

# NEW DOMINION MONTHLY.

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## RUSTIC JOTTINGS FROM THE BUSH.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "SCENES IN THE LIFE OF A CANADIAN PIONEER."

(Continued.)

No. III.

### TEMPTATIONS OF SETTLERS.

A change of country involves much change of circumstances. A prudent man will consider these and adapt himself to his new condition. One quality, especially valuable in a beginner, is a teachable disposition.

"Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit, there is more hope of a fool than of him."

"Seize upon truth where'er it's found,  
Among your friends, among your foes;  
On Christian or on heathen ground,  
The flower divine where'er it grows:  
Neglect the thistle and assume the rose."

How humble, yet beautiful, the comparison applied to himself by that wonder in science, Sir Isaac Newton, "A child gathering shells on the shore, while the great ocean of truth lay before him unexplored."

A gentleman who rose to the highest position as a ship-builder under the British Government, made it his constant practice to consult every working shipwright of intelligence who came in his way as to his views in different points bearing on ship-building, and thereby gathered valuable hints helpful in his profession.

Capt. Cook, the great explorer, mentions in the record of his voyages a valuable suggestion he got from a common sailor,

by acting on which he saved one of his ships when in a sinking condition. The vessel had struck a coral rock and was filling fast. The suggestion of the sailor was called "foddering the ship." A sail was got and covered with grease mixed with goat's manure. Long ropes were fastened to the corners of the sail, which having weights attached to make it sink, was passed over the bows, and by means of the ropes on either side of the ship, was drawn towards the stern until the leak was reached. The ropes were then tightened, and the sail covering the hole made in the ship's bottom was firmly secured. This make-shift served until they reached a place where they could lay the vessel over and repair damages.

Readers of the life of the first Napoleon will call to mind an incident which occurred during the progress of one of his great battles. A private left his place in the ranks, and going to where the Emperor stood, said, "If your Majesty will order an additional force to aid the troops at such a point on the field (naming it), the victory will speedily be ours." No rebuke fell from the lips of his sovereign for such unusual conduct. He merely said to the man, "Who told you my thoughts?" The order was made and the expected result followed. At the close of the action the Emperor inquired for the soldier, intending to reward his sagacity; but the poor fellow had fallen, and was beyond promotion.