

THE REPORTER.

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THE REPORTER

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Editorial notices in local column five cents per line for first insertion and three cents per line for each subsequent insertion. A limited number of advertisements inserted at special rates. Advertisements unaccompanied by written instructions will be inserted until forbidden and charged accordingly. The Reporter office is supplied with a good equipment of poster as well as a fine job type.

BETHUEL LOVERIN,
Publisher and Proprietor

Ode to Spring.

BY ENG. A FARMERSVILLE BOY.

Daughter of Heaven, delightful Spring,
Oh, how shall I thy praises sing!
Season of faith and hope and trust,
Admire thee much, we surely must.
March, April, May, thy daughters three,
As different as well can be.
First, windy March, a blustering maid,
Who seldom shows us one green blade.
Old Winter holds her by the throat,
And wraps her in his snowy coat,
Till April comes to her relief
And drives away the stormy chief.
Then April with sunshine and showers
Brings forth at last some tiny flowers.
And the ships bound fast with ice and snow,
She has thawed them loose and let them go.
The little brooks, too, she has set them free,
They are bounding along to find the sea.
Vegetation is bursting out of the ground
And signs of life are everywhere found.
The woods and fields made vocal by song
Of birds and insects, a motley throng.
The farmer has begun his toil
Of turning o'er the humid soil.
The birds are looking for the worm
Which oft does vegetation harm.
The frogs and toads their concert hold
By day and night if not too cold.
Misquitos, too, in country place,
Are sure to find your hands and face.
And if your clothing should be thin,
They will probe through and pierce your skin.
Air, earth and water now doth swarm
With life of every size and form.
And this is April every time,
In this our snowy northern clime.
Next comes the gayest of the year—
A blooming maid—her name is May.
She decks herself in living green
As everywhere may now be seen.
She brings the grass and herbs to feed,
The flocks and herds as they have need.
Domestic fowls now make a noise,
And so do children, girls and boys.
She brings the blossom for the tree,
She brings the honey for the bee.
How well the little insect knows
The budding of every flower that grows,
And in the flowering shrubs and trees
That wait perfume on every breeze,
And when the farmer sows his grain
She brings it forth with sun and rain.
The gardener, too, she teaches him
When he his trees and shrubs should trim,
And when his various seeds to sow
If he would have them thrive and grow.
The merchant and mechanic too,
She teaches him what he should do,
What kind of goods he ought to show,
As changing seasons come and go.
And all the careworn sons of toil
That work in shops or till the soil,
To make the path of life less drear
She gives them hope their hearts to cheer.
She gives to youth a time to rove
Through flowery fields or shady grove.
Even manhood and old age will find
Such walks are cheering to the mind.
But in the city and large town
No rural scenes like these abound.
Oh! then the sidewalk and the lanes
Are thronged with groups or single swains.
Oh, if there is a city park
They lie away blithe as the lark,
There to enjoy the cooling breeze
That gently moves among the trees,
She to the minds of all doth bring
The truth that we too have our spring,
Or time of youth, which is the same,
If spent in vice, 'twill end in shame,
But if in virtue's paths we've trod,
We're on the road that leads to God.
Sometimes I almost wish she'd stay,
Such a lovely maiden—May.
Now, Spring, I've praised your daughters three
Which is the same as praising thee,
For children's praise in mother's ears
Is the most welcome words she hears.
But, if I live and tarry here
Till you come round another year,
I'll sing to you an ode sublimer
Than ever fell from tongue of rhymor.
Till then, farewell, and let me say
While I am here I'll humbly pray
That Christmas may, while here, live so
That when they're called from earth to go,
The Lord in mercy will us bring
Where we'll enjoy perpetual spring.

TO OUR READERS.

With this number we commence to issue the REPORTER as an 8 page sheet. We intend inside of the next two weeks to put in a new stereotype headline and otherwise add to the typographical appearance of the paper, which will then be one of the neatest and best got up papers in the counties. We are also negotiating to obtain the latest telegraphic news up to the hour of going to press, which will make our latest news some four hours earlier than any other paper. We have also concluded to make a change in the date of issue, and will hereafter publish on Saturday morning in time for the noon mails. Owing to the large additional expense incurred, we find it necessary, in order to save ourselves from loss, to place the subscription price at \$1 per annum. Subscribers who have paid for the paper in advance will receive the REPORTER the balance of their year at the old rates. Having now got into our new office, we hope to be able to issue regularly and on time. Particular attention paid to job-work, and at reasonable rates.

BLOODY BATTLE

FIERCE FIGHTING.

General Middleton Ends a Three-Days' Fight by Capturing Batouche.

(Special to the Reporter.)

Batoche was taken at 4 p. m. on Monday, after desperate fighting, many of our brave fellows biting the dust. The volunteers dashed on Batoche, capturing horses and freeing all the prisoners. Our loss is five killed and ten wounded. Among the killed is Lieut. Fitch, of the Grenadiers, shot through the heart. During the engagement Riel sent a white flag and a note to Middleton, saying that if the soldiers did not at once cease firing on houses he would kill all the prisoners. Before Riel had time to carry his murderous threats into execution, with loud cheers, the volunteers charged on the place and effected its capture, releasing the prisoners. The rebels fled northward. The Str. Northcoote is safe, arriving at Batoche shortly after the battle.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

Our Driving Park.

The directors of the Driving Park Association held a meeting at the Armstrong House, on Saturday evening last, when it was decided to commence at once to get the grounds and track in proper condition. The track will be located directly opposite the former residence of Dr. Giles, about 1/4 of a mile east of the village. The posts for the fence were secured during the winter, and a full half-mile track laid out by W. Beatty, P. L. S. Ground was broken on Monday last,

and the work of getting the track ready for driving will be rapidly pushed to completion. The committee were instructed to procure a number of season and driving tickets, which will be in the hands of the secretary for sale. Driving tickets, entitling the holder to the privileges of the track for the season, have been placed at \$5. Admission tickets for the season will be placed at \$1. A call for one-half the amount subscribed will be made at once. A meeting of the shareholders will be held in the Armstrong House Sample Room on Saturday evening next, 16th inst., at 8 p. m., for the transaction of important business. The lease of the grounds will be submitted for approval, and it is expected that all parties interested will be present.

Practice Makes Perfect.

Our village band failed to give us the usual open-air concert on Saturday evening. Report says that some of the leading musicians had other and more pressing engagements to attend to that rendered their presence at band practice impossible. We understand that one of the members is practicing *a la* Weston, with the intention of competing for one of the walking-match prizes that are likely to be offered by some of our county fairs next fall. At least, we should judge that this must have been what impelled the bugler to make such rapid time around one of the squares that evening.

The Railway.

The By-law granting a bonus to the Brockville and Westport Railway was voted on in Elizabethtown on the 5th inst., and, we regret to say, was defeated. What effect this will have on the prospects of the road being built we are unable to say. One rumor that reaches us is to the effect that the construction company have decided, despite the adverse vote, to proceed with the construction of the road, and trust to the township again submitting the By-law. We hope this rumor may prove correct, for we can hardly give up the prospect of seeing the iron horse moving swiftly along through the country between Brockville and Sault Ste. Marie. If we fail in getting the road now, we need not expect to again get a company to undertake to build the road, even if we should offer them a bonus

L. M. A. Entertainment.

The third public entertainment of the Literary and Musical Association was held on Friday evening last. The president, Mr. A. W. Bannister, B. A., occupied the chair. The program was one of the best yet presented by the Association. The literary part was selected from the works of Shakespeare, and lovers of the writings of the "myriad minded man" could not fail to have been pleased with the interpretation of the selections. A well written and concise synopsis of Henry VIII. was pre-

pared and read by Miss Nash, in which was manifested an intimate knowledge of the plot and salient features of the play. Mr. Geo. F. Donnelley contributed a "story of the Merchant of Venice." A recitation of "Spartacus' appeal to the gladiators," by Mr. A. Alguire, was a fine elocutionary effort, and received the hearty commendation of the audience. The trial scene of the Merchant of Venice was read, the following being the cast of characters:—
Shylock.....A. W. Bannister, B. A.
Portia.....Miss Kitty Kincaid
Duke.....W. G. Parish
Antonio.....Geo. F. Donnelley
Nerissa.....Mrs. Cornell
Gratiana.....A. Alguire
Bassanio.....D. Judd

The scene was well depicted, and notwithstanding the absence of costume and scenic effects, the audience obtained a correct idea of the play, and signified their approval by a generous applause. In substitution of an absent number, Mr. Bannister read several short selections bearing on the life and character of Shakespeare. A number of quotations from Shakespeare were volunteered, and this feature of the entertainment, though new, proved to be quite interesting. The musical committee deserve credit for the splendid program they contributed towards the evening's enjoyment. An excellent orchestra, consisting of Messrs. Compò, H. Kincaid, C. Fisher, and Miss Kitty Kincaid, played at intervals during the evening, and their music was very popular with the audience. Miss Fisher gave a piano solo, playing "Alice," a piece containing some very pretty strains. The piano duet by Mrs. Parish and Miss Fisher was a very fine instrumental, artistically rendered. Mrs. Cornell sang "Going to Market," a quaint piece with a spice of humor, which met with well-deserved applause. We were pleased to see Mrs. Stevens' name on the program, and were not disappointed in our expectation of receiving an excellent song. The trio, "Three Old Maids of Lee," was rendered by Mesdames Beach, Cornell, and Miss Fisher. Mr. C. Fisher sang "Warrior Bold" and Mr. H. Kincaid "The Tar's Farewell." These fine old English ballads were well rendered and were heartily applauded. The receipts of the evening were entirely satisfactory, and the first installment of books for the library will be ordered at once.

Trial of Marks.

The trial of Jas. Marks has been fixed for Tuesday, 26th of May, before Judge McDonald. Marks is charged with killing Mrs. Mulvena and assaulting her husband. Some time ago, he elected to be tried by a jury, but having got tired of the suspense, on being arraigned on Monday last, he pleaded not guilty to both charges and decided to be tried by the Judge.