

Youth's Corner.

VACATION-JOURNEY

IN SWITZERLAND.

Continued.

On Wednesday morning, our travellers set out on the road by which they had come to the Grimsel Hospital two days previously. They proceeded on this way, with which they had already become acquainted, until they reached a lake called the Lake of the Dead, when they commenced a rapid descent fifteen hundred feet long, and remarkable for its beautiful verdure and flowers, which have given it the name of May-cliff. It leads to another lovely scene, the valley of the Rhone. The pleasant green on both sides of the waters in which the mighty river here takes its beginning, contrasts strangely with the ice and snow of the mountains by which it is surrounded. These are the Grimsel, the Galenstock, and the Rhone-Glacier. The last one is so called, because at the foot of its vast layers of snow and ice the river Rhone breaks forth under an arch beautifully formed by the frost which supplies the material, and by the warmth which keeps the curve open for a passage to let the water escape and hurry along its course towards France and the Mediterranean. A clear little brook comes, close upon the place where the Rhone first makes its appearance, and mixes its warm water with the gray-looking stream from the glacier—but, oh! what a cold reception it meets with, and how pitifully it gets chilled and soiled and lost in the boisterous ice-flood! It is like the sad change which we often find to come upon a well-trained and hopeful youth, when he is in a hurry to throw off the guidance of God-fearing friends, and mixes eagerly with profane and selfish companions. The bright mirror of a peaceful conscience is quickly tarnished, and the warmth of rightly-set affections lost in the cold and corrupt maxims of the world around him.

The Rhone itself increases, indeed, from league to league of its course, by brooks and rivulets joining it from both sides, and goes on in a boyish, headlong course; but God leads it on to a point where he has prepared means to bring it into subjection, and then to send it forth subdued, staided for valuable service. It rushes violently into the Lake of Geneva, but there it finds its master; it changes its colour before it comes out at the other end, learns to march steadily, and composes itself to bear ships, turn wheels, and supply of its abundance wherever water is wanted. So must the impetuosity of man pass under the chastening influence of the correction which God applies, that self-will may be broken; and meek submission to the divine guidance bring human powers and faculties into useful exercise. Happy those who humble themselves under the mighty hand of God—they shall be exalted in due time!

While those reflections were passing through the mind of the thoughtful Tutor, the youth under his care broke in upon his meditations by an unexpected boiling over of their high spirits. They were making their way up a winding path which was to lead them to a point right above; suddenly one took it into his head to "take the height by storm;" so onwards he rushed, straight up under forest-trees, and through brushwood, the stones and gravel rolling down under his feet and sometimes carrying him along with them, until he could hold on at branch or bush to recover his footing and press upwards again. The contagion seized all the other boys, and their good-natured Teacher at last followed, though he knew they would have to suffer for this piece of bravery. They arrived at the top out of breath, heated beyond measure, their short boots filled with gravel, and their linen soaked with perspiration. One of the lot had lagged behind, and came up just as they were becoming alarmed about him because the number was counted and found one short. The exertion had been too much for him; he was dispirited, and the whole party began to feel low at the thought of the day's work yet before them. It was now Mr. Kapff's turn to show high spirits. He took the little fellow's knapsack to carry for a while in addition to his own, and promised them all a good long halt as soon as they found a comfortable place on their way, where to rest their limbs. Upwards now they had to pursue their course in the passes of the Farka, a name taken from two prominent rocks on the top which have been thought to resemble a fork. They found a pleasant green, sheltered from both the wind and the sun, where they made their promised halt, became cool, dry, and comfortable, and rose in pretty good condition to descend into the valley of the Sibli, the small knapsack having found its way from Mr. Kapff's to the young shoulders again to which it properly belonged.

To be continued.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE MONTREAL HIGH-SCHOOL,

read by D. Davidson, Esq., Honorary Secretary, after the Exhibition on Friday the 31st instant.

In tracing the events of the past Session which bear upon the welfare and success of this Institution, the Directors find much that is gratifying and encouraging. Two years have not yet elapsed since the School opened with a little band of seventy boys. At the close of the first Session, the number had increased to one hundred and sixty-seven; and there are now upon the

roll of the School two hundred and sixteen. This increase has taken place amid the disadvantages always incidental to the establishment of a new school, also of many which have more particularly affected this Institution.

The Directors are of opinion that the state of education in the School, is, upon the whole, quite equal to what under the circumstances could have been expected. And they are still more satisfied with the improvement of the pupils in intelligence, in behaviour, in the desire to learn, and in the power of learning.

It is not to the higher classes as they now exist, that the Directors look for striking results. It is to the junior and more particularly the preparatory class, that the School must mainly look for its reputation.

The satisfactory progress which this branch of the institution has made under the able management of Mr. Bowman—and which the Directors doubt not will be followed up by that of the other masters—leave no room to doubt that, when the curriculum of study is completed, the object of the originators of this Institution will be attained. The pupils will then be prepared to pursue their studies, if so disposed, at the Universities in this country or at home, with as much advantage to themselves, as if they had attended the best Seminaries in Great Britain; and, on the other hand, those whose plans for the future lead them to adopt a different course, will carry with them all that is requisite to qualify them for intelligent and useful members of society.

For the satisfaction of themselves as well as others who feel an interest in the School, the Directors requested several of the Clergy and other gentlemen connected with the city, to examine the different classes, not in subjects prepared for examination, but generally in the work which had been gone through during the Session. Two days were thus spent, and the Directors were gratified to learn that the examiners had expressed themselves well pleased with the progress which had been made, and with the order and discipline maintained throughout the School.—Herald.

While there is thus much reason for congratulation, the Directors feel that they should fail to discharge their duty aright, did they neglect this opportunity of directing the attention of parents and guardians to some things which they consider injurious to the discipline of the school and the progress of the pupils.

The first of the evils alluded to, is the irregular attendance of the pupils. There are many boys to whom this injurious habit has been attended with serious consequences. Several might be mentioned, and even in the higher classes of the school; to whom every hour was of great importance, who have been permitted frequently to absent themselves, sometimes for days together, upon the most trifling pretexts. To show the extent to which this evil prevails it may be mentioned, that comparing the irregularity of attendance at this school, with one of an equal number of pupils in England, it has been found, that the number of absentees is more than double, and the want of punctuality of arrival at school, five times greater. This is the result, even after making allowance for the inclemency of the weather in this country during the winter months. The attention of parents has been called to this evil in the monthly reports, and by special interference on the part of the Rector; but although remedied in particular cases, it is still an evil of great magnitude, and utterly subversive of regular and steady progress to every boy who is allowed to be guilty of it. No boy can ever be expected to become a scholar unless he be taught to consider the duties of his school of the first importance, and, therefore, no boy should ever be permitted to absent himself, except on account of illness, or in cases of serious necessity.

The second matter to which the Directors would solicit attention, is the removal of pupils before the close of the Session. Some of the older boys have no doubt been removed, because the delay of a few weeks might have interfered with plans affecting their prospects for the future. With such cases the Directors have no desire or cause to find fault, however much they may regret their absence; but there is reason to believe that several have induced their friends to allow them to leave before the examination, principally for the purpose of avoiding it, and thus screening themselves from the discredit which previous idleness would have brought upon them. This practice not only serves to foster idleness in the boys themselves, and is therefore much to be regretted on their own account, but it also unsettles the minds of those who remain. It is therefore hoped that all judicious parents will discontinue the practice of removing their children before the regular period, and also of detaining them at home after the business of the school is resumed.

The Directors have also to bring under the notice of parents the absolute necessity for an increased diligence in the preparation of lessons at home. The Directors regret to be compelled to state, that a large proportion of the boys neglect this important duty. An improvement in this respect was one of the effects which was looked for in consequence of issuing monthly Reports which make special reference to the degree of diligence at home. The examination of the pupil at School is only a part of his education, and no satisfactory progress can be made without care in the preparation of the tasks

prescribed for each day, and it will almost invariably be found, that those boys who occupy a low position in their classes, are deficient in diligence out of School hours.

The Directors have been disappointed to find that the parents and friends of the pupils have so seldom availed themselves of the privilege of visiting the School upon the day appointed in every week for that purpose. A master, in the discharge of his duty, may exhibit talent, energy, and zeal, but his duty is also attended by labour inimical to health, wearisome and oppressive; but if a Master sees that his labours are watched over and appreciated, that a friendly interest is taken, in himself and all his doings, by the friends of those placed under his care, he is encouraged; his powers are sustained, and his toil rendered comparatively light. Parents should also be induced to visit the School with the view of fully understanding the mode of tuition which is employed. And thus they would be better qualified to afford assistance to their children, and be more competent to judge of their progress. Parents educated under systems which have fallen into disuse, and who do not give their attention to the examination of new ones, frequently err from the want of this knowledge, and withdraw their children, because they do not learn their tasks in the manner to which they had been accustomed. The Directors, therefore, trust that parents will see it their interest to attend as frequently as possible, and thus give encouragement which will stimulate both Masters and Pupils to increased exertion.

Much annoyance is caused by parents implicitly believing the complaints which are carried home by their children. In all such cases, the Directors would respectfully caution parents against expressing an opinion in the pupil's presence; and they are requested to report the alleged grievance to the Rector, and thus it will be easily investigated and explained.

The Directors have been induced to make these observations and to urge their serious consideration, from feeling the great importance of the interests which are entrusted to them, and which they are anxious to promote; as well as from being conscious, that while there is much cause for congratulation as regards the general progress of the Institution, there is yet a great deal to be done, and that, be the talents and energies of the Masters what they may, there is needed the co-operation of the parents before a full harvest can be reaped.

[Though the above was written for Pappas and Mamas at Montreal, it is quite as likely to be useful in all other parts where boys are sent to school; it forms, indeed, a valuable document to communicate and also to comment upon. Several evils are pointed out as materially affecting the success of the Teacher's labours, such as the pupils' absence from school—want of punctuality when they come—imperfect preparation of lessons. The first two evils have been found to interfere so seriously with the prosperity of schools, by a Master of some practice with whom we are intimately acquainted, that he has introduced in his Card of Terms the following rule:

"It is to be observed as an important part of school-discipline, that in like manner as the Master considers himself bound to be at his post at school-hours, so he will hold his scholars bound to be regular in their attendance. Nothing, therefore, short of emergency will be considered as valid excuse for non-attendance; and when parents wish his scholars to have an indulgence which would interfere with their attendance at school, they will confer with him and obtain his consent to it."

Thus the scholar's regular attendance at school is made a demand upon the parent, just as positive as it is that the parent should pay tuition; and it might be hoped that if the plan were generally adopted to state this demand expressly at the scholar's entrance, and to require an excuse amounting to a case of "emergency" for every irregularity in his attendance, the evil would be generally (as in the case alluded to it has been almost entirely) rectified: at all events every delinquency would become more glaringly inexcusable than ever.

As to the inclemency of the weather in this country during the winter months" which the Directors advert to as requiring that some allowance should be made—it will perhaps be found, upon close observation, that the boys most forward to profit by said inclemency for snow-balling and every other out-door sport, are those by whom it is most frequently made a pretext for irregularity in attendance at the in-door engagement of study.

With regard to removing the scholars from the duties of school, before the session closes, or detaining them at home after the business of school has been resumed, the report says, "it is hoped that all judicious parents will discontinue such practice." This might have been stated much more strongly. After allowing for cases of emergency, and none other, it might be said that no parent really intent upon his child's benefit, ought to act so; and therefore the positive requirement must be laid upon those who are tempted to it; that they do not by such indulgence interfere with the success of the Masters, with the credit of the institution, and with the improvement of those scholars whose parents heartily second the labours of Directors and Masters by strict compliance with the rules of the establishment. They might well be expected to place such confidence in these gentlemen, as to be-

lieve that they do not make rules to plague either scholars or parents, but to benefit the one, and to make the largest possible return of value, in the scholar's improvement, for the money paid by the other, in the shape of tuition.

"Preparation of lessons at home"—oh, what a long chapter that is! Our informant says there is nothing that interferes so sadly with the comfort of his office as a Tutor, as the imperfect preparation of lessons: and he tells us, as the worst of the matter, that in a great many cases the tender skin of a little scholar is made to smart under correction for idleness, which ought to be applied in a very different quarter. He gives the following description of a family-scene. On a fine summer-evening at six o'clock, Mamma calls out at the window: "Boys, it is time to come in and study your lessons." "Yes Ma," is the answer; but the boys play on as before. After a while, the summons is repeated: "Come in now, boys, you have been at play long enough, come to your books." "Yes, we are coming," is the answer, but with no more effect than from the former call. Mamma now speaks to her husband, and he calls out: "Come boys, Mamma wants you to study your lessons." "Oh, we will come in directly, Pa, we are only going to finish this game." Time passes on, and Mamma speaks to her husband again, "Do make the boys come in; they will be sure to get punished to-morrow, if they do not study their lessons now." "Oh, let them enjoy themselves," is his answer, "they will learn them the more quickly afterwards: I like to see them play when I come home of an evening, and have not seen them all day." So another half-hour is spent, till tea-things are brought in; and now the boys are called in because it is Papa's own pleasure to have his children around the table to hear them chat and see them enjoy their supper. They come in, stuff themselves full of bread and butter and cakes; and when tea-things are removed, then the books are brought out; and in a quarter of an hour, the boys nod over them, unable to keep their eyes open after the violent exercise they have had, and according to the Latin rhyme

Plenus ventor Non student libenter, which may be Englished thus: When the stomach is full We find books very dull.

The boys are now sent to bed with an injunction to be up very early, and prepare their lessons; in the morning the story is renewed: "Get up, boys, it is six o'clock;"—"How long are you getting up, boys?"—"Boys, I hope you will get a good whipping at school!" But who is it that ought to get the whipping?—Editor.]

NOTICE.

The undersigned has been duly appointed Assignee to the Estate of the late Mr. W. B. JEFFERYS, Plumber and Painter. All persons having claims against the late Mr. Jefferys, are requested to send them in duly attested, without delay. CHRISTIAN WURTELE, St. Paul's Street, Quebec, 26th June, 1845.

RECEIVING AND FOR SALE

EX "NICARAGUA," "AUCKLAND," and "AURORA."

ENGLISH, Best Bar and Scrap Iron, Sheet Iron, Hoop Iron and Nail Rods, Coil, Logging and Trace Chains, Boiler Plate, Sheathing and Brazier's Copper, Bar Tin and Block Tin, Canada Rose and Horse Nails, Deck Spikes, Iron Wire, Bliester, Coach Spring and Cast Steel, Sad Irons, Smiths' Bellows, Anvils and Vices, Spades, Shovels and Frying Pans, —ALSO— 400 Boxes Canada Plates, 600 do. Tin do. Patent Canada Scythes and Sickles. C. & W. WURTELE, St. Paul Street, Quebec 5th June, 1845.

RECEIVING EX "AURORA," AND FOR SALE BY THE SUBSCRIBERS,

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C. & W. WURTELE, St. Paul's Street, Quebec, 5th June, 1845.

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BAZAAR AT KINGSTON.

By permission of the Worshipful the Mayor and Corporation of Kingston, a BAZAAR is proposed to be held in the Town Hall the first week in August, in order to raise funds for completing the interior fittings of St. James' Church, STUARTVILLE, LOT 21. Any contributions for promoting this object will be thankfully received by those Ladies of the Committee whose names are subjoined, who have kindly consented to hold tables. Hon. Mrs. DE BLAQUIERE, Mrs. SABLEY, Mrs. SABLEY, Mrs. DUPUY, Mrs. BROWN, Mrs. R. M. ROBERTS.

THE LATE FIRE. NOTICE is hereby given to those whose Bibles have been burnt in the late fire, that the Quebec Bible Society will supply all such persons with Copies of the Scriptures, either at reduced rates, or gratuitously according as their circumstances may require. Application to be made at the Depository in Ann Street (Mr. Haddon's late store) where attendance will be given by Members of the Committee between 7 and 8 o'clock every Evening. By order, JEFFERY HALE, Sec. Quebec, 18th June, 1845.

COALS. NEWCASTLE, Wallsend, Grate & Smith's Coals, for Sale by H. H. Porter & Co., Porter & Co's Wharf, Late Irvines. Quebec, 29th May, 1845.

FOR SALE, ENGLISH Linseed Oil, French Burr Stones, London Bottled Porter, Imported this season. WELCH & DAVIES, No. 2, Arthur St. Quebec, 26th May, 1845.

TO LET. THREE OFFICES on Arthur Street opposite the Exchange. Apply to CHRISTIAN WURTELE, St. Paul's Street. 11th Feby. 1845.

NOTICE. THE undersigned having entered into partnership, will from and after the first of May next, carry on business in this City under the firm of WELCH & DAVIES. HENRY W. WELCH, W. H. A. DAVIES. Arthur Street, Quebec, 25th April, 1845.

EDUCATION. MISS EVANS begs to inform her friends and the public, that she proposes opening a FRENCH and ENGLISH SEMINARY, at No. 1 Des Grisons Street, Capa, on MONDAY, 5th MAY NEXT. Reference can be given to most respectable families in this city, where she has instructed as visiting Governess for some years past. For terms (which are moderate) apply at the School. An early application is requested, as the number of pupils will be limited.—Particular attention will be paid to Biblical instruction. Quebec, 15th April, 1845.

QUEBEC HIGH SCHOOL.

REVD. E. J. SENKLER, A. M. Of the University of Cambridge, DIRECTOR. CLASSICS, MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL PHILOSOPHY } REVD. E. J. SENKLER. CLASSICS.....W. S. SMITH. ENGLISH.....LEWIS SLEEPER. ARITHMETIC.....DANIEL WILKIE. FRENCH AND DRAWING.....H. D. THIELCKE. PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT.....REVEREND J. MEMORINE.

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REVD. DR. COOK, REVD. G. MACKIE, REVD. J. CLUGSTON, ANDREW PATERSON, Esq., JAMES DEAN, Esq., JOHN BONNER, Esq., JAS. GIBB, Esq., W. S. SEWELL, Esq., REVD. D. WILKIE, LL. D., JOHN THOMSON, Esq., NOAH FRERER, Esq., ROBERT SHAW, Esq., H. GOWEN, Esq., Hon. F. W. PRIMROSE, JOHN McLEOD, Esq., Secretary, JAMES DEAN, Esq., Treasurer, JOHN THOMSON, Esq. Charges for boys under 10 years of age, £16 above 10 years of age, £12 10 per annum,—payable quarterly, in advance. French and Drawing, a separate charge. Hours from 9 to 12, and from 1 to 3. PREPARATORY DEPART.—Terms, £7 10s. per an. The branches taught in this department will be English Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Geography, and the elements of the French Language. The moral, as well as intellectual, training of the pupils, and their religious instruction will be special objects of the Teacher. High School, 22d January, 1845.

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