

SONGS FOR THE SENTIMENTAL.

Oh! think not all who call thee fair,  
Are in their horrid words sincere;  
And if they offer jewels rare,  
Lend not too readily thine ear.  
The humble ring I lately gave,  
May be despised by thee—well, let it;  
But, Mary, when I'm in my grave,  
Think that I pawned my watch to get it.

Others may talk of feasts of love,  
And banqueting upon thy charms;  
But did I not devotion prove,  
Last Sunday at the Royal Arms.  
My rival ordered tea for four,  
The waiter at his bidding laid it;  
He generously ran the score,  
But, Mary, I did more, I paid it.

I know he's dashing, bold and free,  
A front of Jove, an eye of fire;  
But should he say he loves like me,  
I'd, like Apollo, strike the lyre.  
He says he at your feet will throw,  
His all; and if his vows are steady,  
He cannot equal me, for—oh!  
I've given you all I had, already.

Mary, I had a second suit  
Of clothes, of which the coat was braided;  
Mary, they went to buy that flute,  
With which I thee have serenaded.  
Mary, I had a beaver hat,  
Than this I wear a great deal better;  
Mary, I've parted too with that,  
For pens—ink—paper for this letter.

The Revenue from Breweries and Distilleries.

A number of correspondents have recently addressed us regarding the manner in which the revenue is supposed to be realized from the different breweries and distilleries throughout the Provinces. To some of the complaints—setting forth the inefficiency of the *modus operandi* by which the excise is sought to be obtained—it will have been noticed a city paper has afforded publicity in its columns. The universal dissatisfaction expressed relative to the incompleteness, if not looseness, which characterizes the collection of this excise upon whiskey, seems to be occupying large grounds for justification; inasmuch as, it is asserted, a great many manufacturers contrive—and successfully so—to defeat the object for which the system of excise was established. According to the information given us, there are several well-known instances of distillers and brewers regularly and systematically withholding true returns of their monthly or semi-monthly manufacture. Of course this is a serious matter, as far as the revenue is concerned; to say nothing of the criminality of those persons who perpetrate the wrong. However, it would be a difficult task to undertake the discovery of the alleged cunning and art (employed by certain parties) with which to keep in operation a safe mode of misrepresenting their manufacture; but steps might be adopted so that the fraud could no longer exist. It does not seem unreasonable

to ask that a more thorough inspection of the distilleries and breweries should be made, and that, too, somewhat oftener than has been the custom. Among the complainants there are those who profess their own particular honesty, and allege that that high virtue in themselves is outraged by the presence of this fraud on the part of others less honourably disposed than they. It strikes us, that the honest distiller—apparently aware of the frauds, and, it is reasonable to suppose, cognizant of the means used to create it—has much of the remedy in his own control; his knowledge of dishonesty in other quarters should not be conjoined to himself, but might very readily be transferred to the person whose business it is to protect the interests of the government, and, at the same time, secure equal justice to the whole distillery and brewery community. In the event of absolute fraud being practiced upon the government by one individual manufacturer—not to say by any alarming number—the question of inadequate and, perhaps, fruitless service at once arises. It is the business of the inspectors to see that the revenue is thoroughly and rigidly secured justice; and, if there are cases of these officials colluding with distillers and brewers, or winking at malpractice, or slovenly performing their duties, it is time the particular localities were made known, and instead of the charges and accusations being preferred in general, they should be made specific. The honestly inclined manufacturer and the strict inspector, possess a good deal of the instrumentality through which to put a stop to frauds; they, consequently, should, as a first step, unite their efforts with a view to the exposure of the guilty parties, and to the accomplishment of a permanent system of check, so as to prevent further operations of a similar description. Such a course would be auxiliary to any action the government might deem it necessary to take. For a general remedy various suggestions have been made. From one direction comes a proposition that an inspector to look solely after excisemen should be appointed; and from another, the idea originates that there should be an exciseman at each distillery. One correspondent, however, very wisely consigns the work of remedying to the Minister of Finance. The question, certainly, is one of considerable importance, and now that attention has been drawn to it from so many quarters, the necessity of some speedy negotiation is plainly presented. That complete returns are rarely ever made, is an impression which largely prevails among the public; but that the evil was obtaining such extensive proportions could scarcely be believed, until these complaints reached us, not only numerously, but from all parts. We believe there are the best possible grounds to justify the government taking action in this matter. It is due to the public, and to the honest distiller and brewer, that a stop be put to such wide-spread interference with the real objects of the system of revenue.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

A memorial from a coloured man by name, William Stratton Prince, was read before Congress on the 12th ult. The memorial sets forth that Mr.

Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States, was totally unfit for the office he held; and according to the opinion of the said W. S. Prince, was daily betraying the interests of the "Western Pound," as the memorialist persisted in calling the Western Continent. That he had passed him, (the petitioner,) frequently in the public streets, without betraying the least knowledge of his presence, though the petitioner was actively employed in sticking up hand-bills when the said Abraham Lincoln was nominated, only about four years since, and had "seen Massa Lincoln many times since." That, in fact, he had treated the memorialist, who was in a position of dignity, being Chief of the Peeters, (a society formed for collecting orange-peel,) with contempt and disrespect, and he, therefore, prayed for his dismissal forthwith. Congress, amid shouts of laughter, ordered the memorial to be handed to the waste paper basket, and directed the sergeant-at-arms to cowhide W. S. Prince if he should again have the audacity to intrude himself on the notice of the Honourable House.

Only one Glass.

— Northern accounts say that, with a glass, the rebels can plainly be seen driving off cattle and carrying off plunder of all kinds from Sharpsburgh. This fact clearly proves the inspiring effect of one glass, (let the temperance people preach as they choose,) as the Northerners, through its medium, can plainly see innumerable hookers.

The Lady Helena and the Horse-Shoe.

— A clever contemporary tells us that the Princess Helena found a horse-shoe and insisted on carrying it home, as she said it was lucky to find a horse-shoe. He remarks: "There is in this the truth of nature, that levels all ranks and makes the world akin." We agree with him almost entirely, for the touch of a horse-shoe from a kicking horse will level a man of any rank and leave him aching (akin,) to the world.

Strachan, Attention!

— We would call the attention of the Chairman of the Board of Works to the present disgraceful state of the side-walk on the West side of Post Office Lane. It is positively dangerous for a person to walk along the lane after dark, in such a deplorable condition are the planks. We trust that we will not be compelled to take up our quill again to write about this matter.

Solomon on Councils.

— Solomon says:—"In the multitude of counsellors there is safety;" but he doesn't say that there is decency, common sense or gentlemanlike demeanour. So we may deduct, with tolerable certainty, the conclusion, that councils in Solomon's time were pretty much the same sort of Bearganders they are at the present day.