

AL...
TEN...
Editor...
West...
FRAN...
LIZARS...
ON...
TAILOR...
WLAN...

TO THE ELECTORS OF HURON, PEEBLES AND BRUCE.

GENTLEMEN—

You are aware that when I appeared before you at the late General Election I had not accepted Office, although I had been gazetted as President of the Executive Council. My reasons for refusing that Office I stated to you plainly and in full. I then explained to you, that although it is necessary to have a Chairman or President, the duties hitherto devolving upon the President were not such as to warrant the country in paying eight hundred pounds a year for his services. Since that time, however, the office of President of the Council has been materially altered and other important duties, till now neglected, have been attached to it—so that it is now in reality no longer a sinecure and hence my principle objection to it is entirely removed. Indeed, it may be presumed that the duties allotted to the President, are equal in number, and almost equal in importance to the duties performed by any other member of the Cabinet.

So early as the year 1841, I urged in strong terms, upon the attention of the then Government, the justice and utility of establishing a Department of Agriculture, feeling that as I do now, that if any one interest or department was entitled to the consideration and vigilance of Legislature, that one should be the Agricultural. This is Canada's great interest—the foundation of all our hopes of wealth and prosperity; and notwithstanding the comparative indifference with which it has hitherto been regarded, it is the one which must furnish the "men, women and money," that will ultimately raise us in the scale of nations.

The Government has now established a Department of Agriculture, the management of which, together with several other duties connected with emigration, and the statistics of the Province are entrusted to the Chairman of Committees or President of the Council. And His Excellency having been pleased to offer me this office in its altered and improved character, I felt it my duty and esteemed it an honor to aid in the deliberations of an Administration in which I had full confidence—which I have assisted to form, and of which I expected to have been from the first, a member.

And although I still feel that a gentleman of superior literary attainments would more properly discharge the duties of Chairman of Committees, yet as His Excellency and his Advisers have been pleased to consider me competent to the several duties now attached to the office, I have accepted it. And in doing so, I affirm in contradiction of the statements of the opposition and discredited Press, that my acceptance of it, in its present form, will be a considerable saving to the country. It has been alleged by certain portions of the Press that I am at liberty to accept and hold this office without again appealing to my constituents. But, Gentlemen, whenever the law may say on the subject, I have too much respect for public opinion and the principles of our Constitution, to evade such by availing myself of a legal quibble. I shall, therefore, so soon as a writ can issue, that is, so soon as Parliament meets, resign my seat and give you, the Electors of Huron, an opportunity of expressing at the Polls, your opinion of my conduct in thus concurring in the first attempt of any Canadian Government to recognize and elevate the agricultural interests by a distinct Governmental Department.

I have the Honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
MALCOLM CAMERON.

Census of MONTREAL—Montreal according to the recent census contains a population of 57,715, being an increase of 5,608 over the census of 1850. Its component parts are French Canadians 26,020; Canadians 12,466; English 2,832; Scotch 3,120; Irish 11,736; Americans 616; French 133; other countries 405. In religious persuasion, the Roman Catholics have a great preponderance, but as there are several denominations not represented in the last census, the statistics may not show all the worth relying on in a religious point of view. There are only 272 marked as Baptists, while there are no Independents or Congregationalists at all. There are 92,727 males and 93,658 females. Widowers 800; Widows 2,269.—Deaf and dumb 83; blind 80; Lunatics 90; attending school, males 4,256, females 3,208. Male births in 1851, 1,144; females 948. Deaths in 1851, males 202; females 230. Hon. ex. stone 1, 674; brick 985; frame 4,331; vault 151; building 78. Colored persons 60.

Huron Signal.

TEN SHILLINGS } IN ADVANCE. "THE GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER." TWELVE AND SIX PENCE AT THE END OF THE YEAR. VOLUME V. GODERICH, COUNTY OF HURON, (C. W.) THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1852. NUMBER XII.

Poetry.

THE SPRING.

BY THOMAS MACQUEEN.

The cold snow lies on the hewn an' bill,
It drifts on the lee side,
An' the April show'er is bitter an' chit,
As a dreary Christmas day.
O, whar is Spring, w' its vernal bird life,
That wad sing o'er wood an' plain?
Hae it sped, like the spring o' the Minister's
life,
That can sae sair come again?
No! The Spring will come—the icy bay,
Will glow w' its wavy green;
The snow an' the cold will pass away,
As if they had never been;
An' the wee birds, in their blithest strain,
Will chant through their airy
Bosoms the Minister's spring, an' his gane,
An' will come back an' sae.

THE WAY-FARING MAN.

BY MONTGOMERY.

A poor way-faring man of grief
Has often crossed me on my way,
Who said so humbly for relief,
That I could never answer say;
I had not power to sae his name,
Whether he went or whether he came;
Yet there was something in his eye
That won my love, I know not why.

AGRICULTURE.

ON FEEDING ANIMALS.

The following is an extract of the address of William Little, which was taken from the Fifth Report of the State Board of Agriculture.

It is now having, I hope, engaged your attention to the necessity of providing suitable food for dumb animals, let me ask you the question, how do you feed your animals?—It matters not how perfect the form, and how pure the blood of your colt or your calf may be, if they are not properly fed and sheltered during the winter months. By the neglect of this, the constitution for the life of the animal is ruined, and the result is a loss of health and strength, and a consequent loss of labor.

It will not do to say you cannot afford it. As I said before, you can do otherwise, just as certain as you do, you will lose money. How many of you have offered more money for an animal in the fall than the same animal would bring in the spring.

I will tell you my own course. My calves are provided with a large airy shed, in which they have plenty of room for exercise. This shed is well bedded down with straw, and kept clean. The best of hay is given them, as much as they will eat, and in addition, about a quart of meal or chopped feed is given to each one every day. The result is, that I can realize in the spring from \$15 to \$20 per head for my yearling calves before they are weaned.

Each of the calves with an addition about the middle of the winter, perhaps \$25 worth of hay, and in addition to the chopped feed, will cost about 1c. per day, or about \$1.50 for the winter—in all \$4.50.—In the spring they are worth \$20 each.—In the fall they are worth \$25 each.—In the winter season, it will not do to say you cannot afford it. As I said before, you can do otherwise, just as certain as you do, you will lose money.

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Literature.

THE PEDLER AND HIS DOG.

Some years ago I travelled through a portion of Michigan. It went on foot; or rode as best suited my purpose. I carried rich silks and jewelry to sell to those disposed to buy. My only companion during my journey, was a large dog of the Newfoundland breed. Lion was fit to be king of his species. He was good natured and quiet, and there was something almost human in his eyes. He attended to his own business and never quarrelled with "ours" of low degree." He would bear an insult from worthless puppies, with a philosophy worthy of admiration. And I never knew him, save on a few occasions, resent the undue liberties of puppies of large growth. When his ire, however, was thoroughly aroused, he made such offenders a terrible warning to "evil doers."

When I travelled, he trotted along by my side and when I stopped to trade, he seated himself near me and watched all my movements with a business-like expression, it annoyed him a little, sometimes, to see my customers drag the goods from my back and handle them with such freedom, which he expressed by a low growl, while he followed every piece with his eyes, to see that they were not appropriated without proper compensation, and with my full consent.

He really took a strong dislike to those who were disposed to find fault with everything, and my prices in particular. I believe he knew the value of everything I carried, and the value I attached to them. He was, as it may be, seemed satisfied when I was, and wagged his tail when I made a good trade. He was an excellent watch-dog, and there was no danger of anything coming near me without his warning. I found him very careful and companionable in his travels.

Conveniences were so scarce and uncertain, that I was often obliged to go on foot from one settlement to another. These journeys were anything but pleasant, and the country was new and the state of society anything but good, robbers were frequently perpetrated upon these lonely roads, and there were those, no doubt, to whom the rich stuffs I carried would be a sufficient temptation to commit a murder. The idea frequently occurred to me in travelling through the wild woods of the West. But old Lion was always by my side, ready to die in my defence, and proud to share in my wanderings. I always went armed. An excellent brace of pistols, steel barreled, and loaded with ball, never from my pocket, save long enough to see that they were in order, and ought to fly beneath my pillow. I felt quite safe with these and Lion, who was the companion of my nights as well as days. He always lay down between my bed and the door, with his face toward the latter. No one could enter without attracting the attention of Lion.

One day in the summer of 1840, I found myself in a small settlement on the border of a small lake, anxious to get forward to the next, which was about eighteen miles distant. No conveyance could be obtained without waiting till the next day, which I was not inclined to do, so I set out on foot. It was not far from midnight, and I walked forward briskly. I was not long in discovering that my expedition would be by no means an agreeable one.

The road of road it could be called; was very bad and through the thickest forest in that part of the country. The night, too, crept on apace, and promised to be darker than common. But Lion trotted along by my side; I was a smart walker, and was confident I was getting over the ground fast; so I didn't mind it much.

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In a short time I was glad I had made the resolution, for I saw a light glimmering from a cabin. I approached it as soon as possible. It was rather above the medium size. I thought I could be accommodated there very well. It had the appearance of being very comfortable within. I knocked for admission. The door was opened by a man.

Now I am not a person to believe in presentiments; misgivings and all that sort of thing, but I certainly saw something in the man's countenance that I did not like. The moment I set my eyes upon him. In a trifling voice he asked my business. I told him I believed I had lost my way, and was under the necessity of asking

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discover the cheat and elevate his place. A thousand such thoughts rushed through my mind in an instant. The cold sweat ran down my face in a stream. Thank Heaven! I was not kept long in suspense. A terrible explosion followed the fearful pause. A storm of slugs poured into my bed, perforating my wig, and scattering the pumpkin in every direction.

"He won't never tell no stories!" I heard the assasin say, as he dropped the breach of the gun heavily to the floor, "Now for the dog."

During those operations Lion had placed himself by my side, with his fore feet upon the bed, while to keep him still, I put my hand over his mouth. He knew what I meant, for I had kept him quiet so before. At the moment of the discharge, he gave a low growl. I pointed to the door. He understood my meaning well. His eyes flashed like balls of fire, while he waited the moment to wreak his vengeance on the assasin.

"I will open the door a little, and when the creel sticks out his head, shoot him," said the wolf.

The door was opened, but "the creel" didn't stick his head out. Lion knew better than that, and waited his chance. Emboldened by not hearing anything, the door was gradually opened. Now was the time. With a terrific howl, Lion leaped over the head of the woman, and seized the ruffian by the throat, dragged him in an instant to another, where a great struggle took place. In another moment the hag was writhing in my nervous grasp; her surprise was so great that she made but little resistance—and I quickly bound her hand and foot with a cord she had procured for another use—perhaps to drag my body away into the woods.

The next thing to attend to was the man and Lion. The struggle was still going on, but the latter had set his sharp teeth into the throat of the wretch, and rendered all his efforts abortive although he was a man of powerful frame. He was already reeling with blood, and I hastened to save what little of life was left in him. The dog was loth to quit his hold, and when he did, he left his victim to perish another; for before I could prevent it, he had set his teeth quite through the hag's arm, who shrieked like a lunatic.

The fellow looked ghastly enough when I released him. His neck was frightfully torn, but he got no pity from me. I thought as I had his companion in iniquity, why should I maintain a moody silence, while he heaped curses upon the dog. I bound her apron about his neck, which was all the surgical aid he got from me. Lion seemed very well satisfied with the arrangement, and laid down in the corner and curled up with much calm philosophy.

We remained with them till morning. I cannot say but I enjoyed our triumph, much as Lion did, as they were certain offenders, as it was proved afterwards to be of justice. As goods fortune would have it, a man passed the next morning whom I sent word to the nearest settlement of what had occurred.

Before ten o'clock the offenders were in the hands of the law. There were carried to the nearest jail, where awaited the trial, which took place about two months afterwards. They were sentenced to two years imprisonment, which all things considered, was not too much. They were ever live to get out, but they will still be remembered as the punishment; he still as strong and healthy a dog as you can find anywhere. No money would tempt me to part with him. He is now looking kindly in my face as I write this. He had linked to him the property of having his likeness published in this sketch; but he shakes his head gravely, as much as to say—"I don't care about it, master; every worthless puppy has his likeness published now-a-days."

Grateful for past services, I suffer him to have his own way in this, as a great many other matters. Let no one despise the dog, as he is the only animal who, forsaking his own species, cultivates the friendship of man.

MUTINEERS AND PIRATES OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN.