

An Englishman after a long long absence may revisit the scenes which were familiar to him in his early years, and may say, in the words of the Arabian poet, "The friends of my youth where are they? The Echo answers, where are they?" He may find that changes of every kind are rife, so as to perplex and almost to obliterate the traces of early recollections—the paths along which his tiny feet used to trot plowed up—the village common enclosed—houses built, pulled down, or metamorphosed—new roads made—old ones unmade—even the river (why could they not let that alone?) is dammed up, *muddified*, and diverted from its channel to supply some *dingy*, *smoky* manufactory—the old folks who used to pat us on the head, and treat us with cake and sweet-meats, are long since gone to their rest,—and a new race is risen up, "who know not Joseph." But the bells—the old Gothic tower with its bells—welcomes us as with the unchanged voice of an old friend that seems to say, "You are not *all* forgotten" here.

"Those evening bells, those evening bells,
Full many a tale your music tells
Of youth, and hope, and that sweet time,
When first I heard your soothing chime.

Those joyous hours are passed away,
And many a heart that then was gay
Within the tomb now darkly dwells,
And hears no more those evening bells.

And so 'twill be when I am gone—
That tuneful peal will still ring on,
While other bards shall walk these dells
And sing your praise, sweet evening bells."

But it is time for me to curb my excursive flight, and to quit the regions of poetry and romance for the land of Matter-of-Fact. And truly, Mr. Editor, though I do sometimes give the reins to imagination, I do dearly love a fact notwithstanding; a good, sober, honest, steady, unmalicious fact:—a regular John Bull fact that stops the way to all opponents, and will not be shoved aside, nor put out of countenance, nor otherwise disposed of till he has finished his business. In fact, in general, I give little for an argument that is not based on, linked with, or borne out by a fact. Now the fact which I have to state is simply this,—and it is a fact that I do state it with heartfelt gratification,—that an excellent and finely-toned peal of eight bells, of which the tenor is about 1600 weight, has been procured from London at an expence of about £550 sterling, by voluntary subscription among the congregation attending the Cathedral in Quebec, and is now suspended in the steeple at an additional expence of something more than £200. After all that has been said in the former part of this letter respecting "The Bells of Old England," it is almost superfluous to mention, that the announcement of the services in the Christian temple by means of this new peal of bells at Quebec, is a solemn and affecting sound to the ears of many with whose earliest associations and remembrances of the home of their fathers they vibrate in unison; and that in every point of view it is a pleasing circumstance to have this mode of summoning the worshippers together which Christians have for ages been accustomed to use, so respectably established at the see of Quebec, whose example in this respect, it is hoped will be followed, where circumstances permit, in other quarters of the Diocese. Hitherto the performance has perhaps been comparatively feeble and imperfect, but it is highly satisfactory to learn, that a society of voluntary ringers has been formed in the congregation, who have entered with a praise-worthy spirit upon their task, and attend regularly to perfect themselves by practice under the direction of able and experienced hands. We have already referred to the distinguished excellence of the English in the ringing of bells, who are almost the only people that have reduced it to a science,* and it is to be hoped

* The writer remembers to have seen in the belfry of a country Church in England, wooden tablets with figures painted upon them, to record the feats of the forefathers of the village in bell-ringing, the figures, it is believed, denoted the various permutations or combinations which the ringers had been enabled to produce within a certain time, and they were accompanied with certain terms of art, which are indirectly remembered, as the writer was not enough of a campanulist fully to comprehend them.

that, as the offspring of "an essentially bell-ringing people," the Society formed in Quebec will remember and emulate on this side of the Atlantic the bell-ringing glory of their ancestors.

And now, Rev. Sir, as all things must come to a conclusion.

"And though the day be never so long,
At last it ringeth to even-song."

It is now time, I think, for me, to conclude, as it is not improbable that both yourself and your readers may be of opinion that I have already rung too long a peal upon "The Bells of Old England."

I am, Rev. Sir,

Your's respectfully,

AN ENGLISHMAN.

LEGH RICHMOND'S TRACTS IN RUSSIA.

Legh Richmond once corresponded with the Russian Princess Mestchersky, by whom he was held in high estimation, and this lady herself translated his 'Dairyman's Daughter,' 'The Young Cottager,' and 'The Negro Servant,' into the Russian language, and caused editions of each to be printed and widely circulated. She also translated other English tracts, and made selections from standard Russian authors, which she published as tracts, to the extent in all of about one hundred different kinds. The Rev. Mr. Knill of St. Petersburg, in a recent letter, speaking of this lady and her tracts, says:—

Last year the Princess had nearly two hundred thousand of these excellent publications in her possession, which she kindly gave to me. It was a Princely gift—an unexpected favor—a rich and bountiful supply of Scriptural treatises, presented in almost every variety of form, and embracing almost every important subject. My friends rejoiced with me in being so providentially supplied with the means to benefit our fellow-creatures. They united most cordially with me in the work of distribution, and we have not been sparing of these gifts. The greatest part of them are gone, and some of them to places thousands of miles distant, where we trust they will produce happiness in many a sinner's heart, through the knowledge of Christ crucified.

At present we are making arrangements for printing an edition of ten thousand of the Young Cottager, and should rejoice exceedingly to see it followed by a new edition of the "Dairyman's Daughter," and the "Negro Servant," both of which are greatly needed, for we have not a copy on hand.

Many of the friends and admirers of the beloved Legh Richmond, and many of the disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, would surely rejoice to see these three beautiful Tracts circulating in the Russ language among sixty millions of people. And would it not be a most amiable sight? Oh! could I place the subject before the minds of Christians, but half so forcibly as its importance deserves, I am sure that many would co-operate in this labor of love.—*N. York Obs.*

Prospect of an Episcopal Church at Burlington Vermont—A correspondent writes the Editor of the Sentinel from this flourishing town, under date of 8th instant—An Episcopal Society has been formed in town. A subscription was started one week since for a Church. We have raised 3000 dollars, and shall probably get in this town 2000 more, and hope to get assistance from abroad to complete it.

Several respectable Episcopal families, have for some time resided in Burlington, and been anxious to procure the means of the constant administration of the services of the Church. They have now become strong enough it appears to begin to take active measures for the accomplishment of their wishes; and we wish them the fullest success. The Church is but little known in Vermont, though much talked of in many places—and by too many held up to be viewed through a distorting medium. But whenever her claims—we say *claims*, because we know her divine origin—whenever these are agitated, and primitive history is brought to bear on the question as matter of record, the force of truth alone will make converts among those who are disposed to listen to evidence.