

OUR COUNTRY.

Human nature is prone to grumble and complain, and to fancy that other people are happier and better off than we are ourselves. We are too often inclined to judge from mere superficial views and observations of our neighbors. This has often been the fashion of many Canadians when discussing the fortunes of their "American Cousins," whom they deemed supremely fortunate while they were correspondingly wretched. Often after a hurried visit to New York or some other large American city the humbled "Canuck" would return very much impressed with the glories of the republic across the lines, where there were lots of money and apparently endless profusion, and where ceaseless activity and bustle were apparent everywhere. He would return in a discontented and desponding frame of mind, and would begin to draw comparisons highly unfavorable to the enterprise and condition of the land we live in, coupled sometimes with a determination or longing to pull up stakes and cross the border. One often hears the remark—"Just look at the Yankee cities and towns, how much they are ahead of our own—how busy things look by the side of our own." And yet if a little quiet reflection were indulged in, the Canadian's comparison would almost always be highly favorable to his own soil and people. It is indeed not gold that glitters. But while saying this we do not consider it necessary to abuse our neighbors in order to prove our patriotism. On the contrary we all must admit that the United States is a great country. Her people, sprung like ourselves from a common stock, possess the same energies and the same aspirations as we ourselves do. Nevertheless Providence has smiled upon Canada with the most unbounded benignity—sent her peace, health and prosperity in all her borders—the want of which in many senses our neighbors lament. Look at the terrible desolation caused by the mighty war which nearly rent that great Union asunder, and which left behind it but the shattered wreck of its once powerful confederation of States.—Look also at the herculean task it has now in hand—which for the present is well nigh hopeless—of ever reconstructing the wayward sisters of the South.

Canada happily has been kept free from all such conflicts and disorders. In addition to the protection secured by her own stalwart sons, she has also the powerful protection of the mother country, whose generous assistance is ever ready to be extended to us either to guard our homes or advance the material welfare of the new British Dominion. As a people, therefore, we have great cause for thankfulness, especially when in no spirit of exultation, but rather the contrary, we begin to draw comparisons between our condition and that of our neighbors. As a nation they have gone through the severest ordeal, and if they have nothing else to show for it, the boast that no slave now pollutes her soil is something to be proud of, even though bought as it was by the blood and treasure of her sons. But when we look at the present state of American trade—at her industry partially paralyzed—her prosperity in a measure checked—we must feel all the more satisfied with our own country and our own prospects. Just fancy the debt of the United States made up to the 1st November, and taken from the returns of Mr. McCulloch, Secretary of the Treasury, as the state of the finances for the present year:—

Table with financial data: Debt bearing coin interest, currency interest, Maturity debt not presented for payment, Debt bearing no interest, Less cash in Treasury.

This tremendous sum it will be borne in mind has nothing to do with other State debts, which are also very large and proportionately burdensome. Thank heaven that such a burden does not rest on our shoulders in Canada, accustomed as we are to say that our own debt is heavy enough.

The Secretary also makes the following melancholy allusion to the condition of the shipping interests: "Our ship yards are, with rare exceptions, inactive. Our surplus products are being chiefly transported to foreign countries in foreign vessels, and the country can neither build ships nor successfully compete with English ships in the transportation of our own productions. The indications are that the great ship-building interests of the Eastern and Middle States have been steadily declining, and that consequently the United States is gradually ceasing to be a great maritime power." Listen also to the following observations of the honest, outspoken

"The internal revenues of the past year would have largely exceeded the estimates but for the failure of the revenue officers to collect the taxes on distilled liquors. It is extremely difficult in places where politics are apt to influence, if not to control, elections for officers, and where skill in evading the requirements of the revenue laws is not among the least decided characteristics of the people." After this candid confession let us not undervalue British politics or official integrity.

His remarks upon the necessity of economy in the public expenditure can be quoted with profit and advantage for our own legislators:—"The people have a right to demand that their necessary prudence shall not be neutralized by unnecessary expenditure.—Public economy is in all nations a rare virtue, and it is a singular truth that nations which are most deeply in debt, and whose affairs ought therefore to be most prudently managed, are the very nations in which the least economy is observed. This truth is largely attributable to the well known fact, that the contracting of public debt is unavoidably attended with imprudent if not reckless expenditure, and that when those entrusted with, or possessing, governing power have once enjoyed the luxury of using or expending freely the moneys under their control, proper economy is often and exceedingly difficult to be enforced. Thus national debts become chronic, and efforts to reduce them are rarely successful."

His remarks on the currency question are also so plain and so sound that we would commend them to our financiers and to any grumbling visitor who may have lately returned from Uncle Sam's territory, where there are so many greenbacks flying about as to give him such an exalted opinion of the plentifulness of the sinews of war as to make him wish for something like it here. He says:—"Had the specie standard been maintained and bonds been sold at a discount for real money, there would have been economy in all the branches of the public service, and the country would have escaped the evils resulting from a disregard of the great international law, which no nation can violate with impunity—the one that makes gold and silver the only true measures of value." We think it sufficiently clear from the views of Mr. McCulloch himself, that the American people have a path not strewn with roses ahead of them. Let us profit by the example and warning presented, and with industry, economy and a patriotic self-reliance, work out the manifest glorious destiny of the Dominion which so plainly is ahead of us, if we prove true to our institutions, our antecedents and ourselves, and

"With hearts resolved and hands prepared, The blessings we enjoy to guard."

PRESENT CONDITION OF MEXICO. The New York Tribune says:—"For some time, the news from our sister Republic of Mexico has been of the most satisfactory character. The last vestiges of civil war are disappearing; the highwaymen are put down with energy and success; the evil prophecies of some interested and dishonest speculators have proved to be untrue, and a Congress consisting of able men than have ever assembled in Mexico has begun, in full harmony with the President, the work of reconstruction. The speech of the President of the Republic on opening Congress, and the reply of the President of Congress, will be read throughout America with profound interest. During the fierce ordeal through which the Mexican Republic has had to pass, it received the warmest expressions of sympathy from every republic of the American continent. The fact is gratefully acknowledged both by Juarez and the President of the Congress.

BIRTHS. METCALF—At Guelph, on the 22nd inst, the wife of Mr. Henry Metcalf, saddler, of a son.

MARRIAGES. GRASSICK—BELL—At Guelph, on the 20th inst., by the Rev. John Hogg, Mr Geo Grassick to Miss Ann Jane Bell, both of Nichol.

New Advertisements.

St. George's Church. THE Archdeacon desires it to be known by the congregation that the Offertory on Christmas Day is intended for the Curate.

BERKSHIRE BOAR. THE subscriber has newly purchased a first-class pure-bred Berkshire Boar, which will serve sows during the season. Terms \$1.

BOUQUETS OF Everlasting Flowers, SUITABLE FOR Christmas Decorations!

At C. & A. SHARPE'S, Market Square, Guelph.

WESLEYAN S. SCHOOL Tea Meeting!

THE Wesleyan Methodist Sabbath School Tea Meeting will be held On Thursday Evening Next,

New Advertisements. GREAT SALE BY AUCTION.

GREAT SALE BY AUCTION OF THE GROCERIES! Saved from the Fire at the Alma Block, on FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, The 27th and 28th Instant.

All to be Sold in Lots to suit Purchasers, Without Reserve. ON FRIDAY—THE UNBROKEN PACKAGES will be offered to the Trade, together with all the Goods bought at the time of the fire and in transit. TERMS LIBERAL.

ON SATURDAY—The balance will be PUT UP IN LOTS FOR FAMILY USE.

The Goods can be seen during the week at the Warehouse of Messrs. ROBINS & TOLTON, near the Grand Trunk Passenger Station.

J. MASSIE & CO.

Guelph 16th Dec. 1867.

CHRISTMAS.

THE subscriber, though unfortunately left to battle alone with the trade of Upper Wyndham Street, begs to assure the public that he is determined not to surrender, but will, as usual, keep a full supply of

GENERAL GROCERIES!

Wines and Liquors, Crockery, China and Glassware, which he will sell as cheap as any house in the town.

Teas, Coffees, Sugars, Tobaccos.

Good Green and Black Teas from 50c. per lb., Green and Ground Coffees. SUGARS—Muscovada, Loaf, Ground and Crushed. First class Chewing and Smoking Tobaccos.

Fruits and Sauces for Christmas & New Year ALL TO GO OFF CHEAP.

WINES AND LIQUORS

will be sold as low as the Tariff and Excise Laws of the Dominion will permit. Always good value for your money on Upper Wyndham Street.

JAMES MURPHY.

Guelph, 21st December, 1867.

No. 2, Day's Block, . . Guelph.

12 lbs. PRIME VALENTIA RAISINS FOR ONE DOLLAR.

All other FRUITS equally low.

E. CARROLL & CO., Guelph, 23rd Dec, 1867.

Queen's Book 85 Cents.

NEW supply of the Queen's Book. Price 85c.

At DAY'S BOOKSTORE, Opposite the Market.

Guelph, 21st Dec, 1867.

Insolvent Act of 1864

In the matter of GEO. ALEXANDER, of Clifford, AN INSOLVENT.

THE creditors of the Insolvent are notified that he has made an assignment of his estate and effects under the above Act to me, the undersigned, Official Assignee, and they are required to produce before me, within two months from this date, their claims upon the said estate, under oath, specifying the security they hold, if any, and the value of it; and if none, stating the fact, with vouchers in support of such claims.

THOMAS SAUNDERS, Official Assignee. Guelph, 19th December, 1867.

Private Boarding.

EXCELLENT accommodation and comfortable Boarding can be had for five or six gentlemen. The house is only three minutes' walk from the Market House. Apply to

WM. DYSON'S, sr., Waterloo-st. Guelph, 27th Nov, 1867.

Four Corners' Hotel, ERANOSA ROAD.

JOHN ANDERSON, Proprietor. The best of

Gift Books
Gift Books
Gift Books
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Illustrated Books
Illustrated Books
Illustrated Books
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Pocket Bibles
Pocket Bibles
Pocket Bibles
VERY CHEAP,
At Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Wesley's Hymns
Wesley's Hymns
Wesley's Hymns
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore
Opposite the Market.

Church Service
Church Service
Church Service
VERY CHEAP, AT
Day's Bookstore
Opposite the Market.

Hymn Books
Hymn Books
Hymn Books
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Family Bibles
Family Bibles
Family Bibles
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Boys
Juvenile Books for Boys
Juvenile Books for Boys
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore
Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Girls
Juvenile Books for Girls
Juvenile Books for Girls
Very Cheap,
At Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

Toy Books
Toy Books
Toy Books

Untearable Books
Untearable Books
Untearable Books

Washable Books
Washable Books
Washable Books
VERY CHEAP, at
Day's Bookstore,

Books for Xmas
Books for Xmas
Books for Xmas
VERY CHEAP, AT
Day's Bookstore,
OPPOSITE THE MARKET.

Ladies' Satchels,
Gents' Satchel's,
Wax Dolls,
Fancy Goods, of every description.
VERY CHEAP, at
Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

DAY BOOKS
LEDGERS
CASH BOOKS
JOURNALS
AT DAY'S
BOOKSTORE,
Opposite the Market.

Opposite the Market.
Guelph, 19th December, 1867.

HENRY MULHOLLAND!

THE OFFICE
of Henry Mulholland is removed temporarily to the

READING ROOM OF
ELLIS' HOTEL.
Nearly Opposite the Old Stand.
Guelph, 17th December, 1867.

THE RED MILL.
THE subscriber having put a steam engine in his Mill, farmers bringing in their Grists can rely on having them ground the same day.
Chopping done every day.

FLOUR AND FEED
FOR SALE AT THE MILL.
GROUND PLASTER for sale at the Mill, and also at his Old Stand, near the Railway Crossing.
GEORGE BALKWILL.
Guelph 19th December, 1867.

NEW SHOP
SMITH & METCALF
BEG to inform their customers and the public that for the present they have opened a shop in the premises.
Two doors North of the Post Office,
next door to Mr Coffee's Hotel, where they will be prepared, as usual, to supply all articles in their line. The stock saved from the late fire will be sold at reduced prices.
SMITH & METCALF.
Guelph, 17th December, 1867.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO'Y.
1867
1867

GUELPH AGENCY.
Steam to Liverpool, London and Glasgow.
Steamship MORAVIAN, Portland to Liverpool, 7th December, 1867.
Tickets to and from the Old Country, Passage Co tickets to bring friends out, Return Tickets 4 for 6 months, issued at reduced rates. State-coms secured, and every information given on application. Insurance Policies for the voyage issued at the low rate of \$1 per 1,000 up to 10,000.
Apply to
GEORGE A. OXNARD,
Agent, G. T. R., Guelph.

CARD OF THANKS.
THE subscriber begs to acknowledge the payment in full of his claim against the Pastinch Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the loss sustained on the 8th July last, by fire, in the destruction of his dwelling House and contents. Absence from the Township prevented his publicly acknowledging earlier the prompt manner in which the Company paid his claim.
JOHN CARTER.
Pastinch, 17th December, 1867.

DOMINION SALOON,
(LATE GRAND'S BRADER SALOON.)
OPPOSITE THE MARKET,
GUELPH.
CHOICE LIQUORS, Cigars, Oysters, &c., &c., always on hand. Meals furnished at all hours.
DENIS BUNYAN.
Guelph, December 2, 1867.

DEVON BULL FOR SALE
FOR sale by the subscriber, the Devon Bull "Prince William," 4 years old. He has taken eight premiums at the Provincial and County Shows, and also at the last New York State Fair. He is the best bull of the Devon breed in Canada. Apply to
GEO. BIRD.