

## GREAT FIRE—TWENTY-SIX HOUSES BURNED.

On Sunday night, at half-past nine o'clock, a fire broke out in a stable in the rear of the block of buildings on King street between East Market place and George Street, and before it was got under destroyed property the amount of stock and household effects. With the exception of a few pigs, which were killed, no animal was destroyed. Thomson & Wilson's and S. H. Lynn's stores, on King street, were consumed, and the whole block including the London and African printing offices, would have shared a similar fate but for the intervening effects of the fire, arrested by a small house being burning in M. J. Proulx, which was kept in operation on the roof of the building nearest to the flames. Mr. Lusk has suffered a great loss in his candle and soap factory, he was insured for £500 in the British American, but that will not nearly cover his loss. Thomson & Wilson were insured £200 in the Phoenix, & S. H. Lynn £500 in the building and £750 in stock in the Phoenix. Mr. Platt was insured £100 in the North Western. The linemen burnt out were Hamilton & Green, James Anson, John Galloway, George Platt, Stephen Stroud, Christopher Wright, William Monkhouse and John Peterson. The City Weigh House, lately erected, was also consumed. This building recently cost the city several thousand pounds and we see by the statement of the Mayor in Council on Monday night that this was the only unburnt building belonging to the Corporation. Its isolated position seemed to render that precaution unnecessary. It has been stated that this fire was the work of an incendiary, for the sake of humanity we hope this was not the case. It is unwise to make such a statement unless there are good grounds for it, as in the case of the Richmond street fire lately.

## THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

In speaking of the health of the city of New York, the *New York Herald* of a recent date says:—A day or two ago a disease presented itself at the corner of South and James streets, New York. It was reported to the City Inspector, that there was a quantity of corn lying in a rotten state in a store there, and that two persons in the building had died of cholera. On examination, it was found that three stores of the building were filled with damaged, rotten corn, perfectly black, and smelling in the most horrible manner. In a room adjoining this stuff lay a man and his child dead and his wife sick who was *entente*. The deceased had all the marks of death from Cholera. The City Inspector had the entire of this corn, amounting to 1,200 bushels, removed immediately to Warren Island, by the steamer employed for the purpose of removing all the refuse of the city. On the same day a man was arrested in Elizabeth street for boiling bones contrary to the ordinance of the Corporation. He was detected in the act, and the smell from the premises is described by the officers as intolerable. The police have the power of arresting on the spot, and without a warrant all persons found violating the health ordinance of the city; but they are very slow in the performance of their duty.

## ODD FELLOWS' EXCLUSION.

An excursion party of Odd Fellows and their friends, numbering in all upwards of 400, left Hamilton on Monday morning in the Ocean Wave and arrived here about 10 o'clock, in good spirits. They left at 7 o'clock in the evening by the same conveyance, seemingly very well pleased with their day's pleasure. We see by the *Hamilton Spectator* that they reached their destination in safety, and that no accident to the trip was highly satisfactory.

## ANOTHER ELDERADO.

The following is an extract of a letter from Trinidad, Port Spain August 1st:—The gold diggings of Demerara are causing as great a revolution in this island as the Australian and California diggings have both in Europe and America. Our planters, with several agricultural laborers have already started, some of whom are realizing their most sanguine expectations. Lord Harris, (the Governor) has family and suite will shortly visit the West India Eldorado.

## NEW YORK STATE FAIR.

The New York State Agricultural Fair will be held this year at Utica. The days selected for the Fair are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th of September.

The following gentlemen were called to the Bar of Upper Canada, on the 29th August, 1852.—A. Nanton, J. F. Davis, Charles H. Pinhey, W. Ambrose, Charles Magrath, William Elliott, N. C. McIntyre, P. McGill, McCutcheon, William E. Alma, William M. Wilson.

## THE CREATION.

A wooden cage, hanging on the walls of my dwelling-house, has been occupied, for the last six years, by a bird commonly called in Canada, the robin, but, properly, a species of the *Turdus* tribe. Its drink is contained in a wooden box, because wood, being a vegetable substance, I consider it preferable to apply to such a purpose, as it seems more agreeable to its system. From the moist surface of this box, I have had many a strange form (*animalcula*) to view under the microscope: one of these I remarked particularly, on account of its strange form, and being of rare occurrence to my observation. Directly under this cage, I kept a box, which entomologists call a Lepidopterous breeding-box, but, a distance of four feet was between them. At that time, the breeding-box contained 13 or 16 chrysalides of a large Canadian moth (*salurnia*) awaiting their transformation into the *imago* state. Some circumstance led me to think that the moths were not all to appear, and, upon examination, I found that some of them were attacked by what I took to be a species of parasitic *acari*; but, upon submitting them under a good magnifier, I discovered it to be the very same insect which, a few days previous, I took from the water-box in the cage, and in such numbers, that patches of them could easily be detected upon the surface of the chrysalides, by the naked eye. They located in the most vital and softest part of the tegument, viz.: the under side of the first ring of the *antepectus*, and in such numbers, which gave an aspect of opiate upon a leaf. I also detected their *ora* in abundance.

Now, how did this insect, which, a few days before, I found in the water-box, find its way to the chrysalides of the before-mentioned moth, which is enclosed in a strong silken cocoon, perfectly waterproof, and as hard as parchment? Here is a subject to puzzle the philosophers of the close atmospheric development system. The earth in the breeding-box was taken from the bush, indeed, I selected the purest from vegetable matter which could be found,—there were other moths in the chrysalis state in the box at the time which were never touched by this *acari*, besides being uncovered by a cocoon they would be more likely to be selected. I am positive of the destroyed chrysalides being in a perfect state of life and health all last winter as I am of my own vitality—so that there can be little doubt but they were attacked early in July. To minutely describe this decidedly strange insect, would be difficult—but to the best of my entomological observation, its body is altogether of a pale flesh colour, with minute hairs branching from all its parts. It is provided with four feet, being in fact a *quadruped*, and resembles a pig very much. It may not be an *acarus*, but I call it so, from Janius's explanation of the word quoted in Gouldman's Dictionary,—'A small worm which eats under the skin, and makes itching bands.' When I discovered it I took it at first sight to be the *Siro* or Cheese mite, but being only provided with four feet, while the

cheese mite has eight, soon put an end to this opinion. At any rate I rest satisfied that the insect exactly corresponds with the one I took from the robin's water-box. Some persons may entertain the idea, that those insects are created in the internal part of the cocoon by chance. They should know that their suppositions are needless, while plants have their seeds, and animals their eggs to produce the same species. Nothing seems more contrary to reason than to suppose that chance should give being to regularity and beauty, or that it should create living animals, fabricate a brain, nerves, and all the parts of life. When the microscopic observer looks with attentive moral consideration upon the design and handy work of our Creator in forming an *animacula* called the *Monax*, whose extremely delicate texture is so transparent as to elude the highest magnifying power, he will soon conclude that there is a universal generative harmony in the animal kingdom for the purpose of accomplishing their ends; and, his decision could not be better established than by this illustration. I believe that it was as perfect a design in the Creator, when forming and directing the course of the helpless earthworm to suit its natural purpose, as it was, in his designing and forming man after his own image, at the same time offering to be his guide through the short but sometimes careless period of his earthly existence.

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## THREE MARKS OF A CHRISTIAN.

Startle not! most sapient charmer, at the title of my story. I have no intention of treading you to a theological speculation, because by doing so I would soon be compelled to forsake my accustomed corner in your miscellany, and thus, would be rudely and unwisely snatched asunder that chain of fond associations which has been formed and so closely linked together in our mutual journeyings since this year commenced. I would then be cast beyond the outer rim of your family circle, for

\* The writer has  
Of your society failed my speaking  
Upon a point so nice, —"

The words which form the title, are in fact the burden of the tale; but I am too desirous of your favour to assume a position which more fitly devolves upon another, and which were an oversteering confidence to usurp,—your native, honest, independent good sense, would at once disclaim. Some years ago, while roaming in that romantic district rendered famous by the muse of Burns, I went off in company with a friend to visit a singular character, well known throughout Scotland as "the Kilmarnock Hermit," but we had not gone far when we met a man with a haggard and demure expression of countenance, a fact which my companion was not slow to take advantage of, by disclosing a variety of incidents in which this grim looking wanderer had borne a part; some of them, too, in connexion with the eccentric character, towards whose sequestered abode we were wending our way. The incident, however, which I am about to detail, was one in which Mr. Methven of Stewartown, an old worthy, was concerned. It so happened, in this ever changing scene, that this sagacious old divine was suspected of having given housing to some small-still whiskey, that had been manufactured in the neighbourhood, and the Excise authorities having been apprised of the affair, a