

the same time, it literally adds to our lives. England owes her present manufacturing pre-eminence to the development of her coal, and taken in connection with iron (which would be of little use to her without it), it may be considered as the great source of her wealth and prosperity. Should not the knowledge of this fact impress upon us the importance of developing the mineral wealth of our Province? and does it not demand our earnest consideration as to whether or not the proper means are taken to do so? We have understood that they are not. We have heard that all sorts of obstacles are thrown in the way of the miner and capitalist under pretence of revenue and crown rights. Why, we would ask, is this? In all other branches of industry the day of monopoly and restriction has passed away, never to return. We would advise that the maxim "*Cujus est solum, ejus est usque ad cælum, et ad inferos,*" be liberally acted upon, and the owner of the soil made the possessor of all it contains down to the lowest depth. We would go further, and advise that all mining plant be admitted free of duty; and we are perfectly satisfied that the Government would find that the revenue would not lose by such concessions, while they would give a wonderful impetus to the development of our mineral wealth. In a future article we propose to go more fully into this matter.

P. T. O.

PAPERS BY A RECLUSE.

No. 5.

I dislike bustle. Though by no means destitute of a moderate degree of cupidity and curiosity, yet, in consequence of the unfortunate peculiarity to which I have referred, I find myself debarred from many sources of profit and pleasure which the less sensitive enjoy. In the event of any little street scene—a boxing match, a dog fight, a police seizure, a sub-Jove* oration, or a case of locomotion under alcoholic difficulties—I am generally to be seen hovering on the outskirts of the curious crowd, vainly endeavoring to obtain a glimpse of the spectacle within; and as the throng increases, as it necessarily must, by a process of exogenous accretion—urged by some mysterious centrifugal force, I still find myself a sad and dissatisfied constituent of the outer ring.

Excited by the tempting display of sundry magnificent articles, damaged a good deal, it is true, yet which had been purchased at public sale for a sum not much exceeding first cost, I have occasionally frequented auction-rooms in the hope that I, too, might secure some astonishing bargain; but as I seldom succeed in penetrating beyond the immediate vicinity of the door, and as I natu-

* ——— Manet sub Jove frigido,
Venator, ————