

NURSERY RHYMES.

No 1.—THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE.

(AIR—"There was a little man," &c.)

In the Council there's a clique,
Who the people's favor seek,
Every Monday in each week,
With the cry—cry—cry.

Retrench! Retrench! Retrench!
From the "Peeler" to the "bench"
But—like Martin's jolly wench,
Its all—my eye—eye—eye,

They have set their heads to work,
(Where—but few ideas lurk),
The employees pay to burk,
Very—queer—queer—queer;
And by "jolly Georges" aid
A "report" is quickly made,—
We much wonder was he paid,
In cash—or beer—beer—beer?

Hear the chairman "Bobby B—,"
How the little chap will yell,
Tho' we know 'tis all a sell,
And a snare—snare—snare,
With his specious slippery tongue,
He bullies right, or wrong!
While his changes are all rung,
On the mayor—mayor—mayor,

And the chatty Dickey-bird
Will be sure to have a word,
No matter how absurd,
To say—say—say
But like Uriah Heep,
He wears the mark of "sheep,"
He's so tricky and so sleek,
In his way—way—way

And our friend Josey Sh—rd,
With his big bushy beard,
And countenance so weird,
Tries the "Gods above" impress,
That has neither more or less,
Thou a saviour in distress,
Not a few—few—few.

With others much the same,
But too numerous to name,
Devoid of reason—shame—
On sense—sense—sense,
Waste the public time away,
With buncombe-gas and fray,
Leaving you and I to pay,
The expense—pense—pense!

THE GRUMBLER ON NATURAL HISTORY.

Subject No 1. The Barber—(homo emolliensissimus.) Physical Structure and peculiarities. The most singular peculiarities of the barber is, that although, in his avocations, he is always what is termed a "strapper" yet his stature is usually short. His tongue however, makes up for this deficiency, being remarkably long—a beautiful provision of nature; for while he is seldom called upon to use his legs with rapidity, his lingual organ is always obliged to be on the "run."

His eyes are keen and his wits sharp; his mouth is tinged with humour and his hair "cropt close"—manner—prepossessing, fingers—dirty, toes—turned out. He seldom indulges in whiskers for his business is to shave.

HABITS, REPRODUCTION AND FOOD. A singular uniformity of habits is observable amongst barbers. They all live in shops, curiously adorned with play-bills, wood engravings, and pomatum pots, and use the same formulary of conversation to every new customer. All are politicians on both sides of every subject; and if there happen to be three sides to a question, they take a triangular view of it.

Reproduction. Some men are born barbers, others have barbarism thrust upon them. The first class are found in but small numbers, for shavers seldom pair. The second take the razor from disappointment in trade or in love. This is evident from the habits of the animal when alone, at which period, if observed, a mysterious, melodramatic gloom will be seen to overspread his countenance. He is essentially a social being; company is as necessary to his existence as beards.

Food.—Upon this subject the most minute researches of the most prying naturalists have not been able to procure a *crumb* of information. That the barber does eat can only be inferred; it cannot be proved, for no person was ever known to catch him in the act, if he does masticate, he munches in silence and in secret (he has occasionally been seen to chew

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF BARBERS.—Although the majority of barbers live near the *pole* they are pretty diffusely disseminated over the entire face of the globe. The advance of civilization has however, much lessened their numbers, for we find that in the vicinity of the City Hall, Court street, and the "Lawyers Hall, the shavers "occupations gone," but throughout the whole of Yonge and King, the distance is very short from *POLE TO POLE*."

THE SYNOD—OR THE ECCLESIASTICAL HORSE FAIR.

Last week we attended a meeting of this body, and confess we were rather astonished. The fair took place in St. George's School-house, and the principal, and most prominent feature of the "performance" was the row kicked up by those whose appearance would lead one to believe they ought to have known better. We suggest to them that in order to insure more order for the future, they introduce "Professor Rarey's system" which would be found most efficacious with the country, clerical, geldings who turn out so strong on these occasions. The more violent might be provided with a "gag" and snaffle. And those troubled with the *blowing* disease (which by the way is very common in Canada) might safely be entrusted to the supervision of *Smith the "Vet."* The great peculiarity of this disease, and wherein it differs from the *heaves* is that it occasions no loss of physical energy to the person afflicted but rather the reverse, the poor wretch who on such occasions is compelled to listen is the real sufferer. We noticed particularly an old grey gelding, province-bred (clerical) who appeared to be troubled with the *hip disease* or some other ailment unknown to us which caused him to spring up and down like a

puppet on wires, and interrupt the proceedings with his perpetual clatter. We think the only treatment which will be of any use in his case would be the curb, snaffle, gag, and all the other concomitants of the Professor's system; and if all these fail we advise his proprietors to make arrangements for his transfer to the American market.

TORONTO MARKETS.

PETROLEUM has been very consistent lately, owing probably to the low prices offered.

WHISKEY remains volatile as ever, has an upward tendency to the head when taken in large quantities; is in great demand in the Corporation at present; especially when mixed with Ginger beer, or Orange bitters, as much as 5 cents a horn has been paid for prime quality.

BEEF and mutton are, generally speaking, sold—very high; perhaps this is on account of the warm weather.

BREAD has risen which some attribute to the high price of flour, though others (the most knowing ones) regard it as the effect of the good yeast that has been used. In some establishments it has been so light as to require the notice of the inspector.

HAY is lower, that is to say it is not so high now as it will be when it has the advantage of six weeks more growth.

Canadian flour is dull—the reason for this is that one doesn't require much of the staff of life this hot weather.

BARLEY quiet—we can hardly see how it could be otherwise, no reason for its so-being is assigned, we may state Barley is not explosive.

PORK quiet and firm—this probably is to be attributed to the good curing and packing. We have seen pork that could move of its own accord.

STARCH has risen owing probably to the great inroad of persons who attended the Synod last week, white choakers being in very great demand.

EMASCULATED HATS.

We notice several of our "city swells" who seem as though they had been ransacking their sister's wardrobes, or else been making "raids" on defenceless milliner ere, have of late adopted a new style of Head-gear. Bonnet-ling, —material generally used for Widows' caps,—stuff, the legitimate use of which is in decorating dolls—worn out wedding-veils, and other paraphernalia peculiar to the softer sex, these gentlemen have unblushingly appropriated to the "plastering" of their hats! Such an innovation is truly alarming: If the ladies don't "see to it" we will expect to see these hobble d'hoys coming out shortly in pantalets, hoop skirts and petticoats in charge of their nurses.

In answer to "Enquirer" we beg to state that the usual notice to bill-stickers, calling upon them to "beware," need not to be stamped, although it relates to freehold property.