

but let us consider it, rather, as His peculiar province to excite the heart anew at times of prayer, that so it may break forth in ardent desires to the Lord God of our salvation.

ESTHER MERLE; OR THE NURSERY MAID.

The day was closing in, and the sun sinking behind the hills,—the slanting rays fell upon an elderly woman in a widow's dress, who came out of a cottage standing alone on the outskirts of the village of Ellerton. She shaded her eyes with her hands, and looked up the road—then turned round, and slowly sauntered about the small plot of ground which served as a garden, and which was divided from the common, by a neat but rough fence.

There were pinks and roses, and London-pride, all out in full bloom, and a tall gay row of holy-hocks near the fence; then came neat rows of thyme and parsley, and a good bed of onions and cabbages, and a luxuriant honeysuckle almost hid the windows. There is nothing pleasanter to see than a neat cottage garden; it certainly does give one an impression that good kind of people live there. It speaks of industry and content; and if there be flowers as well as vegetables, it seems to say, that though perhaps poor and obliged to work hard, they who tend the flowers must have many moments of innocent pleasure; their sweet scent may soothe the mind after hours of anxiety and toil, their beauty and delicacy lead the care-worn heart away from things present, and tell of that Almighty who created them—of Him, who careth for the flowers which perish, and careth more for His people.

And such thoughts were in Mrs. Merle's mind, as she smelt a moss rosebud, and gathered some mignonette. She sighed—but the soft fresh air revived her after a hard day's work over the wash-tub; and after pacing about, pulling up here a weed and there tying a flower—her face looked happier, and she again went towards the low gate, and looked up the road. Voices were now heard, and two girls of about twelve and thirteen, carrying a bundle, approached. They were her daughters, who had been for some clothes. She was a farmer's widow, left with four children; these two were the youngest, the next was a son, who since his father's death had left her and gone to sea, and the eldest was a daughter, a young woman of twenty. It was for this daughter that she was looking out. Esther Merle saw that her mother's washing would but scarcely maintain herself and the two younger girls; and they being now old enough to assist their mother, Esther determined to go out to service. Very fond of home and of her mother, this was a great trial to Esther. The Merles had seen better days; they had rented a tolerably large farm in the parish, and were a good deal respected and looked up to. For many years they prospered—then sickness came. The eldest son the pride and hope of his parents, died of consumption; the next girl followed. Then the father caught a bad fever, which went through the family, and their savings were spent in doctor's bills, and the farm work was neglected. Old Merle never recovered his strength or spirits; he gradually pined away, and, notwithstanding the active efforts of his wife and daughter Esther, they found themselves, shortly after his death, obliged to give up the farm. The second son instead of helping them was a deep cause of anxiety, having fallen into bad company. He was now, as I before said, at sea, and the widow and her three girls gratefully accepted their kind landlord's offer, of taking a small cottage and trying to maintain themselves by sewing and washing. Ellerton was, however, a poor parish, and though every one was willing to help them, it became very evident that Esther must leave and do something for herself.

On this day she had walked with a friend into the town, six miles off to see a lady whom she had heard was in want of a nursery maid.

The two girls now came in; a few paces behind them was a very old man, his clothes in rags, and bent down with age, apparently hardly able to crawl along, even with the aid of his stout stick.

"Mother, that's old Ben!" said one of her children. "Don't you mind old Ben? He asked me for a few pence, but I told him I had none, but maybe you might find something or other."

"Poor old fellow!" said the mother. "Time was when he should have had his seat in the chimney corner, and as much cheese and bread and small beer as he could use—but now—"

and she sighed; then after a pause she said to herself in a low broken voice, "However, a cup of cold water given in His name—"

Then turning into the house, she came out with a slice of bread and a cup of milk and water, and giving to the old man said: "How are ye, Ben? I fear no better than you used to be. Come in and rest a bit on this bench, and if you can eat this crust you are kindly welcome—I wish I had better but I haven't."

"Many thanks to you, missis," said the old man, seating himself and eating the bread immediately. "I have not broken my fast this day; but never mind—brighter times are coming; my ships will soon be home, and you, missis, shall have a good share—you were always good to me when I was turned off by others."

"At the old story, I see," said Mrs. Merle. "Poor old Ben! your ships have indeed been long

a-coming; but, however, you are right to look forward, and even your poor crazed mind may teach us to hope and trust our God. Hungry, cold, and almost naked, you've never been cast down, but seemed to see bright things behind the clouds.—Alack! alack! Why don't we who are in our right minds see as you do, and bear up in cheerful patience, hoping that rest and joy will come at last, though it tarry!"

"Crazy Ben," as he was called, sat about a quarter of an hour, and then wished them good evening, his dim and sunken eye lighting up as he raised his stick in the air, and again promised a share of his fancied wealth to her who had always been a kind friend to him.

Mrs. Merle slipped four-pence into his shrivelled hand. She had but one shilling in the house, and knew she could get no more till her week's washing was paid for; and it was but Tuesday.

As Ben walked out, another person came in: it was Esther. She threw herself down on the seat which Ben had just quitted, and untying her bonnet, said she was very tired and heated, but added, "Dear! how pleasant 'tis to look out on the green common, and smell the flowers, after the dusty roads and bustling streets."

"But, Esther," said her youngest sister, "what did you see, and did you buy the tea for mother?" "And did you get the place?" interrupted the other.

"O my dears, wait a bit, and let your sister rest, and then we'll hear all about it," said the mother, as she turned in to prepare their evening meal.

(To be continued.)

Advertisements.

DR. HALLOWELL,
HOUSE AND SURGERY
No. 38, QUEEN STREET EAST, TWO DOORS FROM CHURCH STREET.
Toronto, 17th March, 1849. 34-1f

Mr. ROBERT COOPER,
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR,
Wellington-street, opposite the Commercial Bank, Toronto.
Toronto, Jan. 24th, 1849. 26-ly

DONALD BETHUNE, JR.
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Solicitor in Chancery and Bankruptcy,
CONVEYANCER, &c.
DIVISION STREET, COBOURG,
CANADA WEST.
Cobourg, Oct. 21, 1845.

J. F. CLARKE, Mus. Bac. E. C.
PROFESSOR OF THE PIANO-FORTE,
SINGING AND GUITAR,
Residence, Church Street.
Toronto, January 13th, 1837. 5-1f

T. BILTON,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
No. 2, Wellington Buildings, King Street,
TORONTO.

OWEN AND MILLS,
COACH BUILDERS
FROM LONDON,
KING STREET, TORONTO. 1

COLUMBUS INSURANCE COMPANY,
EDWARD G. O'BRIEN,
AGENT.
Office removed to Church Street, four doors above the Court House,
Toronto, August 11th, 1849. 3

FRANCIS H. HEWARD,
COMMISSION MERCHANT.
CASH ADVANCES MADE ON PRODUCE.
OFFICE NEW MARKET BUILDINGS
TORONTO.
July 25th, 1849. 52-1f.

GEORGE ARMITAGE,
MODELLER, Marble, Stone and Wood Carver,
Corner of Elm and Yonge Streets, Toronto.
Every description of Plain and Ornamental Marble and Stone Work, consisting of Monuments, Tombs, Tablets, Grave-stones, Fontes, Crests, Coats of Arms, Garden Ornaments, Chimney Pieces, &c., &c., executed on the shortest notice, and on reasonable terms.
N. B. Monuments cleaned and Repaired, and Casts taken from Living and Dead Subjects.
Toronto, March 27th, 1850. 35-ly

W. TOWNSEND,
PROFESSOR OF MUSIC, respectfully intimates to the Ladies and Gentry of Toronto, and its Vicinity, that he will be happy to receive orders for Tuning and repairing PIANO FORTES, on the shortest notice.
Residence—N. W. corner of Bay and Richmond-streets.
N. B. A fine-tuned Six Octave Piano Forte for Sale.
September 8, 1849. 10-1f

Organs! Organs! Organs!
THE SUBSCRIBERS beg leave to inform their Friends and the Public, that they will continue to Manufacture Order any Size of
CHURCH OR CHAMBER ORGANS,
on most favourable terms. Metal Pipes and Reed Stops of every Description made to Order.
HAGER & VOGT.
N. B. All work done by H. & V., will be warranted.
Hamilton, April 2nd, 1850. 26-6m

CHURCH OR CHAMBER ORGAN.
FOR SALE, Four Rows of Pipes.—
Cheap for Cash, or approved Credit.
For particulars, apply to W. Townsend, corner of Bay and Richmond-streets.
September 5, 1849. 6-1f

JUST RECEIVED.
A HISTORY of the Church, from the Earliest Ages to the Reformation. By the Rev. George Waddington, M. A., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Prebendary of Ferring in the Cathedral Church of Chichester. Price, 10s.

THE History of the Church of England to the Revolution, 1688. By Thomas Vowler Shortt, D. D., Lord Bishop of St. Asaphs. Price, 7s. 6d.

OLD Truths and New Errors. By the Rev. C. M. Butler, D. D., Rector of Trinity Church, Washington, D. C. Price, 2. 6d.

EARNESTNESS: or Incidents in the Life of an English Bishop. By Charles B. Taylor, M. A., author of "Lady Mary," "Mark Wilton," &c. &c. Price, 2s. 6d.
For Sale at the Depository of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto.
Toronto, July 24th, 1850. 1-1f

JOHN S. BLOGG,
BOOT AND SHOEMAKER,
(Next door to Messrs. Beckett, & Co., Medical Laboratory.)
KING STREET WEST, TORONTO.

HAS constantly on hand a beautiful Assortment of Ladies French Kid Morocco, and Patent Leather Shoes, together with a quantity of Satin Slippers of the very best quality.
Elastic Sandals, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Elastic Boots made to order in a style unsurpassed by any Establishment in the City.
Toronto, August 24th, 1848. 4-1f

W. MORRISON,
Watch Maker and Manufacturing Jeweler,
SILVER SMITH, &c.
No. 9, KING STREET WEST, TORONTO.

A NEAT and good assortment of Jewellery, Watches, Clocks, &c. Spectacles, Jewellery and Watches of all kinds made and repaired to order.
Utmost value given for old Gold and Silver.
Toronto, Jan. 28, 1847. 61

JOHNES MONDE,
Iron and Tin-Plate Worker,
Church Street, (One Door South of King-street)

J. E. having removed to the above premises, takes this opportunity of informing his friends and the public that he is now conducting the above business in all its various Branches: and as his prices will be found low, his work well executed, and of the very best materials, he begs to solicit a continuance of public patronage, and to return his sincere thanks for former favours extended to him.

COOKING, BOX, AND DUMB STOVES
ALWAYS ON HAND,
Jobbing work of every description promptly executed on the most reasonable terms.
N. B.—Old Brass, Copper, Pewter, Lead, &c., taken in exchange.
Toronto, August 22d, 1849. 4-1f

REMOVAL.
DR. HODDER has removed to the Brick House immediately to the West of his late residence, at the foot of the College Avenue, on Queen Street.
Toronto, May 1st, 1850. 40-3m

MEDICAL PROFESSION.
A HOUSE TO LET.
A COMMODIOUS DWELLING HOUSE, with Pump, Stable and other out Offices, Garden and small Orchard of choice Fruit Trees; and immediate possession given.
The locality being in the centre of a populous neighbourhood, renders it a desirable residence, and where is a fair opening for a Medical Practitioner of reasonable expectations. Apply at this Office.
Toronto, February 20th, 1850. 30-

To the Clergy.
A WIDOW LADY in reduced circumstances, will be glad to furnish Clergymen with SUPPLIES, made after a pattern secured from the celebrated Robt. Mather, Esq., 109 Fleet Street, London;
All necessary particulars may be known by enquiring at the Church Society's House, 5, King Street West.
Toronto, July, 1849.

FOR SALE.
THE PROPERTY on Agnes Street, at present occupied by Mr. James Gibson, consisting of Four Houses and Lot the houses quite new, in good condition, and realizing about £50 per annum.
The above property will be found an advantageous investment and will be sold very low for Cash.
Apply on the Premises.
Toronto, May 7, 1850. 41-4f

For Sale in Whitechurch.
A FARM containing 100 Acres, about 70 clear (West half 25—in the 5th, Concession), on which there is a House containing six good Rooms, besides Kitchen, Cellar and other conveniences, with suitable Offices attached.
There is a second House, Barn, &c., on the upper part of the Farm a never failing stream of water runs through the Lot.
Price, £125. Apply, if by letter, post-paid, to William Ros, Esq., Newmarket, or THOMAS CHAMBERLAIN, Esq., Toronto.
June 20th 1850. 47-6m

MRS. AND THE MISSES DUNN'S
Establishment for Young Ladies,
COBOURG.
References kindly permitted to the Honourable and Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Toronto; the Venerable the Arch-deacon of York, Cobourg; G. M. Boswell, Esq., Cobourg.
Terms, for Boarders receiving an English Education £30 per annum.
French, Music, Drawing &c. on the usual terms.
Nov. 20th, 1848.

Governess.
A YOUNG LADY wishes to form an engagement as Governess. She is qualified to instruct in Music, and the English branches of Education.
Address (post-paid) A. Z., at this Office.
Toronto, May 14th, 1850. 48-1f

Governess.
A LADY is desirous of obtaining a situation as Governess for young Children or to superintending a household to References to the Rev. J. Gossens, and the Rev. W. Lumsden, letters be addressed Y. Z., post-paid to the Hamilton Post Office.
December 26th 1849. 22-

QUEBEC FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
CAPITAL — £250,000.
CONTINUES to accept Risks against FIRE in and about Toronto. Losses promptly settled.
F. H. HEWARD,
Toronto 7th May, 1850. 41-1f



PROVINCIAL MUTUAL
AND
GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY,
OFFICE, CHURCH STREET TORONTO.
INSURES in its Mutual Branch, Farm Property and detached Buildings,—all extra hazardous risks being excluded.
The Proprietary Branch includes Fire Insurance generally, as well as Inland and Ocean Marine Insurance, and Life Insurance.
DIRECTORS:
A. M. CLARK, President.
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Wm. Goodenham, Charles Bercay,
James Brown, J. G. Werts,
Solicitor—JOHN DUGGAN.
Bankers—Commercial Bank.
E. G. O'BRIEN, Secretary.
Toronto, April 10th, 1850. 37-ly



HOME DISTRICT MUTUAL FIRE COMPANY,
OFFICE—KING STREET, TORONTO.
INSURES Dwellings, Houses, Warehouses, Buildings in general, Merchandise, Household Furniture, Mills, Manufactories, &c.
DIRECTORS.
W. A. Baldwin, J. B. Warren,
John Eastwood, E. W. Smith,
John Doel, A. McMaster,
James Leslie, James Shaw,
Wm. Mathers, Alex'r McGlashan.
J. RAIS, Secretary. John McMURRICK, President.
All losses promptly adjusted. Letters by mail must be post-paid.
July 5, 1843. 21



THE STEAMER CITY OF TORONTO
WILL leave Toronto (with Her Majesty's Mail), for Kingston, every Tuesday and Friday, at noon, calling at Port Hope and Cobourg.
Will leave Kingston for Cobourg, Port Hope, Toronto and Hamilton, direct, every Wednesday and Saturday at Three o'clock, P.M., arriving at Hamilton at Twelve o'clock noon, Sundays and Thursdays, leaving Hamilton same days for Toronto, at Three o'clock, P.M.
Passengers arrive in Montreal the evening of the day on which they leave Kingston.
Toronto, April 10th, 1850.

THE STEAMER PRINCESS ROYAL,
CAPT. HENRY TWOMY,
WILL leave Toronto for Kingston, calling at Port Hope and Cobourg, (weather permitting), every Wednesday and Saturday at Noon. Will leave Kingston for Toronto and intermediate ports every Monday and Thursday afternoon at three o'clock.
Will leave Toronto for Hamilton every Tuesday and Friday Morning at eight o'clock. Will leave Hamilton for Toronto every Tuesday and Friday afternoon at three o'clock.
The Steamer PRINCESS ROYAL, having been furnished with new Boilers, is now one of the fastest Boats upon Lake Ontario; and having had her Upper Cabin extended nearly the whole length of her Deck, the accommodations for Passengers have been greatly increased. She has State Rooms for upwards of Fifty Cabin Passengers, and several of them are fitted up with double French Berthsteads. She has long been well known as one of the best sea-boats upon the Lake, and is now one of the fastest and most commodious.
Royal Mail Steam Packet Office,
Toronto, May 24th, 1850. 43-1f

THE STEAMER GOVERNIGN,
CAPTAIN WILKINSON,
WILL leave Toronto for Niagara, Queenston and Lewiston every Afternoon, (Sundays excepted) at One o'clock.
Will leave Lewiston and Queenston for Toronto about half-past Eight o'clock in the Morning; and will arrive in time to meet the Mail Steamers for Kingston at Twelve Noon.
Cabin Passage (Meals extra one Dollar).
Deck Passage, three quarters of a Dollar.
Royal Mail Steam Packet Office,
Toronto, May 24th, 1850. 43-1f

THE STEAMER AMERICA,
CAPT. ROBERT KERR,
WILL, for the remainder of the Season leave Toronto for Rochester, every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Mornings, at Ten o'clock precisely, and will touch at Port Hope and Cobourg, and intermediate Ports, (weather permitting).
Returning, will leave Rochester for Toronto, calling at Cobourg and intermediate ports every Monday, Wednesday and Friday Mornings at half-past Eight o'clock.
Steamboat Office, 22 Front Street,
Toronto, April 10th, 1850. 37-1f

THE STEAMER ECLIPSE,
CAPT. MALIBSON,
WILL leave Hamilton for Toronto every Morning, (Sundays excepted), at half-past seven o'clock, touching at the intermediate Ports, and will leave Toronto for Hamilton at Two o'clock in the Afternoon.
Steamboat Office, 22 Front Street,
Toronto, April 10th, 1850. 37-1f