you here?"

"Polly!" she repeats, with a dignity we never knew she possessed. "Lady Oledobts, if you please."

An apology on our part establishes friendly relations once more, and she tells us that she really has won and wedded Lord Oledobts and that her father's dollars are being expended in the refurbishing of the Oledobts castle.

"But," we say, "it was rumored in Bowersville that you were hesitating in your choice between three honest farmer lads in the vicinity. How was it, then, that you married his lordship?"

"Oh," she titters, "he came to Bowersville one day. When I saw him I dropped my eyes and he began dropping his 's, and it wasn't long until he induced me to drop my 's, and now we are both making papa drop his 's and 'x's."—Judge.

He Won Her.

"She has promised to marry you, has she? Did she accept you right off?"

"Oh, no. I had to propose to her four times."

"Four times! Gracious, but you were persevering! What did she say the first time?"

"She said if there wasn't another man in the world but me she wouldn't marry me."

"That was pretty strong. What did she say the second time?"

"She said she liked me pretty well, but she couldn't think of marrying me, for she might see some one she liked better."

"Humph! And the third time?"

"The third time she asked me if I wanted to tease the life out of her."

"Ha, ha, ha! And the fourth time?"

"Oh, the fourth time she said if I insisted upon it she supposed she would have to say yes."

A Trick in Letter Writing.

"If you are compelled to write a letter in lead pencil because there is no ink in the house blow your breath on the page after it has been written," said a woman who evidently had tried the experiment. "It will prevent blurring after the letter has been folded. It moistens the graphite and makes it adhere more closely to the paper. Of course you can make it blur by rubbing it with the tip of the finger, but for all practical purposes the words will be as legible as if they had been written in ink."

A Bad Case.

The cynical man was staring through the window at the cheery man swinging down the street. "Doesn't Chesty know anything?" asked his companion. "Know anything?" said the cynical man. "He doesn't even suspect anything."—New York Times.

WOMEN WHO POSE.

The Secrecy That Is Maintained by Artists About Their Models.

Every artist keeps in his studio a little book that he guards most sacredly. It contains his list of models. In some art studios of New York the "model book" contains 500 names of men and women who earn their living by posing. The betrayal of a single name by the artist would injure his reputation with the craft and make it difficult for him to employ the better class of models.

The chief reason for this secrecy is the fact that the outside world is prone to look askance at professional models. Most of them, however, are perfectly modest and good women, whose business, though apparently violating the letter of morality, preserves its spirit.

In fact, behind the model's professional career is little but the commonplace. American models are characterized by the same qualities of self respect and independence as American art. The principal fault artists and illustrators find with them is their lack of expression, but for beautiful figures and perfect features they are unexcelled.

The best models in the world are found in France and America, where the most general intelligence prevails in the class from which they chiefly come. In America many of them belong to middle class families who have met reverses.

He Had Followed Directions.

A little black boy sat on the soap box which served as a front step to the tumble down shanty. His skin was more than black. Here and there it looked as if it had been varnished. His fingers clung together when he attempted to open his hands, and films of silky sweetness were spun about him as he threw back his head and opened his mouth in epicurean ecstasy. Household Words explains this happy condition:

"Goodness, law!" exclaimed the old mammy, who came suddenly round the corner. "What yo' sittin' dat a-way for when I jes' been tryin' to clean yo' up? Ef yo' ain't went an' molassed yo'self 'f'm head to foot!"

"Dat ain't 'lasses, mammy."

"What's de use o' tryin' ter make yo' look 'spectable, 'd like ter know? I wash yo' an' dress yo', an' den I tells yo' ter go an' use de comb, didn't I?"

"Yes'm. An' I look aroun', an' all de comb I could fin' was dis yere honey-comb. But I don use dat, mammy; I sho'ly did."

The Wonders of Color.

A small and simple experiment can be tried by any reader which will go far to convince him or her what a debt we owe to color and what a good thing it is we have sunlight, which enables our eyes to take advantage of the beautiful hues of nature. Make a room quite dark and then burn some carbonate of soda in the flame of a bunsen gas burner. It will burn with an orange yellow light sufficiently strong to illuminate everything in the room, but you will realize with a sudden shock that, bright though the light is, all distinctions of color have vanished. Only light and shade remain. A crimson carnation, a blue violet, a red tablecloth, a yellow blind—all look gray or black or white. The faces of those present look positively repulsive, for all natural color has disappeared.

No other experiment will so well convince those who have witnessed it how great a loss would be that of our sense for color.

Oriental Weddings.

At wedding festivals in Arabia, Persia and Morocco the women guests hold carnival all day, sometimes several days, but the poor little bride is in a room by herself fasting. She is being "decorated." Depilatories and tweezers remove all superfluous hair. She is scrubbed with pumice stone; her toes, fingers and hair are stained with henna, and her face is daubed with red and bits of gold paper. An oriental maiden has no voice in the selection of her husband. She seldom sees him till she is his wife, and he is not supposed to see her face until she unveils after marriage.

Sometimes Cupid gets ahead of parents and guardians, the "wind" blows the veil aside, and the young eyes meet. Then there is some anxious maneuvering that the elders may make the right selection.

Unique Way to Secure One's Pay.

Tattooing is still a favorite personal decoration with some of the natives of Samoa, though not so fashionable there as formerly. Those who practice the art have an effective way of securing their pay. The color extends from the waist to the knees, no other part of the body being marked. In the small of the back the design shades off to a point which is never finished by the tattooer till his bill has been paid. As the incomplete design is public evidence of the wearer's indebtedness the artist seldom has to wait long for his money.

Friends and Relatives.

"So the poor fellow's dead?"

"Yes, and he left all his money to charity. His funeral was very largely attended."

"Ah, yes, he had lots of friends; I don't suppose he had any enemies at all."

"Oh, yes, a few; he had several relatives."

Not the Genuine Kind.

"I'm afraid she isn't cut out for a society woman."

"Why not?"

"Well, she seems to have no idea of the pleasures of extravagance."

The pleasantest things in the world are pleasant thoughts, and the greatest art in life is to have as many of them as possible.—Boveri.

M. J. CARTER

Several items which will serve to bring this up-to-date store into first prominence as an economical place for a man to come for clothing and furnishings either for himself or for the boy.

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In Very Newest Styles, High Grade Qualities and Materials

- Men's Rainproof Coats in D. K. Fawn, Oxford Grey and the new green shade, long raglanette style, box back, taliva pockets Italian lined, regular price 12.50, special 10.00
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- 12 doz. men's soft front colored shirts in very neat patterns in light and dark colors, separate or attached cuffs, all sizes, regular \$1.00 and \$1.25 qualities, your choice for 65c
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- 5 doz. Boys' Varsity Peak Caps in light and dark colors your choice for 10c

We have passed into stock this week several lines of soft and stiff hats, the shapes are quite new and the prices are very tempting.

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Department is constantly on the increase, in fact it has nearly doubled in the last three years. We must do our work well to make this boast. The balance of this month and the month of August we make special bargains in everything in our line. Largest stock of Watches, Gem and Wedding Rings, Birthday and Wedding Presents. Don't forget the place.

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Milne's New Block, 99 Kent Street, Lindsay.

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Special Treasury Stock, on which a series of 10 per cent. dividends will be paid.  
Dividend of 10 per cent. will be paid on Aug. 20th. Important new patents just secured from the United States government. Stock \$1.00 a share.  
For particulars write OWEN J. B. YEARSLEY (Canadian representative), 354 Euclid-ave., Toronto.  
Unlisted stocks bought and sold. Representatives wanted.

FARM LABORERS' WANTED

Will be run to stations on Can. Pac. in Manitoba and Assinabolia, west, south-west and north-west of Winnipeg as far as  
MOOSE JAW, ESTEVAN and YORKTON 10.00

On AUGUST 17th from stations in Ontario east of Toronto to Sharnbot Lake and Kingston and Midland division of Grand Trunk north of Toronto and Cardwell.

One-way tickets to Winnipeg only will be sold, with a certificate extending the trip, before August 31st, without additional cost, to other points in Manitoba and Assinabolia as above. If purchasers engage as farm laborers at Winnipeg, provided such farm laborers will not work less than 30 days at harvesting, and produce certificate to that effect, they will be returned to original starting point at \$18, on or before Nov. 30th 1903.

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A 10c Bottle Makes 2 Gals.  
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Money to loan at very lowest rate at any time, and terms to suit borrower. The Corporation being an amalgamation of four companies and having capital and assets of over twenty millions, is prepared to do terms. Private funds if preferred.  
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W. F. Mc

BLIND MUSICIAN SEEKS AT THE SHRINE

One Among the Many Pigeons to be Cured by a...

Of the thousands who famous shrine of St. Anthony during the recent plague is thus described by News:

One of the most pathetic and interesting cases mentioned at the presence of a blind boy a sister, who have traveled from St. Paul, Minn. voked the intercession of the sightless boy to cure Marie Greely, aged 15 years, names of the young Greely used to sell near St. Paul, under the guidance of her sister, and was a large number who called him "Marie Greely" lost his sight from sickness. Who enough he was sent to the blind, where his parents and application, years of study, developed educated boy. He possesses accomplishments that fortunately favored his great accomplishment.

PLAYS THE

His favorite instrument, which he is a master, as the guests Regina, in which he testifies. His unerring keys as his hands on the board produces subtle and conveys to them the subtlest language of the blind boy's hand. On the other hand, he his affliction when he and causes them to the love that he faithful joyous meditation, a future that fills his sentiment. He is sweet, but sad and portray the thought his prayers for a variety of nature that "Marty" Greely is parents in St. Paul chance of the woman at the shrine Beaure. He also visited the quaint Quebec, and the miraculous taken place roused desire to make prostrate himself in the shrine to gain his sight. His friends scraped together when the younger sister, who were filled with grief, set out upon their journey. They arrived at Lindsay, and in a few days to make meantime they had to obtain the oblation. Their devotion intense that ever hope is interwoven are so fondly devoted and so lovable that the Trustee hear their prayer implicit faith, kindness from the blind boy, so that world in all its

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Several interesting being conducted Horticultural Experimental Horticultural.

One of these growing of top which are now compared with open air. The water what did