

TO NIAGARA.

Written at the first sight of its falls,
August 18, 1838.

BY J. S BUCKINGHAM.

Mr. Buckingham is the celebrated
oriental traveller, and was a member of
the British Parliament.

Hail! sovereign of the world of floods!
whose majesty and might
First dazzles—then enraptures—then o'er-
awes the aching sight—
The pomp of kings and empires, in every
clime and zone.
Grow dim beneath the splendours of thy
glorious watery throne.

No fleets can stop thy progress—no armies
bid thee stay—
But onward—onward—onward—thy
march still holds its way;
The rising mist that veils thee—as thine
herald goes before—
And the music that proclaims thee—is
the thundering cataract's roar.

Thy diadem is an emerald green—of the
clearest, purest hue—
Set around with waves of snowy foam, in
spray of feathery dew.
While tresses of the brightest pearls float
o'er thine ample sheet,
And the rainbow lays its gorgeous gems
in tribute at thy feet.

Thy reign is of the ancient day—thy
sceptre from on high—
Thy birth was when the distant stars first
lit up the glowing sky;
The sun, the moon, and all the orbs that
shine upon thee now,
Beheld the wreath of glory which first
bound thy infant brow.

And from that hour to this, in which I
gaze upon thy stream—
From age to age—in winter's frost—in
summer's sultry gleam—
By day, by night—without a pause—thy
waves with loud acclaim,
In ceaseless sounds have still proclaim'd
the great Eternal's name.

For whether on thy forest banks, the
Indian of the wood,
Or, since his days, the red man's foe, on
his fathers' land have stood,
Whoe'er has seen thine incense rise, or
heard thy torrent's roar,

Must have bent before the God of all, to
worship and adore.

Accept, then, O Supremely Great! O In-
finite! O God!
From this primeval altar—the green and
virgin sod—
The humble homage that my soul in
gratitude would pay
To Thee! whose shield has guarded me
in all my wandering way.

NEW NAVAL DISCIPLINE.

There is dismissal from Her Majesty's
service with disgrace, forfeiture of pay
and imprisonment not exceeding two
years and with or without hard labour
and corporeal punishment for "being
guilty of any profane oath, cursing, ex-
ecration, drunkenness, uncleanness, or
other scandalous action in derogation of
God's honor and the corruption of good
manners."

If the above cited regulations could be
applied to those Magistrates in Canada
who are habitually guilty of one or more
of the abominable practices referred to,
there would be a great thinning out
among them. It is high time that the
representatives through whom they are
appointed were regularly brought to task
for recommending men to that position,
who taking the oath of office regularly
and systematically violate their oath, not
only in their personal habits, but also in
permitting the violation, not only of the
law, but the Proclamation of our good
Queen, made some two years since, com-
manding all magistrates to be strict in
punishing all parties guilty of profanity
and such like criminal acts.

They pay no attention to the com-
mands of the Queen, the laws of the
country, or the laws of God. How long
shall these things be? Very likely until
the Ministers of the Gospel from their
pulpits accustom themselves—as it is
their duty—to urge upon their hearers
the criminality of magistrates in this re-
spect and the duty of all good men to
demand the dismissal of such magistrates
from office for violation of their oaths.