

furnish the necessary means. Had such a proposition been made in time, we cannot doubt but *their* proper share of the funds would have been cheerfully contributed, as, of the \$12,000 awarded in prizes at each Annual Exhibition, a very large proportion is distributed amongst the farmers, and their wives and daughters, in the counties immediately surrounding the place of exhibition. We trust that the Counties of York and Peel will yet feel it to be their duty, as well as a privilege, to contribute to this fund; and may we have every accommodation necessary, and in every other respect a successful exhibition.

THE HABIT OF PROFANE SWEARING.

Profane swearing is an evil habit, degrading to the person who indulges in it, and injuring the public moral tone. Men who practice it cannot but feel humiliated, whenever circumstances may lead them to reflect upon their conduct. If individuals will use profane language, it should be at such times and places, that none but their Maker will hear—and thus avoid publicly perpetrating so great a moral crime against society.

We often tremble for the man who, in presence of others, and it may be within hearing of youth, or, worse still, in communication with his family, uses language that shocks the moral sense, and lead others, *perhaps* imperceptibly, to become as oblivious as himself to the proprieties of respectable society, and the duties he owes to his fellows.

The practice is often indulged in because it is considered *manly* to do so. No greater mistake can be made. The writer is now considerably past middle age, and does not remember ever but once having used a profane oath, and that was in boyhood, and in imitation of others; and that *once* is still painfully impressed on the memory; and he cannot now hear any man use profane language without loosing all respect for that person—and this is no doubt the feeling prevailing in the minds of almost all respectable members of Society. Swearing and lying are *both* mean practices, which intelligent minds should avoid.

A profane oath by the party using it is often considered as giving force to arguments used—it does not do so. A man's word should always be doubted, so soon as he endeavours to establish it by a profane oath; for if he will thus dare his Maker, he will not hesitate to lie to his fellow-man.

Our Volunteers! Our noble Volunteers! brave men for their country! how unseemly has it appeared to hear them indulging in oaths and cursing when going forth to meet their enemies—for aught they knew their great enemy, death. How sad that

intelligent minds should be so obscured by this disreputable practice.

Our object in writing, however, is, more especially, to draw attention to this evil practice as it exists in our workshops, amongst our artizans—the bone and sinew of our town populations. Having spent at least twenty-five years at the *bench*, we feel and write as one of them; and, if asked as a father what we most fear for our sons, who intend learning some mechanical business, we answer—the contamination of *profanity in the workshop*. Why should this be so? We have filled the various positions from the apprentice to the employer, and we unhesitatingly answer, it is an evil that need not exist if employers would but understand and attend to their duty,

If any person takes into his service youths, especially bound apprentices, who are to spend in such service their brightest days just preceding manhood, it is that person's duty, as far as in his power, to prevent them from being corrupted by evil communications during the hours of labour. We know whereof we speak. Where employees are under judicious discipline—a discipline that tends to make them respectable and respect themselves—they will respect their employers and render them cheerful and profitable service. The employee should know that the rules of *his* workshop do not allow of the use of profane swearing or filthy conversation; and that if he indulges in it, it is at the risk of loss of his position. These rules we have known to be strictly enforced, and with the most satisfactory results; but to be in a position to enforce such rules, the employer must keep his own skirts clean. We would retain no man in our employ for a day that would not submit to so wholesome a discipline, although his dismissal should cause us any amount of pecuniary loss or inconvenience.

Employers, as well as parents, have immense responsibilities resting upon them with regard to our youth, who are to be the men and women—the rulers—of the next generation. Let all see to it that they do not, for ease or lucre, shirk these responsibilities. Upon the good moral character of these youths does the future progress and well-being of our country depend.

THE STREETSVILLE FLAX WORKS.

We had intended paying a visit to these works, with the view of furnishing our readers a description thereof; the following article, copied from our excellent cotemporary, the *Canada Farmer*, obviates the necessity of doing so. The description in the *Farmer*, as will be observed, is illus-