CONTRAST IN THE SCENERY AND THE ANIMAL LIFE OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH.

The charts of the world which have been drawn upon modern science have thrown into a narrow space the expression of a vast amount of knowledge but I have never yet seen any one pictorial enough to enable the spectator to imagine the kind of contrast in the physical character which exists between northern and southern countries. We know the difference in details, but we have not that broad glance and grasp, which would "enable us to feel them in their totalness." We know that gentians grow on the Alps and olives on the Apennines; but we do not enough conceive for ourselves that variegated mosaic of the world's surface which a bird sees in its migration, that difference between the districts of the gentian and of the olive which the stork and the swallow see far off, as they float upon the successive winds. Let us see for a moment, by a rose ourselves even above the level of their flights, and imagine the Alps extending beneath us like an irregular lake and all its ancient promontories sleeping in the sun here and there amidst a misty spot of thunder—a grey stain of storm—lying upon the burning India; and there a fixed wreath of white volcano smoke, surrounded by a circle of ashes; but for the most part, a great peacefulness of light—Syria and Greece, Italy and Spain, laid like pieces of a golden pavement into the blue, sea closed, as we stoop nearer to them, with dossy beaten work or mountain chains and giving softly with terraced gardens and flowers heavy with the frankincense, mixed among masses of laurel and orange and plumy palm, that above with the grassy green shadows, the banks of the marble rocks and of the ledges of purple layers sloping under lucent sand. Then let us pass further towards the north, until we see the orient colours change gradually into a vast belt of rainy green, where the pastures of Switzerland and poplar valleys of France, and dark forests of the Danube and Carpathians, stretch from the mouths of the Loire to the Volga seen through clefts in gray swirls of rain, coils and flakey veils of the brooks, spreading low along the pasture lands; and then, further north still to see the earth heave into mighty masses of leaden rock and the atmosphere, bordering with a broad waste of glossy purple that belt of field and wood, and splintering into irregular and grey islands and the northern seas, beaten by storm and chilled by ice-drift, and tormented by furious pulses of contending tide, until the roots of the last forests fail from among the hill ravines and the hunger of the north wind bites their peaks into barrenness; and at last the bar of ice durable like iron, sets, deathlike, its white teeth against us out of the Polar twilight. And having thus traversed in thought this gradation of the zonal bits of the earth in all its material vastness, let us go down nearer to it, and watch the parallel change in the belt of animal life—the multitudes of swift and brilliant creatures that glance in the air and sea, or tread the sands of the southern zones—striped zebras and spotted leopards, glittering serpents, and birds arrayed in purple and scarlet. Let us contrast their energy and brilliancy of colour and swiftness of motion with the frost-cramped strength and shaggy covering and dusky plunge of the northern tribes; contrast the Arabian horse with the Shetland, the tiger and leopard with the wolf and ice bear, the antelope with the elk, the bird of Paradise with the osprey; and then sadmitively acknowledge the great laws by which the earth and all that it contains are moved throughout their being, laws not contrary, but implicit in the expression by man of his own rest in the statutes of the land that gave him birth. Let us watch lion with lion-ness as he sits side by side the kneeling lions, and smooths with soft sculpture the jaspa pillars that are to reflect in careless sunshine and rise into a circulous sky, but not with rough strength and hurried struggle, he smites an enemy in motion—one of the rocks which he has to fetch among the moss of the mountains and [illegible] into the [illegible] side of the pile of [illegible] buildings and [illegible] of wall, instinct [illegible] imagination as will and [illegible] the Northern sea—contrasts [illegible] shaped and right limb, but full [illegible] fierce as the winds that [illegible] and cloud as the clouds that [illegible]. *Ruskin's Stones of Venice.*

WELL TURNED.

A young lady, over the signature of "Kate," sends the following spirited article to the New Orleans True Delta. The girls fashionable young men a well merited rebuke. She entitles her article—"Foolish young America."

"I read in a paper, she says, the other day, that some new ornamental branches are to be added to education we examine, Geology, Conchology, Spiritology and Watercolorology. All honor to the projector of so happy an improvement; but, allow me to ask, when our young Misses become such pattern Conchologists, in what "circles" will they look for suitable companions? Not in a western dell could they be found, but rather one of the he-whiskered, bestudded, moustachioed exquisites, in conversation with any of Solomon's maidens, would keep her hands to the spindle, or throw the flying shuttle, or compound the corkey. What nobility would there be in her offspring? The cube that exists between a butterfly and a honey bee and a dog and gutter, and [illegible] more [illegible] of a more useless article than one more out of place, in a rocky world is progressing, than a fashionable man. He lays on the short and things, I feel in pain until he is duly locked in the parlor among other "nice for ornament than use," antique bijouterie.

It will never do to commence the work of reform [illegible] only one side. I propose [illegible] inches more to be added to the studies for *finishing* young gentlemen, namely:—*Sauce*-ology, *Chap*-ology, *Soft*-ology, and that, in addition to the requisite number of "sheets, towels and napkin rings," each young man be furnished with a new razor and strop, well sharpened, and [illegible] with them be practiced. I [illegible] supersede the necessity for gymnasiums.

In our onward march to perfection, and in taking up the accomplishments of our grandmothers, we earnestly beg that some provision be made against being cut off from "the best society," and such would be the result, unless the lords of creation are willing to keep pace with us. Their lily hands would scarcely, with present views, be willingly united with those which bear marks of labor; and what a dreadful state of affairs would occur in upper snobdom, if one of the *first families* were to marry beneath their dignity.

Hasten, then, the glorious era, when walking sticks shall be converted into hoe-handles, crochet hooks into knitting needles, and quizzing glasses and flirtation be known no more.

A VOICE FROM ST. HELENA ON THE EASTERN QUESTION.

From the London Examiner.

Our attention has been drawn to some remarkable passages of conversation reported to have been held with Mr. Barry O'Meara, twenty-six years ago, and published by that person in his book on the captivity at St. Helena.

We do not need to make any comment upon them. What we have been writing on this question from week to week, for the last six months, amounts to little more than an enlarged commentary on those extraordinary expressions of the ex-Emperor of France, which (being some exaggerations natural to the speaker and the time) contain the exact *rationale* of the Eastern question as it stands at this moment.

The conversations took place in May, 1817. On the 22nd of May, says O'Meara, after leaving the bath, Napoleon spoke about Russia, and said that the European nations would yet find that he (Napoleon) had adopted the best possible policy, at the time we intended to reestablish the kingdom of Poland. This he observed, would have been the only effectual means of stopping the increasing power of Russia. I was putting a barrier, a dyke to that formidable empire, which it was likely would yet overwhelm Europe. "I do not think," he added, "that I shall live to see it, but you may. You are in the flower of your age, and may expect to live thirty-five years longer. I think that you will see that the Russians will invade and take India, or enter Europe with four hundred thousand Cossacks and other inhabitants of the desert, and two hundred thousand Russians. When Paul was so violent against you, he sent to me for a plan to invade India. I sent him one with instructions in detail."

The conversation was resumed on the same day. "If," pursued Napoleon, "Alexander succeeds in incorporating Poland with Russia—that is to say, imperfectly reconciling the Poles to the Russian government, and not merely subduing the country, he has gained the greatest step towards subduing India. My opinion is, that he will attempt either the one or the other of the projects I have mentioned and I think the last to be the most probable."

Hereupon Mr. O'Meara observed that the distance was great, and that the Russians had not the money necessary for such a grand undertaking. "The distance is nothing," returned Napoleon. "Supplies can be easily carried upon camels, and the Cossacks will always insure a sufficiency of them. Money they will find when they arrive there. The hope of conquest would immediately unite a host of Cossacks and Calmucks without expense.

On a subsequent day, the 27th of the same month, Napoleon again started the subject, and made use of the singular and most impressive statements which follow. They appear to us to approach as near to the brilliant warnings of prophecy as any political speculations we have ever heard:

"In the course of a few years," said Napoleon, on this latter occasion, "Russia will have Constantinople, the greatest part of Turkey, and all Greece. This I still to be as certain as if it had already taken place. Almost all the inquietude and fatigue which Alexander has excited for me, was to gain my assent to effect this object. I would not consent, *foreseeing that the equilibrium of Europe would be destroyed.* In the natural course of things, in a few years Turkey must fall to Russia. The greatest part of her population are Greeks, who, you may say, are Russians. The power it would require, and who could oppose it, are England, France, Prussia and Austria. Now, as to Austria, it will be *very easy for Russia to engage her assistance, by giving her Servia and other provinces bordering upon the Austrian dominions, reaching near to Constantinople.* The only hypothesis on which France and England *may yet be allied with sincerity*, will be in order to prevent this. But even this alliance will not avail. France, England and Prussia united cannot prevent this. Russia and Austria can at any time effect it.

Once possessed of Constantinople, Russia gets all the commerce of the Mediterranean, becomes a great naval power, and God knows what may happen." &c.

The thirty-five years which Napoleon put as the limit to test his prophecy expired in 1852; in 1853, the question is that which agitates Europe from end to end; and the nephew of Napoleon is on the throne of France. It is possible that if the exiled Emperor could have foreseen the representation of his dynasty, he might have taken a more sanguine view of the possible results of that alliance with England which he so remarkably predicted.—At any rate, here he speaks so unmistakably to us on the question so vital to the interests of Europe, and from his grave he dictates the policy which his nephew and successor can alone pursue with respect for his authority and name.

ACCIDENT.—We learn that a man named George Brown, from Georgina, met with his death, yesterday evening, on the Northern Railroad, a short distance from the Innisfil Station. It appears that the unfortunate man attempted to cross the rails as the accommodation train was coming up, when the engine struck him in the head (causing a concussion of the brain), and passing over him, broke his leg, and completely severed one hand from his body. He lingered until above five o'clock this morning, when he expired. We understand that he leaves a wife and large family to mourn his untimely end.—*Barrie Herald.*

ARRIVAL OF THE CANADA.

Prices of Breadstuffs Sustained. Declaration of War by Russia. Battles—The Turks Victorious. Exciting Rumour from India. Money Market—Consols Firm. Details of the Turkish Victories. Threatened Invasion of India. Mr. Buchanan and Earl of Aberdeen on War. Trial of French Conspirators. "Metal Congress" likely to influence the Price of British Iron.

HALIFAX, Nov 24th.

The *Canada* arrived here this afternoon

Russia has formally declared war.

Several battels had been fought and well contested, the Turks everywhere victors, in Europe and Asia

It is rumoured that the Czar had formed an alliance with Dost Mohamed and will attack the English in India if the British Government assist Turkey against Russia. The rumor was doubted, but a full council was convened in London.

The money market, notwithstanding this untoward news is still unchanged. Consols 94.

SECOND DISPATCH.

NEW YORK, Sept. 25.

The following are details by the *Washington* at this port and the *Canada* at Halifax:

The *Humboldt* arrived out on the 5th having been detained two days by an accident to her machinery.

The news is very warlike, and several battles have taken place. The following is the official despatch for the French consol.

On the 2nd and 3rd Nov. the Turks crossed the Danube from Turtukai to the number of 18,000. On the 4th Gen. Pearlos attacked them with 9'000 men; and after a brisk cannonade, a combat with bayonets took place. The Turks maintained their position. The combat lasted three hours, in it the Russians lost several officers, 130 privates, and 6 superior officers. The loss on the Turkish side was not known.

There are rumors of several other movements of the Turks at different points on the Danube, and of the destruction of a Russian steamer, but these reports though propable do not rest on sufficient authority to state them as facts

Selim Pacha has crossed the Russian frontier to Asia, and a battle had taken place near Balioum, 5000 men engaged, and both armies fell back as night came on.

On the 20 October, Maske Bey, an officer of S Pacha, with a small force, was suddenly attacked by a body of Russian cavalry. He fell back fighting towards the main body of the Turkish army, and the battle became general.—15,000 Russians were engaged in it.—After hard fighting the Russians were defeated and fled, pursued by the Turks who planted the Sultan's standard at the position of Okella. The Russian force were defeated, and drew back to Bucharest where the main body of the Russians were posted under Gen Dember, and 20 to 30,000 strong. If this be true, the news is summed up thus;—The Turks have beaten the Russians in Asia. The Turkish left wing in Europe has beaten the Russians right, comprising their principle force, while the Turkish centre has whipt 9000 Russians at Tertukar, and is now pressing on Bucharest

The following important news from India has been received by telegraph.—The Czar has formed an alliance with Dost Mohamed to proclaim war against British India if Britian supports Turkey. A large Russian force is to invade Bocklara and a Russian army is collecting in the valley of Soollania to co-operate with Russia against Turkey. If this is confirmed the British Parliament will assemble immediately to devise means to avert the dangers which threaten India From other sources we learn that Persia is not hostile to Turkey, so perhaps all this is baseless.

The British fleet at Spithead is ordered to be ready for sea on the 11th inst, but their destination is not stated

The Lord Mayor's banquet took place as usual, and was attended by all the cabinet and foreign ministers. Mr. Buchanan's speech was not merely complimentary. The Earl of Aberdeen referred to his known policy of peace, but said while he still upheld a peace policy it was not impossible to engage in war to prevent greater evils

The trial of the conspirators in France in the opera plot was proceeding.

The Metal Congress of France are strongly urging on government to reduce the duty on metals This has caused some speculation in the British iron market.

Liverpool Markets.

Wheat in moderate demand at nearly the currency of last week—United States and Canadian flour in good request at fully previous prices. Indian Corn held firmly at quotations. Brown, Shipley & Co. quote Western canal flour at 26s. a 27s 6d; for good Philadelphia, Baltimore and Ohio 37s. a 37s. 6d.—United States wheat 10s a 10s. 8d.; red 9s. 10d. a 10s. 3d. White Indian Corn 46s mixed 45s. 6d a 46s.; yellow 45s. The iron market very firm. Rails £8 5s. a £8 8s.

THE VERY LATEST BY THE CANADA.

The following is the private account of the battle, received from Vienna.

Another engagement has taken place, in which fourteen superior Russian officer fell. The Turks remained masters of the field, and the Russians were retreating to Bucharest.

Previous to the battle, the Turks had constructed a bridge and *tete de pont* at Kalafat, which served as the basis of their operations. It appears that Omer Pacha crossed it at three points—with 18,000 at Oltenitza, 4,000 at Kalarache, and 2,000 at Giurgevo.

Skirmishes continually occur at the outposts.

Before the crossing of the Danube, a body of Cossacks came to the river's bank and made signs of insult to the Egyptians, who rushed to their boats, rowed accross the river, in the face of the Cossacks' fire and having punished them well and chased them some distance inland, returned in triumph to the camp.

There are rumours of several other movements of the Turks at different points along the Danube, and of the destruction of a Russian steamer at Hirshova, but these reports, though probable, do not rest on sufficient authority to state them as facts.

Admirals Dundas and Hamelon, are at Constantinople, and the fleets are anchored in the Bosphorus

The son of Aras Pacha is named Minister of War, and fresh levies are raised in Egypt. The pay of the Turkish army is disbursed regularly.

The Russian force defeated and driven back to Bucharest, was the main body of the Russians under General Dauenberg, and is 30,000 to 40,000 strong.

IMPORTANT PROCLAMATION FROM THE CZAR.

The Czar of Russia has issued the following arrogant manifesto:—

By the Grace of God, we, Nicholas the First, Emperor and autocrat of all the Russians—By our manifesto of the 14th of June of the present year, we informed our faithful and well beloved subjects of the motives which made it incumbent on us to demand from the Ottoman Porte inviolable guarantees in favour of the Sacred rights of the Orthodox church. We at the same time, announced to them that all our efforts to bring the Porte, by means of amicable persuasion, to sentiments of equity, and to a faithful observance of treaties, had remained fruitless, and that consequently we deemed it indispensible to order our troops to the Danube. But adopting that measure, we still entertained a hope that the Porte would confess its errors, and would resolve to give satisfaction to our reclamation. Our expectations have been deceived. It is in vain also that the great powers of Europe have endeavored, by their exhortations to shake the blind obstinacy of the Ottoman government. It is by a declaration of war, by a proclamation replete with fatal accusations against Russia, that it replies to the pacific efforts of Europe to our forbearance finally enrolling in the ranks of its army the revolutionists of all countries *The Porte has commenced hostilities on the Danube—Russia is provoked to the combat; no other means is left them than a recourse to arms, to compel the Ottoman government to respect treaties, and to obtain from it the reparation for the offences by which it responded to our most moderate demands, and to our legitimate solicitude for the defence of the orthodox faith in the East, which is also the religion of the Russian people.*

We are firmly convinced that our faithful subjects will join in the faithful prayer which we addressed to the Most High, that he may deign to bless our arms in the holy and just cause which has at all times found ardent defenders in our pious ancestors. *In te domine speravi non confiendar aeternum.*

Done at Barskol, the third day of November, in the year of grace, 1853, and the 28th year of our reign.

NICHOLAS.

The policy of the Russians is supposed to be to draw the Turks from their present advantageous positions, to bring them to a battle which shall decide the campaign. The intention of Omer is to keep his promises, to drive the Russians from the Principalities, and to make his headquarters at Bucharest.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 23.

The United States revenue cutter "Jefferson Davis." Pease, from New York, has put in here in distress, dismasted.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.

The following despatch was received by the *Evening Journal* this afternoon. from Buffalo: "The new schooner *Sovereign of the Seas* has gone ashore on a reef near Beaver Island She has seven feet of water in her hold. She will be a total wreck. She is owned by Teft and Ball, Racine. She was insured for $3,000 in the National Protection, Saratoga, and $ 000 in the Buffalo Mutual. The cargo consisted of pig iron, coal, and groceries, portions of which were insured in the Southern Mutual, New York."

BOSTON, Nov. 23.

The royal mail steamship *America*, Captain Lang, sailed at noon to day for Liverpool, with sixty-six passengers and $150,000, mostly in American gold.

A merchant heavily engaged in the West India trade failed yesterday. He has lately invested largely in the California and Australia trade.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 22.

The steamship *Empire City* reached her dock this afternoon. Her dates from Havana are to the 18th inst, but there is no news of importance.

The ship *Blanche* arrived here from Liverpool, with four hundred emigrants, reports ten deaths from cholera during the passage.

The weather is quite warm and summer like.

The steamships *El Dorado*, for Aspinwall, and *Daniel Webster*, for San Juan, Nicaragua, sailed this morning.

HON. MALCOLM CAMERON AND HIS SLANDERERS.

The following is the letter of the Hon. Malcolm Cameron, in reply to the Clergy Reserves slander referred to by our Quebec correspondent yesterday.

To the Editor of the "Morning Chronicle"

SIR,—Observing in your paper of the 10th inst., a copy of an article from the Hamilton *Spectator*, charging me with speculation in the public property, I have to say that my word is not to notice any calumny of a general nature, but to trust to a character so perfectly notorious as mine is to defend itself; I have, however, often asserted that if charged with any specific act, I would deny or explain it.

Now the charge in this instance is specific, and is as follows:

[This extract, which has already appeared in the "Leader," need not be repeated.]

In answer to which I now declare, that when in Upper Canada last, I proceeded no further west than Hamilton, that I never was in the Office of the present Crown Land Agent, Essex, that I never sought to buy any land nor ever sought to have my name put down for any in that or any other County since I have been a member of the Government, and I now further take this occasion to state relative to this and many other land and timber slanders; that at any period of my Membership of the Government have I ever bought one foot, portion or parcel of public land, "either directly or indirectly, nor moreover have I obtained by gift or agreement, any interest direct or indirect in any public property, nor have I ever sought for or petitioned for any; again, that I have never sought for a limit to cut timber on the lands of the Crown at any time since I have been in Parliament, now seventeen years, preferring always to deal with individuals, that I might have it in my power at any time to make this present statement, and I am thus ready at all times to answer a specific charge against any act of life private or public, "and to show my hand clear."

I am Sir,
Yours respectfully,
MACOLM CAMERON.

Quebec, 17th Nov., 1853.

We could have contradicted the *Spectator's* falsehood at the time, had we deemed it worthy of a contradiction, as we knew that Mr. Cameron had not been farther west than Hamilton, but we have got so sick of that damnable species of Journalism that attempts the destruction of public men on mere gossip, and frequently on what is still worse, malicious suspicion, that we can barely take the trouble of noticing such worthless slanders. This diabolical spirit that of late usurped the editorial chair of Canada, and which seems to glory in attributing unworthy motives, and in inventing plausable falsehoods against political opponents, has brought down the profession of Journalism to the unenviable level of Billingsgate slander, and if presisted in, must speedily place the editorial character in the same category with swindlers, sharpers, and gamblers, and will assuredly destroy whatever little political principal is remaining amongst us. We have for 30 years held the opinion that the man who takes a pleasure in attributing bad motives where good ones were admissable, must himself be a *very bad man*; and surely the first characteristic of the press of Canada, at this moment is to attribute bad motives, and indulge in gross personalities. The *Spectator* of yesterday is nearly filled with this matter, of the land jobbing in Essex, all intended to invalidate the specific declaration of Malcolm Cameron, which stands at the head of these remarks. And strange to say, in all the mass of balderdash which the *Spectator* has raked together for the purpose of destroying the Postmaster General, *there is not one fact on which a civil magistrate would consider himself justified in founding even a charge of suspicion against the accused!* It consists entirely in uncharitable conjectures and *possibilities*, with a host of still more uncharitable inferences and insinuations. In fact, it is just that kind of low slanderous gossip which Nanny would whisper to Nelly at her own fireside, concluding with the earnest request, "*Noo be sure ye dinna speak o't.*"

The simple facts of this Essex land jobbing are the following. Our information is not derived from Malcolm Cameron, nor from Alex. Cameron, nor from any individual in their interest. It appears that the whole Clergy lands of Lambton have been purchased for Thomas Street, Esq., by Robert Stewart, Barrister of Chatham. Mr Alexander Cameron, of Toronto, had applied to the local Agent, Mr. Williams, for certain Clergy Lots in Kent and Essex—chiefly in Kent. He had not the money to pay down at the time, but obtained a promise that the lands would be his at the stipulated price, providing the money was forthcoming in eight or ten days from that date. During the interim, a Captain Wood applied for the same lands, and was informed by the Agent of Mr. A. Cameron's application. Mr. Cameron, it appears, did not come forward with the money on the precise day agreed upon, and Capt. Wood obtained a certificate of purchase from the Agent, but did not pay any money down. Two or three days afterwards, Mr. A Cameron went forward and tendered the money, contending that he was the first applicant, and also the first to tender the needful, and Mr. Williams, the Agent, finding himself in a "fix," referred the case to the Crown Lands Department, where it as pre ent awaits a decision. The lands are therefore *not sold at all*, either to Alexander Cameron, nor to any other person! How then did Malcolm Cameron's name come to be mixed up with this transaction?—Simply Mr. Alexander Cameron tendering the money. The uncharitable spirit of *ill-nature* took it for granted, that Mr. Alexander Cameron had no money of his own, and being a personal friend of the Postmaster General, the diabolical fury of jealousy at once concluded that there must be a "job," and that Malcolm Cameron must assuredly have employed Alexander Cameron as a *tool!* Now, suppose the Postmaster General had furnished the capital to his namesake and friend, to enable him to embark in a good speculation, it would surely require a very refined species of morality to detect anything criminal in the transaction. Or who, but a creature of a most morbid mind, would ever dream of asking where Mr. A. Cameron got the money? Verily we are a great, liberal, enlightened people! Our political tactics form a blazing light for the guidance of surrounding nations!

Now, although we are seldom guilty of meddling with other people's pecuniary affairs, we believe we will be pardoned for departing from our uniform rule in the present extraordinary case; and therefore, for the mental elucidation and extreme mortification of our neighbour, the *Spectator*, we are warranted in saying that, *Messrs. Park & McLeod, of Amherstburg, furnished the funds to Mr. Alex. Cameron*—that these gentlemen are in reality the purchasers of the lands in question—that Mr. A. Cameron acted as their agent, and that Messrs. Park and McLeod *are very respectable Conservatives in the County of Essex.—Canadian.*

THE BUFFALO AND GODERICH RAILWAY BRIDGE.—We are happy to state that the masonry work of this bridge was completed last Saturday. There are upwards of 6000 yards of solid masonry in the piers and abutments, which have been completed, by the energetic contractors, in the short space of 18 weeks. The woodwork of the bridge is also in a very forward state, and the whole structure will be completed by January 1st ready for crossing We are sorry to state that a serious accident happened on the works last Friday. Mr. W. P. Farrell, the foreman of the works, fell off of one of the piers, a height of 62 feet; it was a mercy he was not killed on the spot. Happily, however, though much bruised and shaken, he is doing well, and strong hopes are entertained of his recovery.—*Paris Star.*

JAMES ELLIOTT has consented to act as Agent for the Signal in the County of Bruce.

HURON SIGNAL.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1853.

THE COURT HOUSE.

As the By-Law for raising money under the Consolidated Loan Fund Act, for the erection of a Court House and Offices in and for the United Counties is again to be brought forward to be sanctioned or rejected by the rate-payers of the various Municipalities, on the 12th inst.; it may not be amiss to say a few words on that subject, although we certainly think they can scarcely be required, as the people of these Counties must be well aware of the necessity that exists for such buildings.—In point of economy, which is probably the most general view that will be taken of the matter, we think the Counties will effect a direct saving, as the annual proportion of the interest and principal of the Two thousand pounds about to be borrowed extended through a period of thirty years, will only be a comparative trifle above the amount now annually required for rent of offices and rooms for the holding of Courts, putting out of the view altogether that the neglect to erect a suitable edifice for these purposes with fire-proof apartments to contain the public records, MAY YET COST THE PEOPLE OF THESE UNITED COUNTIES a sum even greater than FIFTY THOUSAND POUNDS, which is probably a very low estimate of the incalculable loss which would inevitably ensue should a conflagration take place in the building at present occupied. This building is probably the best adapted for the purpose of any at present in the Town, but, with five or six fires burning every day, and the Office keeper residing within the same, it is not provided, in any one of the departments of public record, with fire-proof chambers, where public documents of the most valuable kind could be kept.—With the utmost care a fire is at all times liable to take place, and should such at any time burst forth, nothing could prevent the loss of a large portion and perhaps the entire collection of records in the office of the Registrar Deeds for the Counties including the many *thousands* of Deeds, Mortgages, Judgments, and other documents, which have cost the Counties a vast amount to record. What security have the public that these documents and the valuable Wills, Chattel Mortages, Judgments and other records in the Offices of the Surrogate, Registrar and Clerk of the County Court, and the numerous records which could not be replaced, in the Offices of the Clerk of the Peace and Treasurer—what security, we say, have the public in these United Counties that the whole of these may not be destroyed in a single night. We reply none. The vigilant care of the Office-keeper may do something to prevent such a disaster from the inside, and although the external exposure of the present building is by no means a bad one, yet it is obvious that in the neighborhood of Blacksmiths' Shops, Taverns and a host of other inflamable buildings it is not quite impregnable against external fires. In fact we have seen a similar building, with like exposure, take fire from burning buildings on the opposite side of the Street. But, are the people of the Counties so indifferent to their *own* interests as to leave the titles of the whole landed property of the United Counties to be hazarded upon a mere chance which is ever liable to occur.

If we reflect, but for a moment, upon the impossibility of restoring the titles to any lot of land, we shall see this more fully. Even supposing that a farmer may have his deeds in his own possession, and that the memorials of the same have all been duly registered; let the public *record* be destroyed, what guarantee would a future purchaser have that other deeds or mortgages were not in existence which would entirely destroy the title? The public Registry, under the present Canadian enactment is the only place where holders and purchasers of land can ascertain the correctness of their title with certainty. And should the records here placed, be destroyed, much obscurity and uncertainty would inevitably follow.

The law-suits and difficulties which would then ensue, we think would be cheaply prevented at the price of ten Court Houses. We do not require to say much more upon this subject, although it is certainly to be regretted that the people of these United Counties have already once *rejected* this By-law. This may have resulted from the great indifference with which things of this kind are treated by many people, who are apt to arrive at the conclusion too hastily, that "it does not concern them." But it must be obvious that a public and important matter of this kind, is one in which every one is interested, and every one should record his vote for this measure, if only on the score of economy with promptitude. And we hope this will be done on the 12th inst., and that the County of Huron may no longer be designated as the County without a Court House.

We are sorry to see that attempts are being made to divide public opinion upon this important matter, ostensibly with a view to get a site for the same out of Goderich. We alluded to this last week, since which we have received another letter from a Township Councillor favorable to Clinton as the site for the Court House. We would willingly publish the letter as desired, but are aware that it would lead to a most unprofitable discussion, which without having half the rationality of the Gravel Road dispute, would raise a far greater number of conflicting interests and would be almost interminable. Nor do we think the interest of our Clinton friends would be advanced. They, perhaps are not aware that the people of Bayfield and Port Albert are already in the field before them for metropolitan honors, and when they reflect that the only peculiar advantage which they possess is that of being centrally situated (which may be equally affirmed on behalf of Brucefield,) and that the Railway, which merely passes through their village where it will have a station for taking up and depositing goods and passengers, could not terminate there; and that this same railroad and coasting steamers on the lake will speedily almost annihilate distances and throw a mere geometrical centralization into the shade, they will not, we think, be so keen for a public discussion of the mere site. That, must be in the County Town and what place is there in Canada better fitted for a County Town than Goderich? Possessing as it does the best Harbor on Lake Huron, it will and must become the great entrepot of the West. Situated centrally between the northern and southern portions of the county of Huron, on the great watery highway, it is evidently convenient on that account, and when we consider that the immense western trade which must be done by Goderich, and the vast increase of population which will be convened at that port, it will be seen, after all, that in point of population, Goderich will not be so far removed from the centre As it is, our Clinton friends will admit that it is only 12 miles from what they call the centre of the County, and that by our Railway those few miles may be traversed in a few minutes. Besides where the Court House is, of course the public offices must be kept, and it will be admitted on all hands that at the centre of Public Business is the place where these are most required. Our correspondent refers us to the map as to the situation of Clinton, in return, we think he will have no difficulty by referring to the map of the Province, in discovering that there are many County Towns far less centrally situated than Goderich. We have been led into those rather lengthy remarks on account of the desire of our Clinton Correspondent, that we should treat the subject a little more argumentatively. We hope the rate-payers will not allow petty local jealousies to prevent them from voting favorably upon the By-Law which will be submitted to them on Monday the 12th inst. at 11 o'clock, A. M. For place of meeting in each Municipality, see the By-Law on our fourth page.

"We hope those who have any hesitancy about voting in favor of the By-Law, will read the following copy of a letter from the Hon. John Beverly Robinson, to the Sheriff of these United Counties, which we received as we were going to press, and after the above remarks were in type. We have not time to make comments, but we think the letter is sufficiently telling of itself. How much longer is the wealthy and prosperous County of Huron, to be without a Court House? Municipal Electors read the following, and we think your reply on the 12th inst. will take away the reproach of improvidence and meanness, which has so long hung over the County.

TORONTO, 12th Sept, 1853

SIR:—I have received your letter of the 5th inst., and cannot but express my regret that the proper authorities of the County of Huron have so long seemed insensible to what is due from them as regards the Administration of Justice, and the character of their County. I fully concur in the opinion of my brother Judges that the Assizes should no longer be suffered to be held in the Garret of the Gaol, and it is well you should know without delay, that I shall not hold them there on the approaching occasion. You may find it necessary to take the instructions of the Government as to what you shall do, under the circumstance of the Municipal Council having declined to defray the expense of providing other temporary accomodation, until a proper Court House shall be built—which the Government must have been eroneously informed had been done before they could legally have issued the Proclamation under the Statute 1 Victoria chap. 26.

I have nothing to do with providing for the expense of accommodating the Courts of Justice. That is a duty which belongs to the authorities of the County, which in other parts of the Province, they have shown a disposition to discharge faithfully and in a becoming spirit. It is, however, my duty to see that the administration of Justice is not treated with indifference and disrespect.

If arrangements are not made for accommodating the Assizes in some suitable building, in the absence of a Court House, I shall regret any inconvenience that may accrue to the public from my taking that course which, under the circumstances may appear proper.

I am, Sir,
Your very obdt. servt,
(Signed) Jno. B. Robinson, C. J.

To Mr. Sheriff McDonald,
&c., &c., &c.

THE WAR.

The Eastern War is no longer a speculative thing; it has become a sad and deplorable reality. Several battles have al-