Family Reading.

THE STOLEN HIDES.

William Savery, an eminent preacher among the Quakers, was a tanner by trade, and known by all as "one who walked humbly with his God." One night a quantity of hides was stolen from his tannery, and he had reason to believe that the thief was a quarrelsome, drunken neighbour, whom I shall call John Smith. The next week the following advertisement appeared in the country newspaper:

"Whoever stole a quantity of hides on the fifth of the present month, is hereby informed that the owner has a sincere wish to be his friend. If poverty tempted him to this false step, the owner will keep the whole transaction secret, and will gladly put him in a way of obtaining money by means more likely to bring him peace of mind."

This singular advertisement attracted considerable attention; but the culprit alone knew who had the kind offer. When he read it his heart melted within him, and he was filled with sorrow for what he had done. A few nights afterwards, as the tanner's family were about to retire to rest, they heard a timid knock; and when the door was opened there stood John Smith, with a load of hides on his shoulder. Without looking up, he said, "I have brought these back, Mr. Savery; where shall I put them?" "Wait till I can get a lantern, and I will go to the barn with thee," he replied, "then perhaps thou wilt come in, and tell me how this happened. We will see what can be done for thee."

As soon as they were gone out, his wife prepared some hot coffee, and placed pies and meat on the table. When they returned from the barn, she said, "Neighbour Smith, I thought some hot supper would be good for thee," He turned his back toward her, and did not speak. After leaning against the fireplace in silence a few moments, he said in a choked voice, "It is the first time I ever stole anything, and I felt very bad about it. I am sure I didn't once think that I should ever come to what I am. But I took to drinking, and then to quarrelling. Since I began to go down hill, every body gives me a kick. You are the first man that ever offered me a helping hand. My wife is sickly, and my children are starving. You have sent them many a meal! God bless you; and yet I stole the hides. But I tell you the truth, when I say it is the first time I was ever a thief."

"Let it be the last, my friend," replied William Savery. "The secret still remains between ourselves. Thou art still young, and it is in thy power to make up for lost time. Promise me that thou wilt not drink any intoxicating liquor for a year, and I will employ thee to-morrow, on good wages. The little boy can pick up stones. But eat a bit now, and drink some hot coffee. Perhaps it will keep thee from craving anything stronger to-night. Doubtless thou wilt find it hard to abstain at first; but keep up a brave heart, for the sake of thy wife and children, and it will soon become easy. When thou hast need of coffee, tell Mary, and she will always give it thee."

The poor fellow tried to eat and drink, but the food seemed to choke him. After vainly trying to compose his feelings, he bowed his head on the table, and wept like a child. After a while he ate and drank, and his host parted with him for the night, with the friendly words, "Try to do well, John, and thou wilt always find a friend in me." He entered into his employ the next day, and remained with him many years, a sober, honest, and faithful man. The secret of the theft was kept between them; but after John's death, William Savery sometimes told the story, to prove that evil might be overcome with good.

ABRAHAM AND EPHRON THE HITTITE.

In aftertimes we find the Hittites were not at all a popular people with the Israelites. This Ephron was the first of that nation who comes under our notice; and his tone and manner on this occasion do no great credit to his tribe. We are not surprised that Ephron's respectful and seemingly liberal conduct has been beheld favourably in Europe; for only one who has been in the East can properly appreciate the rich orientalism it exhioits. We will therefore state the transaction as illustrated by what we ourselves have seen in Persia. Abraham wished to purchase of Ephron a certain field containing a cave; Ephron feeling the value of the opportunity of laying, or seeming to lay, under obligation to so great a person as Abraham, makes a parade of his readiness to *give* it: "The field *give I thee;* and the cave that is therein *give I thee;* in the presence of the sons of my people *give I it thee.*" This is exquisitely oriental, as will be seen by the following extract from Mr. Frazer's "Journey into Khorasan:"—"The least a Persian says when he receives you is, that he is your slave; that his house, and all it contains—nay, the town and country—are all yours, to dispose of at your pleasure. Every thing you accidentally notice—his *calleeans* (water smoking pipes), his horse, equipage, clothes—all are *Pesheush-e-Sahib*—presents for your acceptance.' This mode of address, as Franklin observes, is not confined to the great; but the meanest artisan will not hesitate to offer the city of Shiraz, with all its appurtenances, as a present to a stranger on his arrival. All this is understood to mean nothing more than "your obedient humble servant" at the end of our letters. But it often happens that, if the stranger be a person of wealth or influence, the man is really anxious to force upon his acceptance any article he happens to admire or expresses a wish to purchase. But if the stranger is inconsiderate enough to accept it, it will not be long before he discovers that by this act he is considered to have given the person a claim either upon his good offices and favour, or for a present of much more than equal value in return. If, like Abraham, he understands these matters, and is not disposed to receive such obligation, his best course is either not to admire at all, or to insist on at once paying the value of that which attracts his admiration. In the latter case the man will name the price, like Ephron, in a slight way, as a thing of no consequence—"It is worth so much; what is that betwixt me and thee?" But when the money is produced, he counts it carefully, and transfers it to the pocket or bosom of his vest in a business-like manner, without any indication that shekels of silver are undervalued by him.—*Pictorial Bible.*

GO AT ONCE TO THE FOUNTAIN-HEAD.

The renouncement of Romanism by a noble family in North Britain, some generations back, is ascribed, on very good authority, to the following circumstance:—A tenant on the estate, having a farm at too high a rent, came up to the nobleman's residence and enquired for the under agent, with the view of obtaining a reduction. *He* referred him to the principal agent; but from neither could he procure the object he desired. In a sort of desperation he resolved to make a bold effort to see the landlord himself, and managed to be admitted to his presence. The nobleman, after listening to his statement, granted his request; and following up his kindness, asked the farmer, on his being about to withdraw, if he would like to see the castle. The latter answered, that of course he would like it exceedingly, but could not think of putting his Grace to so much trouble. The nobleman, however, proceeded to accompany him through the rooms, when coming before a picture of the Virgin, the farmer inquired, "And who might that be?" "Oh!" said the proprietor of the mansion, "it is to her I pray." "Indeed!" rejoined the other. "Yes; I put up my prayers to her, and she presents them to her son for acceptance wite God." "Well," replied the honest countryman, "I had a favour to ask from yer Grace; and I went first to young Sandy G—, and then to muckle Sandy G—, but I obtained nae satisfaction till I came to yersel. Now, I would humbly suggest to yer Grace to do as I have done; in making yer requests to Heaven, to go at once to the Fountain-head." The advice so struck the noble personage to whom it was offered, as actually to lead to his adoption of Protestantism.—*Churchman's Penny Magazine.*

For the Banner of the Cross.

"GETTING ON TOO FAST."

Messrs. Editors :—If you publish the following capital story, your readers will agree with me, that they have heard *longer* sermons, indeed, on the text; but not better theology, nor purer wit. If any of your readers ever hear anybody arguing about a hard text in Romans, or somewheres else, and worrying to know what it means, just tell him the story about "getting on too fast."

Yours, truly, CUSH.

A pious slave had a wicked master. This master had much confidence, however, in the slave's piety, He believed he was a Christian. Sometimes the master would come to the old slave with a New Testament in his hand, and ask if he would explain a passage to him. The slave was willing to try, and asked what it was,

"It is here in Romans," said the master.

"Hab you done all it tells you to do in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John?" inquired the slave seriously, fixing his eyes upon his master's.

"No, I haven't," said he.

"Then you're getting on too fast, too fast, massa. Go back to the beginning ob de book. Do all it tells you, till you get to Romans, and you will understand it easy enough then; for the good book says, 'If any man will do my will, he will know the doctrine.'"

VICTORY AND REWARD.—"A decent country woman," said an English divine, came to me one market-day, and begged to speak with me. She told me, with air of secrecy, that her husband behaved unkindly to her, and that knowing me to be a wise man, I could tell her what would cure him. 'The remedy is simple,' said I; 'always treat your husband with a smile.' The woman thanked me, dropped a courtesy and went away. A few months after she came again, bringing a couple of fine fowls. She told me with great satisfaction that I had cured her husband; and she begged my acceptance of the fowls in return. That was at once the victory of love, and the reward of patience."

VIRTUOUS HABITS IN YOUTH.—We commend the following fact to the special notice of our young readers:

Lord Shaftesbury recently submitted to one hundred city missionaries the following question: "How many do you estimate, having lived an honest life up to twenty years of age, have afterwards fallen away, and entered on vicious courses?" The answer from almost every missionary was, "Not two in one hundred."

From our English Files.

THE WAR.

A report which continues to be persevered in, and which, as it appears to gain some consistency, may be worth mentioning, is that which represents the Emperor Nicholas as hesitating whether or not to withdraw his armies once more to the other side of the Pruth. That such conduct on his part would be dictated far more by a desire to embarrass his actual adversaries than from any hearty desire of reconciliation with them, no one doubts. Still, the position, it is thought, thereby created would be an awkward one; for the concession would undoubtedly be accepted as satisfactory on the part of Austria, who, indeed, invites or summons the Emperor Nicholas to make no greater; while it is equally certain that such a step would not be received as of itself offering a solution of all difficulties and a restoration of peace and tranquility to Europe. And yet to continue the blockade of the Baltic and the Black Sea, and to threaten Cronstadt and Sebastopol, after the Russian armies had retreated from the Principalities, would be measures far from easy to defend against adversaries who, even under present circumstances, find grounds for objecting to them. No doubt the concession to which I allude would be a bitter one, and would cost the Russian Autocrat no small humiliation and mortification in the first instance; but the embarrassment it must cause to his declared enemies on the one hand, and the relief it would bring to his secret well-wishers on the other, render it far from impossible that events might take such a turn. The only ground as yet for such reports existing at all has probably been the possibility of the event as manifested on the face of existing circumstances.

Letters received from Marshal St. Arnaud by the Emperor himself are stated to express the opinion that no troops can prudently be detached from the main body of the Anglo-French army to assist the fleets by a land attack against Sebastopol. Any attempt, therefore, against that fortress is likely, it is said, to be postponed either until the armies of the East be recruited, or until some decisive check has been given to the progress of the Russians upon the Danube. Some confirmation of the above facts being correctly imported, is to be found perhaps in the haste with which a fifth division of the French army is being prepared and despatched to the scene of action. The division will consist of two brigades, under General Levaillant, and will be composed of the 21st, 22nd, and 46th regiments of the line, together with the 5th regiment of light infantry, two brigades of artillery, and a company of engineers, in all about 8,000 men. The letter of Marshal St. Arnaud, however, is said to declare that 50,000 additional troops are required for the successful conduct of the campaign.—*Correspondent of the London Guardian.*

THE CZAR AND THE LAW OF NATIONS.

On Saturday last some living witnesses of the regard which the Czar of all the Russias has for the Law of Nations, and the usages of civilized States, presented themselves at the Thames Police-office. The tale they told formed a striking contrast with the tone of the proclamation which was issued by the Northern Autocrat at the commencement of the war. It will be remembered that soon after the intelligence of the detention of Sir Hamilton Seymour's property reached this country, an attempt was made to exculpate the Emperor Nicholas, by making it appear that there was no unlawful interference with the Ambassador's property, but that its destination only was changed. We were almost called upon to make the *amende honorable* to the Czar for having conceived it possible that His Imperial Majesty could be guilty of a mean and shabby action. It now, however, turns out that the arbitrary seizure of the Ambassador's property, for the purpose of sending it to England by another route was the least part of the outrage upon the law of nations of which the ruler of Russia was guilty upon that occasion.

At the breaking out of the war the British and French Governments set the good example of giving to Russian vessels in their ports six weeks for clearing out. Not to be behind hand with his antagonists, the Czar issued a proclamation to a similar effect in regard to all English and French vessels in Russian ports. But that proclamation was a mere sham, intended to throw dust into the eyes of Europe. While the proclamation appeared in the official *Gazette* of Russia, orders of a wholly contrary character were sent to the authorities in the different ports. It so happened, fortunately, that by this time there were not more than two British vessels remaining at any port of the Baltic, one at Cronstadt, the other, the *Anne MacAlister*, at Revel. Instead of allowing the two vessels to leave the respective ports on their voyage home, the Russian Government seized them both, and treated their crews as prisoners. The vessels were sent home subsequently in the charge of neutral crews, while the original crews were sent into the interior of the couutry. This was done—as we were told was the case with regard to Sir Hamilton Seymour's baggage—"at the expense of His Imperial Majesty."

In what sense do our readers suppose that this was a true statement? It appears from the statement of Captain Evans, the Commander of the *Anne MacAlister*, that he and his men were sent off, not by sea as they had intended to go, but by land, *via* Warsaw and Myslowitz. For the support of himself and men on their involuntary excursion into the interior of Russia, the munificence of the Czar actually went to the extent of allowing them an entire silver rouble, worth about 3s. 2d., between them. Happily, our involuntary tourists found a countryman at Warsaw, who, commiserating their condition, supplied them with money to work their way home. But for this providential assistance the chances are that neither the captain nor any of his crew would ever have reached the British shores, to tell of the perfidy and meanness of the Czar.

Is it uncharitable to suppose that such was actually the intention with which the whole arrangement was made? The man who is capable of committing so flagrant a breach of his own ostentatious proclamation, as to seize upon the vessels and crews to whom he had announced that they were at full liberty to depart for their homes, and who is sacrificing his own subjects by thousands on the banks and in the marshes of the Danube, cannot be supposed to be actuated by any very tender or scrupulous regard for the lives of a few Englishmen. When, therefore, we find him adopting a course which, in all human probability, must have ended in their perishing from want and fatigue, it is impossible to resist the suspicion that it was for the deliberate purpose of destroying them that the Emperor ordered the crew of the *Anne McAlister*, as well as of her companion in misfortune, to be transported inland, and to be turned adrift with so insufficient a provision.

The atrocity of the Czar's conduct in this matter is the more marked, on account of the contrast which it forms with the conduct of the British Government, in allowing a Russian frigate or two to lie in Portsmouth harbor, under pretence of repairs, at a time when the outbreak of hostilities was no longer doubtful. Offences like these against good faith and the comity of nations bring, however, their own punishment with them. The Czar will find in the end that the few advantages which he has secured by cunning and violence, have been dearly purchased by the loss of all confidence in him on the part of his contemporaries, and by the stigma which his lawless and deceitful proceedings will cause to attach to his name in the eyes of posterity.

Advertisements.

BOOKS JUST RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Cresley's Treatise on Preaching	0	6	3
The History, Object, and Proper Observance of the Holy Season of Lent: by Kip	0	3	9
Christian Morals: by Rev. Wm. Sewell, M. A.	0	3	9
Mant on the Rubrics	0	3	9
Stories on the Church Catechism: by Mrs. Sherwood	0	3	9
The Pastor's Appeal to his Flock; on Confirmation, the Holy Communion, and Christian Life	0	0	7½
The Children of the New Testament: by Stork.	0	4	4½
Staunton's Church Chant Book	0	5	0
The Music of the Church: by Wainwright	0	5	0
The Baron's Little Daughter, &c: by Rev. Wm. Gresley, M. A.	0	3	1½
Our Little Comfort	0	3	1½
Love's Lesson: by the author of Timid Lucy..	0	3	1½
In the World, but not of the World: by Cousin Alice	0	3	1½
The Pilgrim's Progress: for the young. Illustrated	0	1	10½

For Sale by
HENRY ROWSELL,
Bookseller, Stationer, & Printer,
King Street.
Toronto, March 23, 1854. 37-tf

HAMILTON AND TORONTO.
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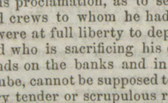
THE STEAMER



CITY OF HAMILTON,

WILL leave Hamilton every morning (Sunday excepted.) at 7 o'clock, commencing on Monday next, the 10th instant. Returning, will leave Toronto at 2 o'clock, P. M., calling at the above Ports going and returning, weather permitting.

G. B. HOLLAND,
Agent.
Toronto, April 5, 1854. 37-tf

A NEW CHURCH.

A BAZAAR in aid of the fund for Building A CHURCH at *the Falls of Niagara, C. W.* will (D.V.) be held on August 1st, 2nd and 3rd, proximo, in the Village of Drummondville.

Any Work will be thankfully received by Mrs. Ingles or Mrs. Murray.
Drummondville, July 1854. 50-3in

HERBERT MORTIMER,
BROKER,
House, Land and General Agent,
No. 80, KING STREET EAST, TORONTO,
(Opposite St. James's Church.)

REFERENCE kindly permitted to J. Cameron, Esq., T. G Ridout, Esq., Jas. Browne, Esq., W. McMaster, Esq. P. Paterson, Esq., Messrs. J. C. Beckett & Co., Bowes & Hall, Crawford & Hagarty, Ridout Brothers & Co., Ross Mitchell & Co.

Twenty years' Debentures constantly on Sale, at a libera discount.
Toronto, October 1st, 1852.

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FOR GENERAL FEMALE EDUCATION,
AND FOR GRANTING
CERTIFICATES OF KNOWLEDGE.

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Consisting of the Professors of the College.
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Adolphus Bernays, Ph.D.	F. P. Lacaita, Esq.
Isidore Brasseur, Esq.	Rev. E. H. Plumptre, M.A.
The Rev. Michael Biggs, M.A.	Henry Warren, Esq.
The Rev. J. S. Brewer, M.A.	

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The Countess of Charlemont.	Mrs. Edward Romilly.
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Mrs. Arthur Hobhouse.	Miss Twining.
Mrs. W. M. James.	Mrs. Hensleigh Wedgwood.
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Mrs. Arthur Malkin.	Lady Wood.
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Miss Maurice.	

Professors.

Arithmetic and Algebra	Mr. Cock.
Drawing—Figure	Mr Armitage.
Drawing—Landscape	Mr. Warren—Mr. Weigall.
English Language & Literature	Mr. Plumptre.
French	Mr. Brasseur.
Geography	Mr. Nicolay—Mr. Johns.
German	Dr. Bernays—Dr. Fischel.
Harmony and Musical Composition	Mr. Bennett—Mr. Baly.
History—Ancient, English, and Modern	Mr. Nicolay—Mr. Brewer.
Italian	Mr. Lacaita—St. Biagel.
Latin	Mr Plumptre—Mr. Biggs,
Method in Learning & Teaching	Mr. Johns.
Natural Philosophy & Astronomy	Mr. Cock.
Philosophy—Moral and Mental	
Reading	Mr. Nicolay.
Divinity and Church History	Mr. Trench—Mr. Biggs,
Vocal Music	Mr. Hullah—Mr. May—Mr Bannister.

Michaelmas Term commenced 6th Oct., 1853, and will close Dec 17.
Lent Term will commence 19th Jan., 1854, and close 6th April.
Easter Term will commence 24th April, 1854, and close 1st July.

The College will be closed on the Prince of Wales' birthday, Ash-Wednesday, Ascension-day, the Queen's birthday, and Whit-Monday.

The Fees are—a composition of £26 5s. for the year, or £9 9s. for one term; or £1 11s. 6d. per term, for those Classes which meet twice in the week, and £1 1s. for those which meet once. All payments to be made at entrance.

Individual instruction in Vocal Music in its higher branches will be given by Mr. George Benson, under the direction of Mr. Hullah; and in Instrumental Music by Messrs. R. Barnett, O. May, and W. Dorrell, under the direction of Mr. Sterndale Bennett. Instruction for advanced Pupils in Drawing and its various applications will be similarly arranged, under the direction of the Professors of Drawing. The Fee, Three Guineas per Term.

The Drawing Room is open to Pupils for practice from 2 to 4 o'clock on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays during Term.

PREPARATORY CLASS FOR CHILDREN ABOVE EIGHT YEARS OF AGE.

This Class has been established to supply the want of good Elementary Instruction, and as Introductory to the College Course.

Arithmetic	Mr. Cock.
Biblical Instruction	Mr. Plumtre.
Drawing	Mr. Weigall.
English Grammar	Mr. Plumptre.
French	Mr. Brasseur—M. Enot.
Geography	Mr. Nicolay.
German (Etymology)	Dr. Bernays.
History, Ancient	Mr. Nicolay.
Ditto, English	Mr. Brewer.
Italian (Etymology)	Mr. Bezzi.
Latin	Mr. Plumptre.
Reading	Mr. Nicolay.
Vocal Music	Mr. Bannister.
Calisthenic Master	M. Rolla.
Lady Superintendent	Miss Parry.
Assistant	Miss Worth.

The year of study extends from the last week in September to the last week in July, with Vacations at Christmas and Easter.

The payment is £15 15s. per year for Pupils under 13 years of age, and £21 for Pupils above 13.

Elementary Instruction on the Piano-forte is given under the superintendence of Mr. W. S. Bennett. Fee, £2 2s. per Term.

Lady Resident, MRS. W. ROWSELL.

The ordinary periods of Examination for Certificates are the last week in each term, but ladies unable to attend at those times may, on special application, be examined at any time during term. Fee for first Certificate, £1; for every other, 10s.

Particulars may be ascertained at the College daily, from ten till four; and from the Deputy-Chairman at the College, every Wednesday and Saturday before two o'clock.
February 16th, 1854. 29

WANTED,

BY a Protestant Lady, recently from Great Britain, a situation as Visiting or Resident Governess in a respectable family. Satisfactory reference as to character and qualification in Music and the general branches of an English Education can be given.

Address A. B., Post-Office, Yorkville.
Toronto, Nov. 29, 1853. 18-tf

FINISHING SCHOOL
For Young Ladies.

MRS. FORSTER, having hitherto received a limited number of Pupils for tuition in special subjects, has been requested to extend the advantages of her system of instruction by enlarging her classes.

Mrs. Forster having determined to accede to this request, has secured the assistance of the best Masters, and will be prepared, on the 1st of September next, to give instruction in the following branches of Education.

English, French, Italian, German, Music, Piano and Harp, Drawing, Singing, &c.

In the Senior or Finishing Class, to which pupils are admitted by examination, the course of instruction is specially adapted for completing the education of Young Ladies; including a thorough review of the subjects ordinarily taught, Critical Readings of the French and English Poets, Ancient and Modern Historians, and the Study of Philosophy and Astronomy.

References are kindly permitted to Judge Draper, Dr. Bovell, Mr. Gzowski, and Dr. Ryerson, all of whom have daughters under Mrs. Forster's instruction.

For particulars apply to the Rev. T. S. KENNEDY, Church Society's Office, King Street; or to Mrs. FORSTER, 169 Queen Street West.
Toronto, July 19, 1854. 51

MRS. CROMBIE'S
YOUNG LADIES' SEMINARY,
GEORGE STREET, TORONTO.

THIS ESTABLISHMENT will be re-opened, after the Christmas Recess, on Thursday, the 5th of January, 1854.

Reference kindly permitted to the Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Toronto, the Rev. John M'Caul, L.L.D., President of the University of Toronto, the Rev. H. J. Grasett, B.D. Rector of Toronto, Rev. Edmund Baldwin, M. A., Assistant Minister of St. James's, Rev. J. G. D. M'Kenzie, M. A., Incumbent of St. Paul's, Toronto, Rev. R. J. McGeorge, of Streetsville, and the Rev. T. S. Kennedy, Secretary of the Church Society.
Toronto, 27th December, 1853. 2-tf

NEW BOOKS.

	£	s.	d.
THE National Miscellany: a Magazine of general literature. Vol. I.—cloth, extra	0	9	0
Muller's Physics and Meteorology	0	17	6
Narrative of the United States' Expedition to the River Jordan and the Dead Sea: by W. F. Lynch, U. S. N.	0	15	0
Ermah's Travels in Siberia; The Chinese Frontier, &c 2 vols.	0	10	0
Fletcher's Notes from Nineveh, and Travels in Mesopotamia, Assyria, and Syria	0	3	9
Memoirs of Extraordinary Popular Delusions: by Charles Mackay. 2 vols	0	10	0
Camp Fires of the Revolution; or, the War of Independence: illustrated by thrilling events and stories, by the old soldiers: by Henry C Watson	0	8	9
Lander's Natural Philosophy. Third course: Meteorology, Astronomy	0	10	0
The Indians and the Gold Mines; or, the source of true Riches, with illustrations; by W. Croome	0	3	0
History of England in Verse: by Hannah Townsend	0	3	0
Yankee Stories: by Judge Haliburton	0	2	6
Anecdotes for the Railroad and Steamboat	0	2	6

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HENRY ROWSELL,
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King Street.
Toronto, March 23, 1854. 37-tf

WILLIAM HODGINS,
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AYER'S
CHERRY PECTORAL
For the Cure of
Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, whooping-cough, croup, Asthma and Consumption.

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