

of the day, the pavements on King and Yonge Streets are full of hand-barrows, and the passenger is often compelled to step in the mud to avoid these nuisances, while the propelling party is unconcernedly whistling or looking about, perfectly indifferent as to whether he knocks down and runs over some feeble old lady, or splashes and hurls into the mire some such individual as the one I am addressing. The nuisance of permitting skating on the side-walks is, however, I think, more dangerous than the other.

THE DOCTOR.—Ten times more so; for the bones in frosty weather are much more easily injured and likely to snap. It is a disgrace to the parties, whoever they may be, who suffer such an enormity. Some hard-working *pater* or *mater familias*, on whose health the daily bread of their little ones depends is perhaps thrown down, and a limb broken or a sinew strained.—Who can calculate the amount of misery that may accrue from this shameful disregard of public comfort and safety. In no city in England or Scotland are such things allowed, neither are they permitted in the large cities of the Union. Why then should they be tolerated here?

THE MAJOR.—I think there is one danger which, though not so troublesome, should be even more jealously guarded against—the accumulation of large masses of snow and ice on the roofs of the houses. As I was walking along King Street, the other day, just opposite St. James' Church, a large block of ice fell some twenty yards before me, on the pavement, and was shivered to pieces; one of the fragments was NEARLY AS LARGE AS MY HEAD. Suppose that had fallen on a child! It would have either killed or injured him very seriously.

THE DOCTOR.—I saw a similar mass projecting from a roof, as I was passing down a lane leading from King Street to the Post Office,—a mass certainly sufficient to have crushed any person on whom it might have fallen. Such reckless and wanton disregard of life is very reprehensible, and the Fathers of the city ought assuredly to compel those under their control to have the municipal regulations observed. If they do not, they may most certainly be set down as so much useless lumber, and their regulations be considered like a penny-sift full of flour. Leaving, however, the worshipful Corporation to reform their course of action, will you give us your opinion, Major, as to the proposed application of the Wellington Fund.

THE MAJOR.—I was not aware, even, that a fund had been raised. I know that an attempt has been made, but very unsuccessfully. The fact is, Doctor, people do not care about subscribing for the erection of an incongruous pile of stone and mortar. Besides, Wellington is his own epitaph. When that name is spoken, fancy, by one wave of her wand, conjures up, from her magic storehouses,

the epochs and incidents of the last half century, and, arraying them in her most vivid colours, requires no other monument of him who had no parallel in history. But what proposal do you allude to?

THE DOCTOR.—To an *on dit*, that the fund raised would most probably be applied to the erection of a hall forming a conspicuous part of the new Mechanics' Institute, to be named the WELLINGTON HALL, and to have a statue of the Duke, in bronze, as its principal feature and ornament. The building might be further ornamented with representations of incidents in the life of the illustrious hero, carved in bas relief on the friezes or pedestals of the exterior, of the style of the building, by frescoes on the walls, or plaster casts in the cornices.

THE LAIRD.—Ay, lad, there's some sense in that, but what meaning can there be in setting up a pillar to support naething, as they are to do for General Brock? That stane post at Quebec, ca'd the Wolf testimonial, looks to me for a' the world like a post in a tattie field, crooned wi' an auld hat, for the purpose of scarin' awa the crows.

MAJOR.—I agree with you, Laird. A pillar seems to me the only idea we have in Canada of monumental architecture. Pillars and obelisks were common among the ancients, but, as heathens, they attached a meaning to them which, as Christian people, we could not entertain; and I confess, I, for one, can see no beauty in a mere stone pillar, however richly ornamented, that does not answer some useful as well as some particular purpose. I sincerely hope that the Hall scheme will be carried out. It will be a monument worthy of him who warred not for the ruin of nations but for their social and political redemption. I noticed with great satisfaction that a project has been formed, and acted upon in England, for raising a monument, which will indeed be worthy of the name of Wellington. I allude to the proposed institution for the orphan children of meritorious officers, left without provision. Here is the manifesto of the projectors:—

"The universal desire felt by all classes to do honor to the memory of the Duke of Wellington will probably lead to the erection of statues, and other monuments in many of the principal towns in the kingdom, some of which have indeed already taken steps in this direction. But projects of this description, however much they may contribute to the ornament of the respective localities, and however gratifying they may be to the feelings of their inhabitants, can possess little more than local interest, can be joined in by comparatively few of the population, and are not calculated to confer any substantial benefit upon the community. With a view to erect a monument to the memory of the Great Duke to which all may contribute, which shall be worthy of its object and of the nation, and which shall be of permanent and important advantage to the service of which he