

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

SOLACE.

Now fades the purple, and the dewy gloom
Is deepening in the vales; the weary flowers
Drink in fresh fragrance, and the heavens assume
The saddened splendor of the starry hours.

Mourner, that, giving all thy thoughts to one,
Dost in his loss consign thee to despair,
Look to the sky forsaken by the sun
And read the solace God has written there.

Though stars and planets bring not back the day,
Yet shut not thou thine eyes on those that burn;
Singly, not all at once, they fade away,
And the last linger till the day's return.

F. BLAKE CROFTON.

[FOR THE CRITIC]

SONNET.

What do we know of life and death and time,
Space and eternity, who sojourn here
A few brief, idle days in gloom or cheer,
And then pass on our way? We see, sublime,
The myriad stars above us, dare to climb
With Newton's soul thro' Ether's space, and peer
Our thought to unknown worlds that, shining clear,
Invite to contemplation; feel the prime
And vigorous pulse of manhood in our veins
Still urge us on to deeds of ill or good,
Or wise or foolish, cowardly or brave,
As this with force impels or that restrains;
But ere the simplest flower is understood,
A few sad mourners gather round a grave.

North Sydney.

H. E. B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Critic:—

DEAR SIR,—For the information of the kind public, who have done me the favor of assembling in large numbers to hear my lectures you will allow me to state a few facts regarding myself; and this I do upon the request of several friends.

I was born in the village of Shwire on the western slope of Mount Lebanon, about twenty miles north east of the City of Beyrout, the Mediterranean port of Damascus. My grandfather, who died lately, lived to the age of one hundred and ten years, and for seventy years he was one of the Eastern Church clergymen in the village. Under him I received my elementary education, and was sometimes employed in filling some of the less important offices in the Church of which he was a "servant." In September, 1873, I came to Scotland, and my university education was received in Edinburgh. On the 28th of April last, I arrived in Halifax, with letters of introduction from friends in Great Britain to people in this country. I propose travelling in Canada, delivering lectures where I may.

My addresses may be referred to three distinct classes; the first are those in which I undertake to deal with the geography, history, and customs of Palestine, with a distinct reference to their bearing on some parts of Scripture; the second class are addresses intended to show the manifest and healthy influences of Christian missions in Syria and other Turkish countries; the third I devote to the exposition of the Theology, customs and liturgy of the Greek and Eastern Church, which is distinct and essentially different from the Western or Church of Rome.

I leave Halifax, (D. V.) on the 28th inst., for Pictou County with a view to carry out some lecture arrangements

GOSHEN AL HOWIE.

THE EMERALD ISLE.—A traveller in Ireland says that of course he had known that Ireland was called the "Emerald Isle" because of its greenness, but says it had never entered his imagination that there was anywhere in the world such a verdure as charms all eyes in the rural districts of Ireland. The slopes, the knolls, the dells, fields of young grain, over which the breezes creep like playful spirits of the beautiful; the pastures, dotted with white sheep of the purest wool; the hillsides, raising up into mist-shrouded mountains, are all covered with thick carpets of smooth, velvet green. The same traveller says that Ireland can also be called the Flowery Isle. There is not a spot in the land, he thinks, where Nature can find an excuse for putting a flower but she has put one—not only in the gardens and in the meadows, but upon the very walls and the crags of the sea, from the great blooming rhododendrons down to the smallest flowers that modestly peep forth from its grassy cover. This Irish furze, so rich yellow, covers all places that might otherwise be barren; the silkworm delights everywhere, from thousands of trees, to drop its "web of gold;" the blooming hawthorne, with its sweet scent of pink, and especially the white variety, adorns the landscape and the gardens; wild flowers, of every hue and variety, clamber to hide the harshness of the mural supports; the beetling cliffs of the North Sea are fringed and softened with lovely flowers; and if you kneel anywhere almost on the yielding, velvety carpet, you will find little well-nigh invisible flowers—red, white, blue, and yellow—wrought into the very wool and texture. Ireland ought to be called the Beautiful Isle. The spirit of the beautiful hovers over and touches to living holiness every point.

CONCLUSIVE.—As a lawyer was arguing his case, the judge interrupted him, saying, "The court is against you on that point, counsellor."—"Very well," responded the lawyer, "I do not rest my case on that point alone; I have several others equally conclusive!"

The following are among the principal and reliable traders whose names do not appear in the preceding classification:

M. H. Goudge,
Dealer in Coals, etc.

D. P. Allison,
Coal Merchant.

Robert Dore,
Baker, Fine Pastry.

A. W. Nicolson,
Editor and Proprietor,
Hants County Journal.

R. Fleming,
Ladies and Gents Hairdressing.

Geo. A. Heustis,
Jeweler etc.,

T. B. Smith,
Editor and Proprietor,
Windsor Courier.

N. Spence, M. P. P.,
Milling and Farming,
Newport.

J. R. Thompson,
Nurseryman and Fruit Grower.

G. A. Harvie,
Carver & Picture Frames.

A. P. Jones,
Sailmaker, etc.,
Windsor & Hantsport.

G. L. Gibson,
Hotel and Grocery Store,
Brooklyn, Hants.

Dr. Morrison Weeks,
Brooklyn.

HANTSPORT.

No Town, perhaps, in this Province, shows a more rapid extension of its Commerce and increasing Financial strength than Hantsport. This town enjoys advantages that are not so largely possessed by its sister city, Windsor.

The large and commanding residences of the Merchants and Captains of ocean ships are quite equal to the best dwellings of older cities.

The following are the principal business men of the Town.

E. Churchill & Sons,
Shipbuilders & Capitalists.

J. E. Newcomb,
Shipping Trading & Farming.

J. B. North,
Shipping & Merchandize.

J. E. Stevens & Co.,
Tanners of Harness & Upper Stocks.

J. A. Mumford,
Milling Machinery.

J. B. Shaw,
Boots, Shoes and Fine Work.

James W. Wall,
Hantsport Hotel, conveyance at St'n.

Lewis Muttart,
Harness Making in all branches.

George Brooks,
Watchmaker and Hair Dresser.

AMHERST.

The successful Commercial and Financial history of Amherst, is to be largely traced to the energy and business ability of the Merchants and Manufacturers of the town. The Agricultural advantages of the County are not excelled by any other County of the Province.

The following are among the principal business men and leading townsmen.

BANKS.

Bank of Pictou,
J. McKEAN, Agent.

LAW FIRMS.

Townshend & Dickie,
CHAS. J. TOWNSHEND Q. C.

Charles R. Smith, Q. C.,
Real Estate and Insurance.

W. Frederick Donkin,
Commissioner of S. and C. Courts.

John W. Hickman,
Barrister-at-Law and Notary.

MEDICAL FIRMS.

Dr. E. L. Fuller,
Dental Surgeon.

MANUFACTURERS.

Rhodes Curry & Co.,
Contractors and Builders.

A. Robb & Sons,
Ship, Stove and Mill Castings.

M. D. Pride,
Amherst Boot and Shoe Factory.

Curran Brothers,
Saw Mills and Lumber.

Lawson & Wallace,
Carriage and Sleighs,
Works opposite I. C. R. Station.

Holmes & Hicks,
Carriage Factory, Farming Machinery.

James Ritchey,
Horse Shoer and Jobber.

Joseph Goodwin,
Horse Showing a specialty.

MERCHANTS AND TRADERS.

W. H. Davis,
Books, Stationery & Picture Frames.

Brightman & Calhoun,
Bakers, and Grocers Jobbers.

Coates & Bent,
Sewing Machines and Fancy Goods.

R. McSwain,
Tailoring and Furnishing Goods.

Edward Lowther,
Meats, Fish and Vegetables.

Lamy's Hotel,
CALHOUN & WARD, Prop.

Amherst Gazette,
J. ALBERT BLACK, Editor & Prop.
A first class Advertising Medium.

Amherst Sentinel,
Devoted to the County and
Provincial Interests.