

DISTICH.

Montreal, 27th January, 1854.

DEAR EDITOR,—The subjoined distich was penned in “the golden days of happy memory, the reign of good Queen Bess;” indeed they are, I believe, very generally accredited to Queen Elizabeth herself, who, it appears, perpetrated the satire or pun upon one of the Mordaunt family; perhaps it may, with propriety, fill a corner of the “Leaf.”

“The word of denial, and letter of fifty,
Makes a gentleman’s name that never was thrifty.”

Will any of the juveniles be kind enough to tell me what the gentleman’s name was?

OSCAR.

ANSWER TO RIDDLE.

Montreal, 12th January, 1854.

DEAR EDITOR,—In answer to “A.T.C.” I beg to state, that I should find no difficulty in dividing the eight gallons of whisky into equal parts as required. For his information, I will proceed to explain:—First, fill the three gal. cask, empty that into the five, fill the three gal. cask once more; from that fill up the five (5); which when done will leave remaining in the three gal. cask, one gallon; then empty the contents of the five gallon cask into the eight gallon cask; next pour the gallon still remaining in the three gallon cask into the five; then fill the three from the larger cask, and from the three fill into the five, and you have four gallons.

JEANIE.

EDITORIAL.

The articles and selections for this number are quite varied in character, and will, we trust, be found interesting. The fact that there are those who take an interest in our labors, and send contributions for our pages, is cheering; and though all of these articles are not inserted, the mental effort is beneficial to the writers, who should not be discouraged, but write again—a second or third trial may be more satisfactory.

We miss our friend Mrs. Traill’s pleasing articles for the young, and gladly receive her assurance that she will try to find some moments from her literary engagements to devote to the readers of the *Maple Leaf*.

The Riddle which appeared in the last number, seemed to excite much attention. We have received a number of answers, and select one of the shortest for insertion.

The weather has been very severe lately, the mercury fell as low as 26° below Zero. This intense cold does not continue many days at a time, or it would be very trying.

We should like to induce some of our correspondents to give a lucid explanation of the thermometer, and the principle upon which mercury is employed to show the various degrees of heat and cold.