

AN ANCIENT ENGLISH VILLAGE.

If we still go into really old fashioned districts—into those which the modern changes have not yet reached, where there are no manufacturers—into the obscure and totally agricultural nooks—we see evidence of a most ancient order of things. The cottages, the farm-house, the very halls are old; the trees are old; every thing is old. There is nothing that indicates change or progress. There is nothing even in furniture, that may not have been there at least five hundred years; there is much to induce you to believe that eight hundred years ago it existed. In common labourers' cottages, before the late rage for old English furniture, which led London brokers to scour the whole empire, penetrate into every nook, and bring up all the old cabinets, hall tables, old carved chairs, carved presses and wardrobes, and retail them for five hundred per cent., besides importing great quantities of similar articles from Holland, Belgium, and Germany, I have myself seen old, heavy, ample arm-chairs, with pointed backs, in which one might imagine an Alfred or an Edward the Confessor sitting, with the date in great letters on their backs, of 1100 or 1400. There are plenty of houses so ancient, that in the roots and woodworks, the ends of the great wooden pegs with which their framings is pinned together, are not cut off. But without, how old is everything! The trees are dead at top, and hollow at heart; there are ancient elms and oaks standing, whose shadow is said to have covered their acre of ground, but which have now neither head nor heart; huge hollow shells, so capacious, that whole troops of children play in them and call them their churches; and whole flocks of sheep or herds of cattle seek shelter from the summer sun in them. These old villages, too, are lost, as it were, in a wilderness of ancient orchards, where the trees produce apples and pears totally unlike any now grown in modern plantings. The villages are surrounded by a maze of little crofts, whose edges have evidently never been set out in any general enclosure, for they do not run in regular square and straight lines, but form all imaginable figures, and, with the true line of beauty, go waving and sweeping about in all directions. They are manifestly the effect of gradual and fitful enclosure from the forest in far-off times, many of them long before the Conquest, when this dense thicket and that grove of trees were run up to and included as part of the fencing. These old hedges have often a monstrous width, occupying nearly as much in their aggregate amount as the enclosed land itself.—They are often a complete wilderness of stony mounds, bushes, and rank vegetation.—The hawthorns of which they are composed are no longer bushes, but old and wide spread trees, with great gaps and spaces often between them, having ceased to be actual fences between the old pastures, and become only most picturesque shades for the cattle. In the old crofts still flourish the native daffodils, and the snow white and pink prim-roses, now extirpated by the gathering for gardens every where else.—*William Howitt, in Jerrold's Shilling Magazine.*

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

To us, the apathy of the citizens of Montreal is unaccountable. A telegraph is now in course of construction from Toronto to New York, which, it is expected, will be ready for use in January next. The merchants of Toronto will then have the opportunity of receiving intelligence from England respecting the state of the markets, &c., at least 48 hours earlier than those of Montreal. On the other hand, by the outlay of a very moderate capital, (and in the States it is found to be a profitable investment,) Montreal might be put into direct communication with Halifax, in which case news from England would be communicated *within half an hour* from the arrival of the steamer. For instance: the Caledonia reached Halifax on the 18th inst., but the English Mail did not arrive at Montreal till the 23rd. Had the Telegraph been established, we should have received the news *five days sooner*. The advantages that would accrue from such an arrangement are so obvious that no comment is necessary.

It would afford us great pleasure to explain to our readers the operation of the Telegraph, but this cannot be done without the aid of diagrams. Let it suffice to state, that when the operator at one end of the line, say at Halifax, presses the key with his finger, the galvanic circuit is completed, and within a minute and a half the effect is perceived at Montreal, the other

end. A metal lever, armed with a point, makes an impression on a slip of paper. If the operator's finger be immediately taken off, the impression is a dot: but the paper being wound about a cylinder, which is set in motion by clock-work, if the finger be kept on the key, the point continues to indent the paper, and makes a dash thus,—. By the combination of dots and dashes an alphabet is formed; and the first letter of the Message, communicated by the operator at Halifax, would be impressed on the paper at Montreal, as before stated, in the course of a minute and a half. A skilful operator will transmit a message as fast as an ordinary writer can commit it to paper.

The following is the Alphabet invented by Professor Morse, and used in the States:—

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y	Z	&	1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
0									

The Caledonia arrived at Halifax (we will suppose) at 10, A. M. Had the Telegraph been established, a merchant at Montreal might have received a communication at *half-past ten*. It might have been to the following effect:—

H a l i f a x O c t o  
 b e r 1 8 T e n a . m . T h  
 e S t e a m e r i s i n F  
 l o u r i s 3 s h i l l  
 i n g s p o r b a r r e  
 l d e a r e r

We sincerely hope that the public spirit of Montreal will be roused, and that two Telegraph Lines will be formed at an early period—one for the States, and one for Halifax.—*Montreal Register.*

APPLES OF GOLD.

“We must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ.”—2 Cor. v. 10.

And are there scoffers, who madly walk after their own lusts, and question the coming of the Lord? The hour hastens, when infidelity shall doubt no more: “The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God.” How will sinners fade away, and be afraid in their close places, when, visible to all, the Judge shall appear on his great white throne, and from his face the earth and the heaven flee away! Before him shall stand the whole race of men, small and great: and by the testimony of God and their own consciences it shall be fully proved, and openly declared, what they have been, and what they have done. Then sentence, most righteous, irrevocable and big with eternity, shall be pronounced. On the wicked, everlasting punishment: on the righteous, life eternal! Think, O think, what destruction is hanging over your heads, ye obstinate transgressors; for “behold, he cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see him; they also which pierced him, and all the wicked kindreds of the earth, shall wail because of him.” “Now, now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation;” now embrace him as your offered, your all-sufficient, Saviour; so shall you be for ever delivered from him as your angry Judge. If this you neglect, how shall you abide the day of his coming in flaming fire, to take vengeance on all them that know not God, and obey not the gospel? Lift up thy head, my soul, none else is judge but Christ! Will he, who bore my sins, plead against me in judgment? No; but he will put strength in me. I know in whom I have believed; and that he is able to keep that good thing, my soul, which I have committed to him against that day.

An awful day is drawing near,  
 When Christ will judge the quick and dead!  
 Ah, sinner! how wilt thou appear  
 With all thy sins upon thy head!  
 Now mercy seek, which may be found!  
 For yet you stand on praying ground.

—*Begatsky's Treasury.*