

The Birth of the Year.

BY FREDERICK TENNYSON.

Let us speak low, the infant is asleep,
The frosty hills grow sharp, the day is noar,
And Phosphor with his taper comes to peep
Into the cradle of the new-born year;
Hush! the infant is asleep;
Monarch of the Day and Night,
Whisper, yet it is not light,
The infant is asleep.

These arms shall crush great serpents ere to-morrow,
His closed eyes shall open to laugh and weep;
His lips shall curl with mirth, and writhe with sorrow,
And charm up Truth and Beauty from the deep;
Softly, softly, let us keep
Our vigils! visions cross his rest
Prophetic pulses stir his breast,
Although he be asleep.

Now Life and Death arm'd in his presence wait,
Genii with lamps are standing at the door;
Oh! he shall sing sweet songs, he shall relate
Wonder and glory, and hopes untold before.
Murmur memories that may creep
Into his ears, of old sublime;
Let the Youngest born, of time
Hear music in his sleep.

Quickly he shall awake, the East is bright,
And the hot glow of the unrisen sun
Hath kiss'd his brow with promise of its light,
His cheek is red with victory to be won.
Quickly shall our King awake,
Strong as giants, and arise;
Sager than the old and wise
The infant shall awake.

His childhood shall be froward, wild and thwart;
His gladness fitful, and his angers blind;
But tender spirits shall o'er take his heart,
Sweet tears and golden moments, bland and kind.
He shall give delight and take
Charm, enchant, dismay, and soothe;
Raise the dead, and touch with youth;
Oh! sing that he may wake!

Where is the sword to gird upon his thigh?
Where is his armour and his laurel crown?
For he shall be a conqueror ere he die,
And win him kingdoms wider than his own;
Like the earthquake he shall shake
Cities down, and waste like fire;
Then build them stronger, pile them higher,
When he shall awake.

In the dark spheres of his unclosed eyes
The sheeted lightnings lie, and clouded stars,
That shall glance softly, as in summer skies,
Or stream o'er thirsty deserts, wing'd with wars;
For in the pauses of dread hours
He shall fling his armour off,
And like a reveller sing and laugh,
And dance in ladies' bowers.

Oftimes in his Midsummer he shall furo
To look on the dead blooms with weeping eyes;
O'er ashes of frail Beauty stand and mourn,
And kiss the bier of stricken Hope with sighs.
Oftimes like light of onward seas,
He shall hail great days to come,
Or hear the first dread note of doom,
Like torrents on the breeze.

His manhood shall be blissful and sublime,
With stormy sorrows, and severest pleasures,
And his crown'd age upon the top of Time
Shall throne him, great in glories, rich in treasures.
The sun is up, the day is breaking,
Sing ye sweetly, draw near,
Immortal be the new-born year,
And blessed be its waking.

BROKERS' CIRCULAR.

April 14th.

Flour.—4,000 barrels has changed hands since our last, at from 48s 9d to 51s 3d per barrel for Superfine. Holders are now asking 52s 6d, while Extra is held at 55s. 42s 6d would be given for all May.

INDIAN CORN.—Offering for sale for May delivery at per 56 lbs. The present retail price is 7s.

Provisions.—Beef is purely nominal. Pork has slightly advanced; the stock of Mess being much reduced, we quote its value at \$19.

ASHES.—Without change in our quotations from last week.

E. PICKUP'S

GENERAL PERIODICAL & NEWSPAPER DEPOT

Adjoining the New Post-Office.

E. P. is Agent for the Methodist Book Room, Toronto, where all the Publications may be had upon their terms. Subscriptions received for the *Christian Guardian*, the official Organ of the Methodist Church in Canada—\$2 per annum, payable in advance.

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE, published monthly—\$2 per annum.
HARPER'S " " " 3 "
PUTNAM'S " " " 3 "
LADIES REPOSITORY, " " " 2 "
THE METHODIST QUARTERLY, " " " 2 "

A discount of 20 per cent. will be allowed to Ministers and Clubs of five, for any of the above works, when paid in advance. Orders received for *Gleaner's Pictorial*, the *Illustrated London News*, *New York Tribune*, *New York Herald*, &c. &c. &c.

N.B.—All Communications must be post-paid.

Postage Stamps of the value of 3d, 6d and 10d always on hand The latter convenient for the British Mail.

E. PICKUP,

St. Francis Xavier Street.

Montreal, Jan., 1855.

CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE,

VOLUME XX.,
FOR THE YEAR 1855

WHILE grateful for the vigorous efforts made by his friends, the Publisher is persuaded that more can and will be done to perpetuate and augment the progressive power of the Temperance Reform to its most conspicuous and essential features,—Total Abstinence and Legal Prohibition, as these are expounded and defended in the *Advocate*.

The Editorial control of the *Advocate* will be again entrusted to the gentleman under whom it has attained so high a degree of popularity. He will continue to give his attention to every article of importance, and the public may depend upon receiving the earliest intelligence of what is passing in all countries, where the Sons and Daughters of Temperance are contending for the rights of man and the moral progress of the human race.

Friends of Temperance and Prohibition, accept these assurances as a pledge of fidelity to the cause of truth, and again unite in defending the country from the evils of the traffic.

The first number of the TWENTY-FIRST VOLUME was issued on the 1st of January, 1855. As usual it will appear twice a month, *Free of Postage*, at the low price of Half-a-Dollar (2s 6d) a year, payable in advance. The Publisher again offers to agents and friends who may forward twenty Subscribers, with the cash, a copy of that very useful book, "Mapleton; or, More Work for the Maine Law;" or, if they have already received that, some other work of equal value, and a copy of the *Advocate*.

All who send six Subscribers and upwards, with the cash in advance, will be entitled to a copy of the *Advocate* gratis.

Our friends in all other British North American Provinces are respectfully invited to co operate on the same terms.

All orders and remittances are to be sent to

JOHN C. BECKET,

33, Great St. James Street, Montreal.

Montreal, Jan. 15, 1854.