



KNEELING TO THEE!

Kneeling to thee! would I could ever  
 Guide thy dear feet through life's slippery way;  
 Ah! may no coldness our two hearts sever.—  
 No night of sorrow end love's bright day.  
 Dearest and fondest, see me before thee,  
 Feeling the rapture true love e'er bestows;  
 While thy soft eyes so brightly beam o'er me,  
 Telling the fondness thy words ne'er disclose.

Kneeling to thee! here would I linger,—  
 Seeing in crowds but one loved fairy form;  
 Seeking to shield thee, that not even a finger  
 May suffer from cold, from the breeze or the storm.

Here in the corner concealed from the gazer,  
 Whispering of happiness in our young dream;  
 Who can annoy us,—what envious gazer  
 Shall make us of odious gossip the theme?

Kneeling to thee! stoop down and bless me:  
 Tell me, my own one, thou'lt ever be mine;  
 Fain would I kiss thy dear lips, and caress thee,  
 Were't not for those lamps that so hatefully  
 shine."

"Nay," cried poor Fanny, "you've knelt long  
 enough now,  
 It's all very well to be stupid, you spoon;  
 But if you were as cold as you've made me, you  
 muff now,  
 You'd make haste and fasten my skate, pretty  
 soon."

A correspondent writes us to know whether M. Rochefort is so called because when the representation of the first arrondissement of Paris was vacant he made a *rush* for it?

We can't exactly say, but should scarcely think so.

IN BAD CONDITION.—An agricultural item says:—  
 "Selling lean stock from a farm marks the *poor* farmer,  
 and keeps his farm *poor*." This is a poor state of  
 things altogether.

TO THE FREE AND INDEPENDENT ELECTORS OF WARD 1777 OF THE CITY OF MONTREAL:

GENTLEMEN,—Having been earnestly solicited by a large number of my poor relations to become a candidate for your suffrages, for the representation of your interests in the City Council, I hereby present myself, in my blandest manner, and respectfully solicit all the abusive reflections and foul aspersions with which you and the public at large may be encumbered during the next three years. From my long residence amongst you you may rest assured that your best interests, which I believe to be identical with my own, shall receive my warmest advocacy and heartiest support. My principles are liberal and progressive, and eminently calculated to meet the wants of the great majority of the people. I am in favor of free trade, free houses, free rents, and, above all, absolute freedom from city taxation. The time has arrived when the enlightened and high-minded citizens of this great city must assert their rights. The *luxuries* and conveniences of other nations must be allowed to flow in as freely as the driven snow. Those oppressive institutions, which have for their object the self-aggrandizement of members at the expense of a too generous public, must be now and for ever abolished. Taxation—that old relic of the dark ages—must now give place to a more enlightened and liberal system. Gaslight must be permitted to enter our dwellings as free and welcome as the morning sunlight. Water, pure and unadulterated, must be supplied to our citizens free and fresh as the mountain rills to the weary huntsman. Hotels, saloons, eating-houses, &c., must be thrown freely open at all hours to meet the ever-recurring wants of a *hearty* and generous public. Everything that tends to the enrichment of the few and the oppression of the many must expect to fall. Money must, undoubtedly, be raised to pay our public functionaries, carry on our public improvements, and keep the city fully up to the requirements of the age; but, gentlemen, let it be done in a noble, honorable and Christian manner. The old *compulsory* method should have died and been buried with the feudal system. It is degrading to our high sense of public justice. It lowers a man in his own estimation, detracts from his worth and dignity, and renders him careless and indifferent to the public weal. Only let it be proclaimed on the house-tops that henceforth the public chest is yearly to be filled by *free contributions*; that *moral suasion* is the only force to be employed; that collectors and constables belong to the past; that every reliance is to be placed in a charitable, magnanimous and discriminating public, and what a grand, glorious and exhilarating effect it would have upon the bone and sinew of the country. These, gentlemen, are my public sentiments. Further explanations will be most willingly given at the hustings.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,  
 Your most obedient servant,

SETH SKINFLINT.