

generally not until the mind is made up, the affections engaged, and perhaps the honour pledged.

Good Mr. and Mrs. T. were very often consulted on this business by the prudent young people in our neighbourhood. The first question they generally asked was, "Have you consulted your parents, and what do they think of it? for you cannot expect happiness if you marry without the full consent of your parents, and the parents of your intended partner."

My brother Richard, I remember, was in a terrible hurry to get married before he was out of his apprenticeship. Our father and mother did all they could to persuade him to wait awhile, and it was well for him that they succeeded. Mr. T. too, talked kindly to him on the subject. "Don't be too hasty, young man; 'tis easy to marry in haste, and repent at leisure. I would advise you not to think of marrying till you are settled in a fair way of getting a living.—You don't wish to be a burden to your parents, but to be able to provide for yourself, and those dependent on you; and for some years to come it will be much better for you to have one plough going than two cradles. You may think that love and a little will be quite enough, but let me tell you, love and nothing will be but sorry fare; and, 'When poverty comes in at the door, love flies out at the window.' You think, perhaps, that no such thing can happen to you; then, let me tell you, that, if you think your love strong enough to bear poverty after marriage, you had better try its strength in waiting beforehand. If you and your lass really love one another, you will find it easy and pleasant to work and save, that you may have something about you to make your home comfortable, when it is prudent for you to marry." My brother promised to wait a year or two, and set about in good earnest every leisure hour he had, to work and save for future comfort. But in less than three months' time he came again to Mr. T. in great trouble, and told him that Fanny was getting very shy of him, and had been seen walking with the squire's groom, and now what was to be done.

"By all means let her go," replied Mr. T. "and reckon it a very good miss for you. If she is tired of waiting, let her go on without you; and when she is gone, comfort yourself with remembering that there are as good fish left in the sea as ever were caught out of it."

This seemed hard doctrine at the time, and Dick was half inclined to break his promise, and go after Fanny with an offer to marry directly, but prudence prevailed.

After flirting about with three or four different young men, Fanny at last married William Stephens the sawyer, and a poor dressy dawdle of a wife she made him. As for Richard, he soon found that he could do

vastly well without her, and, I believe, he forgot all about marrying for four or five years, until he met with a steady, respectable young woman, whom all his friends approved, and who turned out an excellent partner to him, and a good mother to his children. When he looked at his decent, tidy wife, his well-furnished cottage, and his clean, well-managed children, and contrasted them with those of his neighbour Stephens, he sometimes went across the house humming the old ditty,

"Sic a wife as Willie had!
I wadna gie a button for her."

Family Book.

The Approaching Comet.—Lieut. R. Morrison, of the Royal Navy, has published a most interesting work upon this magnificent phenomenon, which is expected to be seen in the course of this year, 1835, between the months of May and August, in the constellation of *Ursa Major*.—Lieut. Morrison states that it will be far more splendid than the one of 1811; some writers affirm that "it will afford a degree of light equal to a full moon, that its tail will extend over 40 degrees," and when the head of the comet reaches the meridian, its tail will sweep the horizon. The author contends that the electric and attractive powers of the comet will have very serious effects upon our atmosphere, in producing inundations, earthquakes, storms, tempests, volcanic eruptions, and epidemic diseases. In support of the theory he refers to the different appearances of this comet for the last six hundred years—showing that in the comet years these phenomena prevailed to a great extent.

Hitting the Nail on the Head.—A few months previous to the death of De Witt Clinton, in company with his lady and younger children, he paid a visit to the Messrs. Thornburns' Seed and Flower Establishment in Liberty street. The elder of the firm waited on them with his usual polite attention, and accompanied them to their carriage which was in waiting at the gate. The governor, after handing in his wife and little ones, threw a glance along the front of the building and premises around. Says he, Mr. Thornburn, you once told me you were a nail maker by trade. Mr. T. replied he did, and that being a mechanic was his greatest pride. Well, said Mr. Clinton, when you purchased the friends' meeting-house, "you hit the nail on the head."—The prediction has been verified. The Messrs. Thornburns have just sold the premises for one hundred thousand dollars. In the year 1826, they made this purchase for twenty-six thousand dollars. We have often heard Mr. T. senior, remark, that he landed in New York, forty years ago, with three cents in his pocket, and his nail-hammer in his hand. He may now be called the richest man in America, for he says he has enough.

WEEKLY MIRROR.

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1835.

The Public examination of the Halifax Grammar School, as appointed by law, took place on Monday last, the 11th May. His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, the Trustees of the Institution, and several other Gentlemen were present. The examination proved highly satisfactory, and confirmed the ample testimony which every previous examination has given, of the superior qualities of the Rev. Teacher.

Arrivals since our last have brought the following intelligence.

RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.—On the 8th of April the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel informed Parliament that circumstances had arisen which had induced his Majesty's Government to consider it their duty to tender the resignation of their offices. This they had done, and only held office until such time as their successors were appointed, and in order that the public service might not be impeded they would conduct the Parliamentary business until a new Ministry was formed.

Friday night's Gazette contains the appointment of Lord Amherst as the Captain General of Upper and Lower Canada, and High Commissioner for the redress of grievances in Lower Canada; and Thomas F. Elliot, Esq. is appointed his Lordship's Secretary.

AMERICAN CLAIMS UPON FRANCE.—The Committee of the Chamber of Deputies to whom the demand of the United States was referred, presented their report on the 29th March. It recommends the fulfilment of the Treaty entered into on the 4th July, 1831—provided "the Government of the U. S. shall not have done any thing to injure the dignity and interests of France"—complains of the language used by President Jackson in his message to Congress, and of the measures he recommended, and declares that if the American Congress at the close of its Session, should by any resolution "coincide with the President's message, by granting him the powers he has called for, the interest and dignity of France, which the Committee looked upon as intimately united, would require that the payment of what is owing to the U. S. should be deferred until after the satisfaction which is due to France shall be made." The consideration of the report of the Committee was made the Order of the Day for the 7th April: we have conversed with a gentleman, passenger in the *Molly Moore*, who informed us that he saw, just previous to his leaving Waterford, a London Paper, which stated, that on the 7th April the Chamber of Deputies rejected the American Claims altogether.—*Gazette.*