

Commerce, and other commercial associations have engaged to petition for it, and influential persons of all political parties and religious denominations, are cordially co-operating for its speedy realization. It seems to interest all classes of the community, not only those who have personal friends or commercial correspondents in the distant countries of the British Empire, but those also who desire to see abolished everything in distance that tends to estrange from their fellow-subjects abroad, or to prevent the development of that friendly intercourse and correspondence which would socially make them all part and parcel of the Home Country.

Now, while these efforts are being made in Great Britain to establish a postal system which must so deeply interest all the inhabitants of the distant provinces, colonies, and dependencies of the Empire, we would earnestly appeal to them for their co-operation in securing this great boon to the world. We would urge upon them the importance and necessity of uniting their petitions and memorials for such an *Ocean Penny Postage* with those of their fellow subjects in the Home country. We are confident, if they would unite their efforts with ours, we should speedily see this great measure realized, and crowned with blessed consequences to all the sea-divided communities of mankind. Memorials or petitions, from legislative assemblies, municipal bodies, chambers of commerce, towns, villages, religious congregations, missionary societies, &c., addressed in due form to the Crown, or Home Government, would aid invaluablely the efforts now being put forth in Great Britain to secure this great boon, which will bring equal blessings and beneficence to all the subjects of the British Government, in whatever region of the globe they may reside. We would earnestly appeal to every Christian, patriot, or philanthropist, who reads this statement, to lend a hand to this work; to interest his friends and fellow-citizens in the question, to get a memorial or a petition in favour of an *Ocean Penny Postage* signed by the members of legislature, or of the town council, chamber of commerce, ecclesiastical body, or religious congregation, of which he may be a member, or by the inhabitants of the town of which he is a citizen. It is expected that Mr. Ginsow will bring forward his motion in the House of Commons for this postal reform during the month of April next, therefore, all petitions and memorials from the colonies should be sent in early in that month. All such as may be directed to our care will be put in the hands of Members of Parliament, who will not only present them, but support the measure with voice and vote.

To facilitate this operation, we subjoin a brief form of petition, which may serve for the purpose with such modifications as the circumstances of the place may suggest.

The Petition of the Undersigned—

Sheweth—That your petitioners are deeply impressed with the great and manifold advantages which would result from the establishment of a system of *Ocean Penny Postage*, by which the single service of merely transporting a letter from any port of Great Britain to any port in any of its colonies or dependencies beyond the sea, shall be performed for the uniform charge of *One Penny* for each letter under half-an-ounce in weight. Your petitioners are fully persuaded that this measure would vastly increase correspondence, and facilitate friendly intercourse between the rapidly increasing colonial populations of the British Empire, and their fellow-subjects in the Mother Country, and thus tend greatly to unite them more and more closely in those bonds of fraternal sympathy and fellowship which should subsist between subjects of the same Government. Your petitioners would particularly advert to the invaluable blessings which the establishment of such an *Ocean Penny Postage* would bring to the vast number of emigrants that are yearly flocking to our shores from Great Britain and Ireland; and who are, to a great extent, cut off from correspondence with their relatives and friends in the

land of their birth by the present high postal charge on letters. Your petitioners, therefore, earnestly pray that early measures may be adopted for reducing the charge of merely conveying a letter, under half-an-ounce in weight, from any port in the United Kingdom to any colonial port in the British Empire beyond the sea, to the uniform charge of *One Penny*.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

It will not cost any friend of this scheme any sensible sacrifice of time or money to copy the above Petition at the head of a large sheet of ruled foolscap paper, and get 50 or 100 respectable signatures attached to it. And we earnestly solicit from every such person this little contribution of time and trouble to the movement, which is costing others so much labour. All such petitions, and any communications on the subject, may be addressed, *postage paid*, to the undersigned.

ELIHU BURRITT.

35, BROAD STREET BUILDINGS,
London, Jan. 17, 1852.

HOME AND ITS DUTIES.

What pleasant associations, what sacred recollections, cluster around our homes!—There is a charm in our every thought of home—the very rocks and hills, the green old woods, where we have roamed and frolicked in all the buoyancy of childhood—every flower, every blade of grass, comes up to our minds. All their freshness, and seem like old familiar faces that we have looked upon and loved from our youth—aye, more, the very word, home, has a cheering influence.

The wanderer in far distant lands turns his thoughts back to the home of his childhood with swelling emotions, and while his vivid fancy calls up with magic swiftness the many happy hours spent amid the social circle, with parents, brothers and sisters, before the bright, crackling fire, this thought forces itself upon him with twofold earnestness—that

"Be it ever so humble,
There is no place like home."

And if, perchance, tidings reach him of his much-loved home, they fall upon his eager ear like the gentle cadence of sweet music, and he feels himself a happier and a better man. The kindly influence exerted by the social circle, makes a deep impression upon youthful minds, and clings to them in after life, and is often as a sheet anchor to the soul when tempted almost beyond endurance. With such a responsibility resting upon us, we should be more careful not only to perform our *social duties* to the utmost, but also endeavor to invest our homes with whatever of natural beauty we can, to throw a charm about the exterior, that they may better correspond with that beauty of affection that dwells within; and I appeal to you, ladies young or old, "grave or gay," married or single, to do your part to give to "the lowly thatched cottage" a significant *home expression*—that *cozy look*, that seems to say to the beholder "welcome, welcome here." No doubt many of you will wonder what you can do to carry out this idea. I will tell you. Most of you are fortunate enough to have a bit of ground that you dignify by the name of flower-garden, which can be greatly improved, if you take hold of the matter in the right spirit yourselves, and not leave it to your fathers and mothers to superintend, at such a busy time as the opening of Spring; next, procure a trumpet flower, a woodbine, a few honey-suckles, a couple of climbing roses or so—place one at each end of the piazza, another may be allowed to run over the front door; others again may clamber over the windows, half hiding with their graceful drapery the happy faces within, and scattering their sweet perfume throughout the house. It is truly astonishing how much of embellishment and of picturesque beauty can be bestowed on an otherwise plain house, by the judicious use of a few climbers. They will not only beautify your home, but will add to the happiness of the inmates, while they charm with their exquisite beauty all who see them, though their

feelings be not over delicate, or their tastes very refined. Try it, some of you young ladies, and my word for it you will ever after feel prouder of your homes, it will have a tendency to hallow and refine your feelings, and every hour spent in rendering your homes thus beautiful, will be returned to you in hearty pleasure a hundred-fold.—*Boston Cultivator.*

ESTELLE.

Literary Notices.

THE ART JOURNAL, MARCH, LONDON and New York, G. Virtue & Son; Toronto, H. Rodgers, Agent for Canada.

The March number of this most tastefully illustrated Journal has come to hand, and like its predecessors, has in it an amplitude of merit, sufficient to sustain the very high expectations that are now formed of the appearance of this Artistic Gem. The illustrations are, the Tambourine, engraved by C. Rolls, from the picture by P. Williams, in the Vernon Gallery, the Newspaper, engraved by C. W. Sharpe, from the picture by T. Goodle, in the Vernon Gallery, the Filatrice, engraved by Edwin Rook, from the Statue by R. Schadow, the Canonical Virtues, by Professor Mücke, of Dusseldorf, Examples of the Artists of Germany, Selections from the portfolio of Moritz Retzsch. The Filatrice is from the chisel of Rudolph Schadow, an eminent Roman sculptor, who was born in Rome in 1773, and died there in 1822. His three principal works are "Tying the Sandal," a "Cupidon," and the Filatrice, all in the royal collection at Berlin. The one which forms the subject of the engraving in this number is in the possession of the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth, and is one of the three copies of this piece in existence, from the hand of Schadow. The word Filatrice means a spinner, and the figure represents a young woman amusing herself with a ball of thread and a spindle. The position is graceful, and the figure is finely brought out. Rook seems quite an adept at the engraving of Statuary. We have part III. of Mrs. Merrifield's essay on the harmony of colours, in its application to ladies' dress. This essay we commend to the careful perusal of our fair readers. The concluding sentences are, "In the dress of English ladies we find too frequently a variety of colours, without any pretensions to harmony of arrangement. Not only is the dress or bonnet selected without the slightest consideration, whether it is or is not, suitable to the complexion, but a variety of colours of the most dissonant and inharmonious kinds may frequently be seen in the habiliments of the same lady." The Master of Art in this number is Sir Peter Paul Rubens. The illustrations given from his works are "The Visit," and "The conclusion of Peace." We have also in this number one of these pretty gossiping pilgrimages of Mrs. Hall very sweetly illustrated. The subject is Chertsey and its neighbourhood. The dwelling of Thomas Day, the accomplished author of that almost universal youth's companion—Sandford and Merton. There are some excellent remarks in connexion with the somewhat eccentric author, but our space will not at present permit an extract. The other departments of the journal are selected as usual, some of the Art notices will be found in another part of this day's paper.

FROM THE MONTREAL WITNESS.

THE OLD RED SANDSTONE; OR, NEW WALKS IN AN OLD FIELD. By HUGH MILLER. Boston, Gould & Lincoln. Toronto, A. H. Armour & Co., T. Maclear.

GEOLOGY OF THE BASIN OF THE ST. LAWRENCE. By HECH MILLER. With its Civil and Ecclesiastical History, and Notices of some of its Martyrs. By DR. McCRAE and others. New York; Robert Carter & Brothers. Toronto; A. H. Armour & Co., T. Maclear.

We have not placed these volumes in the chronological order of their publication, nor yet in the