

stern principle of good which affects the heart and influences the conduct. Thus guided and controlled, he made a noble use of that moral influence which mental power, combined with exalted views and large possessions, bestows on the possessor; and we long found periods of mind in the rewarding co-existence of being "useful in his generation."

AGRICULTURAL.

EDUCATION FOR FARMERS.

In the first place there must be more general excitement in the public mind on this subject; and to effect this, we must use no method more effectual to adopt as a primary step, than the establishment of "farmers clubs," or meetings wherein each member is a speaker, and each a hearer, where all may tell of their successes or their failures, such assting causes; where mind holds free and unrestricted intercourse with mind to its own advancement, while good cheer sits the presiding genius of the scene. Such meetings should be regularly held in every town, and in every school district the better, especially in the more leisure seasons of fall, winter, and early spring, and if they are well kept up one season, there is no doubt but they will be continued the next by an accession of members. The amount of knowledge that may be so acquired in a single season will not attempt to compute. A club of this kind was established at Lenox, some three years since, and to say nothing of knowledge acquired by the interchange of practical experience, it has already planted more ornamental trees, introduced more fine fruit and vegetables than had been planted and introduced in the fifteen years previous to its commencement; besides originating a country horticultural society which promises to rank honorably with similar institutions in our country. But it is not in raising trees and fruit alone that they promise to excel. Every branch of husbandry comes within the scope of their discussions; and in spring, when the laborers of the field and garden call out their energetic services, various subjects are given to different individuals on which they are to report the coming autumn. For instance, A has the subject of corn culture assigned to him. Of course he takes notes of all his operations, introduces experiments as he thinks proper, and in due time brings in the result. Now, can any one question the benefits of such meetings, or doubt but there is a tendency to awaken observation and thought in the minds of all who attend them? If they do, let them venture on the experiment for a single winter, and they will find their doubts removed, and themselves refreshed in mind as well as body, wiser and better farmers the coming spring. Nor was the spirit of investigation allowed to rest satisfied with the means of improvement furnished by the foregoing cause.—Conversation led to thought, and thought resource in reading, and now every member of that club takes at least one, many of them three or four agricultural publications, which are always fraught with instruction sufficient to counterbalance more than ten times the cost of their procurement.—*Amer. Jour. of Ag. and Science.*

THE NEW ELECTRIC LIGHT.

On Monday evening, the 30th October, we visited the Hanover-square Concert Room, to behold this new light; and certainly were pleasantly amazed at this additional triumph of science. On entering the large room, we found it illuminated by a diffusive white light that showed to perfection the pictures on the ceiling, and also some of the pictures on the walls. The room was perfectly dark, and the new light, the test, a severe one, was perfectly satisfactory for the greys and the yellows were plainly perceptible, as also the flesh tints. A company comprising scientific men of eminence, the directors of gas companies, the proprietor, of patents relating to lights of every kind, and a multitude of highly intelligent and respectable persons, were assembled. Mr. Straite and Mr. Petrie, the discoverers, were on the platform answering the eager questions of the scientific men; and after short interval, Mr. Straite gave a brief outline of the most prominent characteristics of the new discovery, which was earnestly listened to, and frequently elicited expressions of genuine admiration. He stated that the problem of rendering the electric light permanent, self-regulating, and economical had been accomplished. Its advantages were, that it was not subject to combustion, it was perfectly harmless. That being without heat, it was not injurious to the eyes or other senses. That it could be moved by wires. It was economical, for the light of a hundred wax lights could be furnished for a penny an hour. The color shade being removed, an elegant glass vase, about two feet in height, and six inches in diameter, of an arched shape and on a metal plate, so that no air was admitted, was exposed to view. Wire conveying the fluid, was all that was to be seen, and the light was turned off on by Mr. Petrie, and the transition seemed from day to night, although there were several chandeliers alight in the room. The delicate human hand thus controlling the fierce and most appalling power which manifests itself in the tropical storm struck all present, and an involuntary burst of admiration manifested the almost awful interest with which this matchless triumph of human skill and science was appreciated. Mr. Straite declared his intention of shortly giving a series of lectures on the subject. After answering numerous questions, the company separated, certainly impressed with amazement at the discovery and admiration of the gentlemanly and modest bearing of the discoverers.—*Douglas Jerrold's Paper.*

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Two numbers more will complete the first volume of the *Huron Signal*, and owing to the great inconvenience of publishing a newspaper in Goderich, our subscribers must give much credit for having got so far along without dunning them. And as we are miserable hands at craving, we trust that all those who received the first number of the *Signal* and who have not yet paid for it, will have compassion on our feelings and save us the mortification of again hinting at this delicate subject, by remitting, at their first convenience the sum of twelve shillings and six pence for each copy so received. To those who wish to pay in advance, the price for the ensuing year will still be only ten shillings.

HURON SIGNAL.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1849.

THE COMMON SCHOOL TRUSTEES.

In the last number of the *Huron Gazette* appeared another of these unworthy and highly reprehensible articles of a purely personal nature, which we always maintain, should never appear in print. The Gentlemen attacked are Messrs. Galt and Modewell, and many assertions and threats are made against them, and even appeals to the Government on the unpopularity of Mr. Galt; simply because he was not elected by a meeting selected for the very purpose of not electing him; or what amounts exactly to the same thing, a meeting the majority of which were brought together by special invitation, to prevent the election of any man who is liberal in politics. We regret everything in the shape of dishonesty, and our regret is doubly increased when the fraud is used as an instrument of injuring the reputation of a fellow-being. This is a species of dishonesty which we can never quietly overlook; and though we regard it as deserving the reprobation of all good men, yet we must not admit that it has an almost universal prevalence in society. Now, although we neither intend to quote nor criticize this *Gazette* article to which we have alluded, yet we must ask—"What does the writer expect to gain by this system of misrepresentation?" The time has decidedly passed away, when even men of ability could succeed in misleading ignorant men against the evidence of their own senses; facts are facts and will not be upset by sophistry or stratagem. The attempts to blame, to stigmatize the present Government for the appointment of unfit or improper persons as Trustees of the District Grammar Schools, for political purposes, are just as many efforts to hoax or deceive the public, and those who recoil with contempt upon the heads of those who are so unfortunately foolish as to put them forth. We stated before, and we state again, challenging contradiction to the statement, that the present Government is not responsible for the fitness or unfitness of any one Trustee of the District Grammar Schools, except in so far as the appointment of the Rev. Alexander McKid is concerned. Mr. Galt and Mr. Modewell were recommended by the present Member for the county of Huron, and appointed by the late Administration. This fact we wish to be generally understood and remembered; and then the value of these personal attacks upon the character of these gentlemen will be fully appreciated. It appears that Mr. Galt, without any desire on his part, had been put in nomination as a Trustee for the Godrich Common School, in opposition to Mr. Kydd of the Post Office. The meeting, as we before observed, was selected for the purpose of preventing the election of any liberal man, and consequently Mr. Galt was not elected. The writer in the *Gazette* uses the trivial circumstance in a most dastardly manner, as an argument against the popularity of Mr. Galt, and against the participation of the Government in retaining him and Mr. Modewell as Trustees of the Grammar Schools; and unfortunately for the cause which the *Gazette* wishes to advocate, draws a parallel and an invidious comparison between not only the respective popularity of Mr. Galt and Mr. Kydd, but also between their respective merits, the preference, of course, is given to Mr. Kydd!! Now we must ask again, what does the writer expect to gain by this wantonly attempting to convince men against the evidence of their own senses? Does he suppose that there is one single soul, Whig, Tory, Radical or Republican, who know John Galt and Thomas Kydd, who could refrain from blushing at the idea of such a ridiculous comparison, or who would not regard it as a species of profanity to name the two together, except as a happy contrast in manhood, honor, truth, principle and talent. We will not use any hard epithets, but we must say that to compare Mr. Kydd to Mr. Galt in any respect, where honor or intellect is concerned is, in our estimation just as absurd as to compare a kind of mutilated shadow to a living, intellectual reality! In short, we have ever regarded these attempts to manufacture a character and stick it to a man who has no right to wear it, by comparing him with a respectable person—such attempts, we say, are just equivalent to the folly of endeavoring to drive horse-shoe-nails into the surface of a blacksmith's anvil; the fool loses his nails and gets himself laughed at, but the anvil remains unaltered. And with these remarks we congratulate Mr. Kydd on the honor which his friend of the *Gazette* has conferred on him.

PARLIAMENT AND OUR PROSPECTS.

The Parliament has met, and we expect to have the means of bringing some particulars of the meeting before our readers in our next. We are not saying too much when we assert that no Parliament has ever met, in Canada, on which so great an amount of public interest was concentrated; none whose movements were so closely watched; and none from which so much was expected. And while we would caution the public to be, at least, reasonable in their expectations to remember the good saying that "Time was not built in one day," and that as "delays are dangerous," so rash precipitation may occasionally prove fatal; and at the same time we fear not to assert that no Canadian Parliament ever held so completely, within its influence, the present prosperity and the future destiny of the country.

The present Colonial Government has come into power at one of the most eventful periods in the political history of man. The old established notions of civil government, the civil constitutions of the nations, and the restrictions and conventional landmarks which prejudice and semi-barbarism reared in the pathways of social intercourse, are all being scrutinized and turned over, and either renounced or cast aside into the great lumber-room of the past. The age of feudalism is passing away, and the government of the sword is giving place to the government of reason and humanity. The Government of Britain and other old countries are ceasing to hold their colonies in the chains of selfishness, and begin to recognize the colonies

as entitled to the rank of freemen. Under these propitious circumstances the present Canadian Government came into power. The whole members of it were placed in office by the unbounded confidence of nearly the whole people. They possess a more extensive knowledge of the wants and wishes of the people, and are supported by a greater body of the people's Representatives than any Ministry which has preceded them. With these advantages, and under such circumstances, the people have a right to expect much from them. And though we cannot suppose that in the present depressed state of the country, and indeed of almost every country, any Government can possibly change that depression into prosperity by an immediate fiat. We cannot suppose that any legislative enactment can at once increase either the quantity or the price of our wheat or other produce; nor prevent a failure in our future crops—nor force men to be more industrious and economical. Yet we know that most of the physical evils that afflict mankind, in a national capacity, result from previous miscalculations and misgovernment. The present sufferings of the civilized world, in so far as they result from poverty and crime are directly or indirectly attributable to evil systems of civil misrule. And as

"Twas long to tell and sad to trace,
Each step from grandeur to disgrace,
So it must be the work of generations to raise mankind completely from the social degradation into which the by-gone ages of misgovernment have sunk them. A process of gradual amelioration of the political condition of humanity is all that can reasonably be expected from any system of government, and all that could be really beneficial to the people, because human nature is not, and it may safely be asserted never will be, prepared for more than a gradual progression. For example, the semi-savage inhabitants of the wilds of Russia, or any other people, ignorant of the real principles of liberty, uneducated in the duties and obligations which man owes to man—could not possibly better their condition by erecting themselves into a Republic. Their very ignorance and selfishness would preclude the advantages which may be derived from such a form of government.—Men learn wisdom gradually, and wisdom is necessary to the complete enjoyment of social happiness. The chief source of real wisdom is education; and the government which devotes the greatest attention to the subject of general education, and which puts within the power of the people to become intelligent, is entitled to the highest respect. That government is in the path of progression.

Toryism, or the government of the past, has left many ugly traces of its iniquity behind, but certainly none more dismal than its hostility to popular instruction; and in no country have the effects of that hostility been more seriously felt than in Canada. For more than thirty years the legislature and the people of this country have been wrangling about Clergy Reserves and the supremacy of religious sectarianism, while the great cause of popular education has been all but neglected; and the effect is, that the native Canadians of that period, have grown up almost destitute of both learning and religion, except in the principal towns and a few of the more favored localities. Now had the attention and labors of the legislature—the proceeds of the Clergy Reserves and the revenues of King's College, been all judiciously expended on the education and improvement of the people, certainly the country at this moment would have presented a very different aspect. The present Government cannot possibly enact any law which will immediately redeem the country from these baneful effects of Toryism. But with its great power and popularity it may, in the first instance, pass a few laws, such as an increase of the representation—an extension of the elective franchise—purposes, which puts within the power of the people the establishment of a common, unsectarian system of popular education that will preclude the possibility of narrow-souled Toryism ever again, exerting its withering, unalloyed influence over the progressive energies of Canada, and will ultimately result in a prosperous country, with a happy and an intellectual people. If the Ministry will pursue such a policy, they will be supported and cheered on by the people. And, by a strict and fearless adherence to principle, will, in defiance of the cavillings, and carpings, and abuse, and misrepresentation of a miserable and despicable nest of disappointed Tories, earn for themselves an honorable fame which will only perish with the annals of their country.

OURSELF AND THE OTHERS.

We have lived forty-five years in the world, and during that period we have lived in a number of places, and occupied a number of positions in society, and as this article will be read by some, and by many, who have known us in all the different places and positions which we have occupied from our birth up to the present moment, it would be vain to write anything of ourselves that was not true, as it could only have the effect of lowering us in the estimation of hundreds, whose good opinion we value. We therefore state, fearlessly, that on Tuesday last, you the first time in our lives were summoned before the "powers that be" to answer for our evil deeds! We, in fact, never had the honor of appearing in a Court of Justice, either as Plaintiff or Defendant, even in a common case of debt. Our friends must therefore come to the conclusion that we are verifying the old Scotch saying, viz., "Ye're like the Tod's' ulcers growing a year older and a year wiser!" As we have never made any pretensions to moral perfection, and as we never endeavored to conceal our failings—in short they will not hide—and as we are aware that our enemies will cheerfully lend their assistance in helping us to publish them, we will give a faithful picture of the crime, for which we were tried, the cause of it, and the penalty to which we have been subjected. This we do, for the double purpose of exposing our own errors, and of giving another honest representation of the heartless, unprincipled tyranny of Toryism in Goderich! And although the entire transaction has cost us some money and some suffering, yet we feel fully compensated for our loss by the additional evidence which has furnished, of the melancholy measures to which some of our political opponents will resort in order to accomplish their nefarious purposes

against us; whenever they can obtain a temporary advantage—and as we intend to spend the remainder of our days in Goderich, we have learned a lesson which may perhaps be of more value to us in future than will over-balance the present cost.

Our friends who have known us longest and best, are aware that we are unfortunately possessed of an ardent temper, and which under certain circumstances becomes highly irritable and even ungovernable. And without further preface or apology we at once acknowledge that at the New-Year Holidays, like Sterne's Mule, we thought the whole world was running at the ring of pleasure, and we saw no reason why we should not run too, and accordingly we did run. And as we do everything in earnest, even our enemies must admit that we run in earnest. A few of the beings who foolishly do not love us, taking advantage of the excitement of the times, showed us the greatest attention in visiting our home, either for the purpose of ingratiating themselves into our good graces, or for the purpose of paying us a New-Year's compliment in the shape of a few insults. And among other curiosities, natural and unnatural, which were exhibited, was a visit from Mr. Thomas Kydd the Postmaster. We, of course, had no right to ask what he, the leading Elder of a respectable Presbyterian congregation, was doing in a tavern during this season of festivity—neither did we ask any such question—but we believe he admitted, before leaving the house, that his business was to visit and provoke us to say something about the authenticity of the Letters of "A Layman," that would commit us as a charge of Libel!—What a business for an Elder of a Christian Church! He was accompanied by our harmonious friend, Mr. Giles, and a member of the legal profession. We love Mr. Kydd exactly in the same measure that he loves us, and the affection that subsists between us, is of the same description as that which the Devil is vulgarly said to entertain for Holy water. But, to be brief, Mr. Kydd commenced in his own smooth manner to interrogate us on some points which we considered impertinent, and as we have an inveterate dislike to round-about roads, we, at once, got to loggerheads with him, and spoke, with our usual fluency, a fearful amount of ugly things, just because we considered him entitled to say due, or rather more if possible. Among a multitude of words and epithets which had no meaning, we hit upon some that actually do mean some thing. And, as a matter of course, we said much that we did not intend to say.

Our language was taken down, and witnessed on the spot, as had been already provided for, and Mr. Kydd, in company with his friends departed well-pleased, no doubt, with the proceedings.—We are bound, in charity, to believe that Mr. Kydd as a pious man has a sincere regard for the public morals in every relation of life, and could not, conscientiously, allow this outrage to pass unrebuked; therefore, the facts were immediately laid before William Bennett Rich, Esq., J. P., and sworn to. And a complaint charging us with profane swearing was drawn out, and a summons for our faithful appearance was just about to be issued, when some one who possesses more common sense than the whole party suggested the fact that there was not one single oath in the whole complaint. This was rather damper, and as the rumor had already got going that the Editor of the *Signal* was to be "hauled up," the men of justice felt crest-fallen. The Magistrate, however, who is just as much bound as the "ruling Elder," to advocate the great principles of morality both by precept and example, felt extremely anxious that the ends of justice should be answered, and having some business at our lodgings took the opportunity of expostulating with us, in a friendly manner, on the heinousness of our transgression, and concluded by assuring us, most solemnly, that should we or any other man use the same language towards him, that he would use it towards Mr. Kydd, he would at once knock him down! This is honest—and although not explicitly laid down in the Magistrate's guide called the "Provincial Justice," yet it is substantial justice, taken on the spot, and therefore, we gave Mr. Rich credit for his sincerity, apologized for our misconduct, and supposed the matter had ended.—But we have been informed that the Magistrate afterwards went to the Post Office, in order to condole with his friend, Mr. Kydd, on the mortifying fact that we could not be brought up on a charge of "profane swearing!" But unfortunately we had, in our tongue-battle with Mr. Kydd, used our common practice of stretching forth our feeble right arm in order to give emphasis to our words, and this was at once put down as "shaking our fist in Mr. Kydd's face in a menacing manner," and accordingly we were brought before Mr. Rich on Tuesday last upon a charge of assault and fined two pounds and costs! Mr. Kydd declared the purity of his motives in bringing us forward; protested against any desire to injure us either by fine or otherwise; and said his conduct was merely intended to protect himself from our future attacks as he had been informed that we had threatened to keep his name before the public till we should accomplish his ruin! His information is false, we never and nor threatened anything of the kind. He brought his own name before the public, and, in a dishonorable and clandestine manner, and we think he has taken rather a left-handed method of getting it removed. An Irishman drinking raw eggs happened to swallow one which contained a live bird—the bird in the descent of the throat gave a cheep, "Arrah, in truth, you unlucky cruther," said Paddy, "you're entirely too long in spaking!" And we sincerely think that if Mr. Kydd entertains any desire to keep his name before the public, he is now exactly in the predicament of Paddy's chicken. He is entirely too long in speaking.

We would offer a few remarks on the address of the worthy Magistrate, but his observations on the evils of intemperance, especially in men exercising an influence on the public, so fully extenuated the better spirit of his manner, and his evident intention to mortify our feelings in a meeting that we forbore our caustic remarks, and merely point out one observation of the Magistrate with which we do agree, and with which we do not agree. For instance we agree that when a man, by long sobriety, is prevented from making a fool of himself by abusing his neighbor with ugly language, his billings-gate gets "bottled up," and comes forth in an impetuous torrent on his first outbreak; and it is for this reason the billings-gate of a man who is

regularly drunk four or five times every week in the year, never gets "bottled up," but is spouted forth daily, and, therefore, his drunkenness is marked by little phrensy or excitement; it glides along in a still, small stream of perpetual notice. On this view the Magistrate and we are exactly agreed? But we do not agree with the Magistrate in believing the old maxim that "what's in when he's sober comes out when he's drunk," is either words, that the language and conduct of a drunken man are the results of his sober intentions or thoughts? But as nature is, this proposition is certainly a fibel on it; and we were sorry to hear Wm. B. Rich, Esq., who has had so much practical experience in the changes of scenes of life, giving countenance to this or any other doctrine calculated to degrade or already degraded humanity. We conclude by thanking Mr. Rich for his valuable remarks on the evils of drunkenness, and a sincere wish that he may be better able to add example to precept than ever we have been.

NOTE.—We feel we would be guilty of injustice did we identify the Goderich Tories, as a party, with this proceeding, and, therefore, we state our honest conviction that though the majority of the spectators belonged to that party, there were not four men present who did not regard the whole affair with unqualified contempt. It was too palpable an outrage on the common usages of society, to meet the approbation of any party.

¶ The man, York, or Yorkie, or Yorky, or some other kind of unutterable orthography, who was tried and acquitted,—and who, on his way home to Ellice, tried to make himself comfortable by appropriating a few half-crowns and other useful articles from the hall or bar-room of Mr. Rattenbury of the Clinton Arms Inn,—was apprehended for the said appropriation and again lodged securely in our county goal. Yesterday about mid-day he contrived to tear off the shuffling from the walls of the jail passage, and with its assistance succeeded in getting over the wall and made his escape to the bush. But having been seen leap from the wall, the alarm was immediately given, and through the active vigilance and planning of the Chief Constable, our worthy host, Robert Ellice, he was captured by Mr. W. Papst and another individual, in the bush near Mr. Papst's tavern, about four miles from town. The poor fellow was most exhausted with fatigue and fear, and was treated with kindness in order to restore his waning spirits. He was again ushered into his old lodgings, and it may be expected that his next escape will be to the large house in Kingston.

¶ While we are willing to give due credit for the honest intention of those gentlemen who dispatched the Chief Constable to Buffalo, in search of the great John Bignall, yet we cannot heartily regret the failure of Mr. Ellice's mission. It would certainly be a serious tax upon the District to keep John Bignall as a Jail-bird—and we think he has already cost far more than he is worth. Had he been brought back we would have moved, and somebody would have seconded, that the animal be chained near the village of Harpurley, in the immediate vicinity of his friend the Warden. And we do think that even Dr. Chalk would rather feed him a week than a fortnight.

RE-LIVEN.—We acknowledge subscriptions for the first and second year of the *Huron Signal* from Mr. C. W. Wray, Esq., of Goderich, through him, from Mr. John Gow, who if we mistake not, is an old acquaintance from the "Brig o' Johnston," in Scotland! He will please accept of our warmest compliments for "Auld lang Syne."

We are grateful to Mr. Webster for his kindness in acting as our Agent in Goderich, and we authorize him to tell his honest *Townfolk*, that if the *Signal* has given such satisfaction throughout its first year, it will do much greater things in the future. Parliament has assembled—the sleep of the slumberer is broke, and the spirit of the feeble has waxed strong.

THE EFFECTS OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

FOR THE HURON SIGNAL.

We have seen the French people advance from the state of anarchy, that immediately succeeded the overthrow of the Government of Louis Philippe, to something like a constitutional Government; by the election of a President in the person of Louis Napoleon. And this progress from anarchy to quiet, in so short a time, is in itself not the least of the extraordinary events that have characterized the progress of affairs in that country. Within two or three months after the overthrow of the old established tyranny we have had narrated to us through the medium of the papers, the accounts of a civil war in the streets of Paris, that at one time, was not likely to end only after the beligerent parties should have utterly destroyed that city. Order was restored.—A Dictator appointed in the person of Cavaignac, and matters assumed their usual quiet course. The legislature proceeded with its arduous duty,—that of perfecting a constitution;—this they accomplished, and at once determined to deliver themselves and their country from a form of government only justifiable by the emergency that gave birth to it. They fix at an early date the election of President, and we have enjoyed the pleasure of having seen a great nation, proceed to the election of its Chief Magistrate in that quiet and orderly manner that we trust may ever be their rule of conduct. The choice of President by our friends over the lake, never proceeded in a more orderly manner than that of the French people. And it may not flow be out of place or amiss, to consider the effect it is likely to exercise on the destinies of other countries, more particularly that of our own. Let it always be borne in mind, that no sovereign is such by inherent right; he is so only by election at one time or other. His ancestors were raised to their high station through the voice of the people. Some of the savage nations who overthrown the whole Roman Empire, elected their rulers by raising them on their shields and declaring them their generals and kings. Now civilized nations proceed somewhat differently, as in the case of England. The ancestors of the present Sovereign were elected by Parliament, and bound to observe certain rules, both as to the laws and religion more fully set out in the famous Bill of rights. The Americans, afraid of the

growth of power that might afterwards endanger their liberties—having previously suffered from the vagaries of George III.—elected their ruler every four years. The French following the example thus set them by the Americans, have determined that their ruler shall also be elected by the people every four years. No matter how the ruler comes to the throne, or presidential chair, he has been so placed by the voice of the people. Some may date their rise as far back as the shield-raising mode pursued by savages; others, like those of England, America and France, to the more national one of popular election by civilized communities. Such being the case, and we challenge contradiction, the divine right of kings is a blasphemous notion. They were raised for the good of the people, and when the advantage of the many shall demand their dismissal, they must go. Rebellion is such only when the few conspire against the many, not when the majority unite for the general welfare, it then figures under the title of revolution; and those become rebels who oppose the right for change.

But to return to the subject. What effect is the French revolution likely to exert on other countries—our own more especially? Should the French Government carry on, as we are sure must be the desire of all true philanthropists, no matter to what party they may belong, in the same quiet manner the Americans have done,—the result will modify all the monarchies, as at present constituted, of enlightened nations.

The United States were too distant from the grand theatre of the human race to exercise an influence affecting monarchies. Their cleavage from government was not noticed by the masses, imperfectly understood, and was listened to as a fable. Besides, statements of all parties agreed on this one point,—at least such a system might answer in a new country, thinly peopled, and far removed from the influence of other great and powerful nations; yet were a similar one attempted to be applied to a densely peopled country, surrounded by powerful and hostile sovereigns, it would not carry on for any length of time. Should, therefore, the people of Britain behold the French nation succeed in their present endeavor to carry out a cheap and entirely elective government, they will, no doubt, contrast their own with that in existence across the channel, and very accurately so far as the conclusion that what the French are able to accomplish in economy, they can try also. They will question the necessity of paying their Sovereign, however well beloved he may be, the sum of one million sterling, when they find the ruler of the French, the sovereign of a nation second to none, doing duty as ruler, at less than five per cent on the income received by the Queen of England. Twenty-four thousand pounds sterling is all that is considered necessary to support the dignity of the French Sovereign. Surely less than a million may do that of Britain. Already is a hancural reform league formed—formed expressly for and with the declared object of reducing the unnecessary extravagance of the British court, and with how much greater force will its arguments apply when it shall be able to point to France and say the Sovereign of that country receives but £24,000 per annum precisely the same that our Queen receives £1,000,000. Does any person believe that such a contrast can exist? Will that interest be allowed to remain intact when every other has been sacrificed to what was considered the public advantage? Reform in Parliament was a gain by the people; the overthrow of the Corn monopoly was another, cheap government will be another,—and if the Monarchy weathers the storm, it will be so much short of its revenue. It would be folly, worse than folly, to disguise from ourselves the onward movement progressing everywhere. This is an age of cotton wars, and the erudites, derived from our fore-fathers, will have to undergo the improving hand of the time that has given to the world the Steamboat, the Railway, and the Magnetic Telegraph.

Are all our improvements to be only in physical science? Is the science of government to stand still? He who believes that it is perfect, believes that human ingenuity has in this science equalled the Deity. We know that nothing human is perfect, or ever will be so. I conclude, therefore, that it is quite possible, and therefore quite certain, that many improvements will take place in government. And I make no doubt that our descendants will gloat with astonishment at the wasteful extravagance of the present day, that can appropriate to the maintenance of one £1,000,000 per annum, when the standards are destitute of the necessities of life, and it takes upwards of £8,000,000 per annum to provide for the poor of England; the support of Ireland cost the United Empire somewhere about £20,000,000 only two years ago, besides entailing ruin on many of the landed proprietors by reason of the heavy rates they were subjected to for the like purpose.

Turning to foreign countries, we behold all Germany in a state of ferment. One Monarch has already found it convenient to abdicate; and others if they follow not in his steps, will find themselves constrained to accord free constitutions to their people,—and recognise the principle that Kings were made for the people, not people for Kings. This has resulted from the impetus given to popular movements by the revolution in France in February, and should the French succeed in firmly establishing their present form of government, I hesitate not to declare that we have only seen the commencement of the changes that will take place.

JOHN GALT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HURON SIGNAL.

Sir,—In the *Huron Signal* of December 15, in the Schedule of Convictions before the Justices of the Peace, my name stands conspicuous, as the public are thereby led to believe that I robbed a man, I bag to state the case. A jar of whiskey was stolen from my wagon, and as I had reason to suspect a certain person of the theft, I was on the lookout; so having met a man with a bag on his back, I asked what was in the bag, flour; was the reply; I said it seemed more like my jar, than flour, and I was determined the bag should be opened, which was done, when I at once recognized it to be my lost jar, of course I brought it along with me, thinking there was no need of crime nor sin in keeping sight of my own property. I was ready any time to prove the jar of whiskey to be my own.

ALEXANDER McHARDY.

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