



HUMANITY, TEMPERANCE, PROGRESS.

VOL. III.

TORONTO, C. W., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1853.

NO. 1

THE SUNNY SIDE.

Wouldn't thou live the most of life?
Wouldst thou not be happy as I?
Wouldst thou keep thy bosom free from
villies?
Wouldst thou all thy hours in love
employ?
Be this thy motto, this thy guide—
Look always on the sunny side.

Petty annoyances will come,
At times, in swarms, and buzz around
Thee, till thy sometimes happy mind
Awaits to be by happy words
Brought through them all with fearful
words,
And view them on the sunny side.

Yes, all things earthly have their light:
And shade, the earth itself receives—
One half in day—see how it glows,
Be therefore this thy resolve
The first, whatever hap, what ill
befalls,
To look upon the sunny side.

CAN INSECTS TALK?

This may indeed seem a question to those who would limit the meaning of the word to the capability of expressing ideas by means of articulate sounds, nevertheless a little reflection will convince any one that is conversant with the habits of these creatures, that though they may have no tongues, they can express themselves in some way or other—with most miraculous organs. Various experiments might be quoted in proof of this assertion, let us however select one or two which seem to leave no room for dispute about the matter. Any one who finds himself in the vicinity of an ant's nest, may soon be convinced that these industrious little labourers are by no means destitute of the power of communicating information to each other relative to the affairs of their commonwealth. Let him for example, place a heap of food in the neighborhood of the ant-hill and watch the procedure of its inmates. A short time will, probably, elapse before the discovery of the treasure, but at length some wanderer in his strange's ramble has the good fortune to stumble upon it. What does he do? He does not like an isolated individual, incapable of asking assistance, begin at once the task of removing the heap, but, on the contrary, off he scampers with the glacial intelligence and running his head against that of every ant he meets, manages in some way, not only to intimate the fact of the discovery, but also to give information relative to the locality where the provisions may be found, for speedily it will be seen that troops of porters, summoned at the call of the first finder, hasten to the spot and all is bustle until the store is safely warehoused in the ant-hill. Another still more striking instance of the possession of a capability of spreading intelligence, and that of a somewhat abstract character, is furnished by experiments that have been made by Huber and others upon bees. Every one is aware that the queen-bee is an object of the greatest solicitude and attention to all the workers of the hive, and yet, among so many thousands all busily employed in different and distinct parts of the colony, it would appear impossible for them to ascertain, at least before the lapse of a considerable time, whether she was absent from among them or not. In order to see whether bees had any power of conveying news of this kind, the queen-bee has been secretly and quietly abstracted from the hive; but here, as elsewhere, all news were found to fly apace. For some half-hour or so, the loss seemed not to have been ascertained, but the progressively increasing buzz of agitation gradually announced the growing alarm, until at length the whole hive was in an uproar and all its busy occupants were seen pouring forth their legions in search of their lost monarch, or eager to avenge with their stings the insult offered to their sovereign. On restoring the captured queen to her subjects with equal secrecy, the tumult speedily subsided, and the ordinary business of the community was resumed, as before the occurrence.—*Natural History of Animals by J. Ryker Jones.*

JEWSH NEGROES.

Lately a new discovery has been made, to which we would call the attention of our readers. The account is contained in a French religious newspaper, published at Paris, in pamphlet form and entitled—"Bulletin du Monde Chrétien." We translate the following:—
"The Rev. Dr. Philip, missionary in the North of Africa, gives the following details concerning that country. A Russian Jew, resident at Moudah, gave him information concerning a great number of Israelites inhabiting the oases of Cabara, and dwelling also at Bazar, El-Wraki, Tazegart, Bouzra, Bois-Uzai, Loque, &c. There are, in each of these places, as many as a

hundred families, and in some even more. In one place he found six hundred families, with numerous synagogues, and about a hundred copies of the Law, written upon parchment, some of which were more ancient than any he had ever seen.
"But this is not all, other curious details reached Dr. Philip from another source. A Jew who had accompanied a German traveller as far as Timbuctoo, found near the boundary of the kingdom of Bambara, a large number of Jewish negroes. Nearly every family among them possesses the Law of Moses written upon parchment. Although they speak of the Prophets, they have not their writings. Their prayers differ from those of other Jews, and are committed to little leaves of parchment stitched together, and contained numerous passages derived from the Psalms. These Jews have mingled some of the superstitions of 'oral law,' (which they have not committed to writing,) with those of their neighbors, the Mohammedans and the heathen. They copy equal liberty with the other subjects of the African chiefs, and have their synagogues and their rabbis. The expectation which they give of themselves is completely warranted in black skin, is that after the destruction of Jerusalem, at the time of the first captivity, some of their ancestors having neither goods nor land, fled to the desert. The fatigue which they endured was so great, that many of the females died in the way. The children of Ham received them with kindness, and by inter-marriage with their daughters, were now black, unimpaired and equal to their condition. These children became generation by generation, of a deep red color, until an difference in color now distinguishes some from the Negroes and those of Ham. The form of their faces, however, is very different from that of the negroes among them."
"These are highly interesting facts, and create a strong desire that the African continent may be speedily opened to universal commerce and civilization. As yet in these ancient manuscripts, which are probably older than any others now extant, there is a great value in correcting the received Hebrew text, and in throwing light upon obscure passages. And what a door of hope to Africa would be opened by their conversion to Christianity."

Railway in India.—We extract the following from our latest issue of London papers. A locomotive in India, it seems, is a "recommended" law. India, which has for hundreds and hundreds of years remained much the same as to improvements, seems to be in some degree waking from the sleep of ages. A railway is being built from Calcutta, running to the large towns and cities of the north-west; and it is expected that within a few years it will be extended far up, even to Lahore, a distance of one thousand or twelve hundred miles. In the region of Bombay, also, within a few months, a portion of a railway has been so far completed that a locomotive has been put on and set to work—a great thing indeed in India. A Bombay paper thus speaks of the enterprise excited in the "Island":—"The first impulse of Europeans who had not before seen a locomotive, on observing one moving with its enormous train more off so sweetly and easily, that it seemed as if it might have tugged the fort itself with its ponderous wheels, was to tear off their hats and cheer—their tongues seemed to be out of their mouths. The more polite natives first sat in amazement, and next gave utterance to the sentiment that it is no wonder that we who could contrive or construct such things have a good name over the world."

JAPAN.—It is estimated by a Dr. Ben's Review, that the population of Japan, and the United States, is the equal but the former twice as large as the latter. This is more than the entire value of our annual exports to the United States to Great Britain. The population is put at 50,000,000. The Empire consists of three thousand eight hundred and fifty islands lying off the coast of China, having an area about equal to that of Germany, including Prussia and Austria, or about six times the amount of the state of New-York.

Lazaretto.—A heavy laugh occasionally is an act of wisdom: it shakes the cobwebs out of a man's brains, and the hypocrite from his ribs, far more effectually than either champagne or blue pills.

Punch says a man who goes to church to chew and spit tobacco upon the floor, ought to be taken by the head and by a and used as a mop.

True goodness is like the glow-worm: it shines the most when no eye save those of Heaven are upon it.

THE HEART!—THE HEART!

The heart—the heart! oh! let it be
A tree and least-own thing
As kindly warm as noble tree,
As eagle's soaring wing
Oh! keep it not like miser's gold,
Sweet as from ad in ad,
But let its power as of a bird's
In mercy fit and wide
The heart—the heart that's truly best,
Is never all its own,
Nor ray of glory lights the breast
That beats for self alone

The heart—the heart! oh! let it open
A sigh for others' pain:
The breath that soothes a brother's care
Is never spent in vain.
And though it throbs at greatest touch,
It sorrow faintest sigh,
To soothe better it should ache too much,
Thus never ache at all
The heart—the heart that's truly best
Is never all its own,
Nor ray of glory lights the breast
That beats for self alone.

A HIGHWAY TO THE PACIFIC.

What the Mediterranean Sea was in the early ages of the world, the Pacific Ocean promises to become in future. On every side of that ocean new empires are rising. They are rising, too, with a velocity that defies history and almost supercedes speculation. Fifty years ago the Pacific was the ocean of pastoral romance—the solitary guide of a few small islands of the West. The great continent which looked down into those mighty and tranquil waters were either barren wilds or ancient and mysterious empires. Enterprise there was none, signs of life there were few. But now! Sydney and San Francisco stretch their hands across the ocean. Two Anglo-Saxon empires already sway the shores and islands of the Pacific, while their fleets fill its ports with the canopies of nations, and carry thence to the outer latitudes of the north the golden produce of the tropics. China and Japan, seated for centuries against the inroads of commerce and civilization, are about to be forced open by the course of events. But that which adds most singularly to the importance of the Pacific Ocean, is the fact that on all sides it seems to be enclosed between the most prolific gold fields of the earth. The destiny in store for this mighty sea and its glittering coasts is a subject for poetic speculation—but the great material want of the old world every day growing more imperative, is a ready access by way of the Isthmus of Panama to this highway of the region of gold and colonization. Thus, every gem of intelligence from the Isthmus has for Europeans a profound interest; and already there are schemes abroad for seizing by force the narrow strip of land which divides the two oceans in the centre of America, and holding it in the name of nations by a joint occupation of the great Powers.

Meanwhile, certain well known parties are pushing on the scheme for a ship canal! and the last number of the *Panama Star* contains the particulars of a concession, for twenty-nine years, made to them by the Government of New Grenada. The date of this new privilege, given at Bogota, is the 1st of June, 1853, and the canal is to be completed within ten years and a prorogation of four years longer, if required, should one-third of the work be then finished. The company receive with the grant 10,000 manegades of land to be selected by them in any part of the Republic. The harbours on both the Pacific and Atlantic are to remain free and neutral. The New Grenadian government is to receive three per cent for the remaining nineteen years. The company are to make a deposit of £25,000 as a guarantee, within twelve months from the date of the grant. The parties receiving this grant are Dr. Edward Cullen, Sir Charles Fox, John Henderson, and Thomas Brewer. Before these parties can proceed with their plans, however, the consent of the Panamanian railway company must be obtained, and from the rival character of that design it is not unlikely to prove the most difficult part of the negotiation.—*London Athenaeum.*

ADULTERATION OF CIDER IN PARIS.—Unprincipled brewers in Paris have been procuring cider-drinkers by vending a vile compound in place of real cider. The brewers have taken wine of a very dark color, got rid of the color by acetate of lead, and then fermented the fluid by adding rotten apples. They contrive to produce, by adding a great deal of water, a clear, pungent, frothy beverage, pleasant both to the eye and the taste, which has a striking resemblance to good cider. The drinking of this trash produced vomiting, uneasiness, convulsions, chills, loss of use of the skin, convulsive convulsions, impending paralysis, and the characteristic blue lines of the gums. The government have, through the committee of Hygiene, instituted the most searching inquiries on the subject.