

TEN SHILLINGS IN ADVANCE.

"THE GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER"

TWELVE AND SIX PENCE AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

VOLUME III.

GODERICH, COUNTY OF HURON, (C. W.) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1850.

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Poetry.

VERSES. SUGGESTED BY THE PROVERB OF THE BIRTH-DAY OF THE ROYAL HOUSE OF THE EARL OF FIFE. Long live the noble Earl of Fife, Whose natal-day the thousand hail With joyful sounds, and gauds and rife, And banners waving in the gale. And banners waving in the gale.

"Long live our good and generous lord," The many children shout aloud; The heart-felt prayer, with one accord, Is echoed by the grateful crowd.

Long live the man whose beam glows With pity for the humble poor, Whose wistful eyes are laid on those Whose goods to make their comforts sure.

Thrive may his precious herds and flocks That crop the verdant park and field; And richly grow the woollen bays, That clothe to the naked yield.

Green be his age—his woods still green, Where of the needy poor repair; Fence high your vine perches and keels, To find the warming fall breeze.

Blest be the man of liberal heart, Who opens his gates, inviting all, To see the splendid works of art, Which grace his sculptured princely hall.

And wander round his smiling bowers, His flow'ry shrubs, and willow's trees, And laws of justice, and sweet flowers, Melodious with the hum of bees.

Where Doveron with a quelling sound Rolls his majestic flood along, The base-note of the choir around, That wakes the dewy morn with song.

Away! ye selfish grasping men, Who feel not for another's woe, Who show your little greatness when they see you in a narrow row.

Away, away! and take your ease; Fence high your vine perches and domes, Bid your obsequious menials rise, And drive the wretched from your homes.

Away! 'twould make my blood run cold To see the want you oft create; Away! and riot with the gold, Wrang from the meek of low estate.

'Tis not for tyrants such as you, Who "plead with men the price of life," 'Tis for the good and generous few, The meek of feeling such as, Fife.

W. H. Borne, October 9, 1850.

AN ARGUMENT FOR MARRIAGE.—Powell, the scholar, writing to a friend of what people call the folly of marrying without the means to support a family, expressed frankly his own fears when he found himself in this position; but he adds, with characteristic candour—"To tell the truth, however, family and poverty have done more to support me than I have to support them. They have compelled me to make exertions that I hardly thought myself capable of; and often when on the verge of despair, they have forced me, like a coward in a corner, to fight like a hero, not for myself, but for my wife and little ones. I have now as much work to do as I can execute, unless I can find some assistance in the same way, and I have a prospect of further commissions." The truth here expressed by the gifted scholar is like a similar remark we heard not long since, by a gentleman from Boston who tried matrimony in the same way, and found afterwards that the loose change in his pocket which he had before squandered in "foolish notions"—young men's whims, as he called them—was enough to support a wife, who, by well regulated economy, has proved a fortune in herself, and had saved a snug sum of money for her once careless husband. "A wife to direct a man towards a proper ambition, and to a general economy," he said, "was like timely succor at sea to save him from destruction on a perilous voyage."

secution, there is more than a probability that truth lies on the prosecuted side.

INDIFFERENCE.—To be truly and really independent is to support ourselves by our own exertions.

Humility is a virtue all preach, none practice, and yet everybody is content to hear. The master thinks it good for his servant, the clergy for the laity, and the laity for the clergy.

A great many people have some knowledge of the world, although the world has no knowledge whatever of them, and no particular desire to acquire any.

NOVELTY.—What we recover from oblivion is to us like fish thrown into the river. Let us that has not been thrown into it.

If we get knowledge into our minds edgewise, it will soon find room to turn.

AGRICULTURE.

VALUE OF A LITTLE CHEMICAL KNOWLEDGE.

The last number of the American Farmer contains an interesting statement of the results of an experiment on the farm of the Hon. Reverend Johnson, near Baltimore. The farm recently purchased by Mr. Johnson, was completely exhausted, and the great question of the proprietor, was, what shall be applied to it in order to bring it to a state of fertility. In order to answer this question, common sense would dictate the Yankee rule of asking another question first, viz.—What is lacking in the soil, which causes its present barren condition. In order to ascertain this chemistry must be called in. An analysis must be made. In order to illustrate the practical operation of this, we will extract from the communication, the following statements.—The land, originally good, had been impoverished by long course of husbandry.—The soil contains a very large proportion of iron. So complete was its exhaustion, that when I first saw it, all the vegetable matters growing upon the two hundred acres of cleared land, (including the briars, sassafras, and other bushes,) carefully collected would have been insufficient for the manufacture of one four horse load of barn-yard manure. The field selected for experiment contains ten acres, embracing the slopes of two hills, and a small valley intersecting it diagonally. It was at that time in corn, and did not produce one peck of corn to the acre, although it had been cultivated in the usual manner, and with ordinary care, and the season had not been below the average of seven years. An analysis of the soil was made by Dr. Stewart. He found it to contain the following ingredients:

Sand and base insoluble	71.30
Lime	0.30
Magnesia	0.40
Manganese	0.10
Potash	0.23
Water and organic matter	10.00
Phosphoric acid, none	0.00
Iron and alumina	17.70
	100.00

The doctor remarks that from this analysis the soil contains as much lime and magnesia as could be furnished by a dressing of one hundred and fifty bushels per acre.—An uncommon quantity of iron. As there was a lack of phosphates, he recommended a preparation composed of phosphate of lime. This is obtained by dissolving phosphoric acid—bone dust is similar in its effects—a part of the lime being combined with carbonic instead of sulphuric acid.

The corn was accordingly cut off and removed, the field ploughed and harrowed, and laid off into sixteen and one-half feet lands. The preparation was then scattered regularly over it, costing, all told, \$10 per acre. One and a quarter bushels of Mediterranean guano was then sown upon each acre, and harrowed in. No barn-yard or other manure was used. The yield was more than twenty-nine bushels per acre!

'Tis this a triumph of science, as applied practically to the renovation of exhausted land.—Maine Farmer.

IS THE EARTH FULL OF SEEDS!

This question introduced a paragraph in yesterday's Journal. In 1845 while waiting at the foot of the White Peak of the Adirondack, for the clouds to remove from the summit, a fire broke out in the woods on the eastern slope of the mountain, and soon this gigantic mountain was wrapped in a sheet of flame. The trees and every combustible substance on the surface was consumed, and the thin covering of loess earth (about a foot in thickness) on the rocks was calcined. About three years afterwards, I again visited the mountain, and found the burnt district a vast field of blueberry bushes. During the fruit season, more than two thousand bushels of blueberries were gathered in this field for the Montreal market.

About forty years ago, the extensive barrens, lying between the Cumberland and Green River, in Kentucky, were covered with high grass, strawberries, and wild flowers. Among the latter, the morning glory. Every autumn, when the grass had become dry, it was fired either by hunters or from the camp fires of settlers. I have seen a fire many miles in length traversing these barrens with the speed of a race horse. No trees could grow here, but the grass resprouted & appeared to gather new life from the fire. Since the barrens have become settled, the autumn fires have been prevented, and it is now a thickly wooded district. Chestnut, oak, and hickory have sprung up, and when I saw the first early growth, it looked like one vast nursery, bounded on all sides by the horizon.

In my examination of the extensive plain lying between Lake Ontario and the river Ottawa, I found that districts of pine timber, which had been swept by the flames were supplied with a new growth of hardwood in place of the pine. Near the borders of Lake Champlain, on the western side, farmers cultivate blueberry bushes; and the berries, laid out for the berry field, set fire to the brush and burn it, and the next year the blueberry bushes spring up in abundance.

These facts bear witness to the harmonious nature, and give evidence of the fertility of our beautiful earth.

The most ancient account of our earth, makes mention of the "grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit-tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself upon the earth."

The "fireweed" is well known among farmers. This weed is planted by the fire. The place where a coal pit has been burnt, may be easily distinguished by the luxuriance of its products.

When Kotschew was in the far Northern seas, he landed upon an island covered with grass. His men in making an excavation found that this island was a mass of ice, and that the loose earth in which the grass

THE ARBITRATION COURTS.

We are happy to see that the new Association this township for the suppression of litigation, and the establishment of Arbitration Courts, is making good progress. To use a homely phrase, which however Kings have not disdained, we must say, that our law reformers "have the right now by the ear this time," and we trust they will hold fast. It pleases us to think that while others have been beating the bush, Old Niagara has started the game, and is preparing to secure the great object of his reform, whether our lawyer ridden legislature move in the matter or not the establishment of a Court of Arbitration in every township of the province where neighbors could settle disputes among themselves before they fell into the hands of the legal fastidious, and attained the magnitude of a suit, would be a blessing indeed, productive of incalculable good both morally and materially. How many families might be thus saved by the influence and good offices of their neighbors from running headlong into the net and snare of law, to be involved in expenses which would perhaps cripple and ruin them all their days! A law suit in a neighborhood, especially in the country, is a moral pestilence, the evil effects of which may outlast the whole generation in which it originated. We have in our eye at this moment neighborhoods which after living for fifty years in peace and harmony have been socially disorganized, families divided, neighbors estranged, and the foundations of mere law suits laid, through some unlucky dispute, which might—and could have been quietly settled, had there been a tribunal to which the parties could have appealed before referring their matters to the compass of a lawyer's pen, whose interest it is to blow the sparks of discord into a flame, and aggravate disputes rather than pacify them. But it is needless to dwell on a subject so true and proverbial as that of the evil consequences of litigation; all the world admits the wisdom of an equitable arrangement between parties before incurring the expenses and partaking of the demoralizing excitement of a law suit. That an object so palpably to the interest of all as an equitable adjustment of disputes, through the good offices of immediate friends and neighbors should never have been secured by some institution or other adapted to the purpose seems strange indeed, yet the remedy lay all the while at our feet. For hundreds of years the old complaint of the uncertainty, ruinous expense and vexation of law proceedings has been repeated, yet it has never occurred to the people that a proper relief from legislative enactments, was to be sought in the hands of a private party waiting till the waters should run off that might pass over dry-shod. Instead of diminishing, the legal stream flows on with increasing volume, and unless the people of our country build up a bulwark against it, it cannot and will not be restrained. Such a bulwark we believe to be found in the general adoption of the principles of arbitration, as set forth by our new Association. No one can condemn the principle, though, as to the best mode of carrying it out, differences will naturally arise it is a thing utterly untried to apply such a principle on a general scale, and experience only can disclose the way to enable us to separate its proceedings from the best to compose the great end of the institution. The present constitution of the society is framed in this view, a few difficulties, and most obvious rules are alone laid down, so that the principles may be adapted to any particular case, and as they may be suggested by experience. Its encouraging it at any rate to see the warm and spirited manner in which this proposition has been welcomed by so many of our most active and intelligent citizens. It shows that the question of law reform has entered deeply into the thoughts of the community, and it cannot much longer be staved off. Let them go on zealously, but without being too sanguine of its immediate results, their active and powerful aid and assistance will be most gratefully received by the Association. No one can condemn the principle, though, as to the best mode of carrying it out, differences will naturally arise it is a thing utterly untried to apply such a principle on a general scale, and experience only can disclose the way to enable us to separate its proceedings from the best to compose the great end of the institution.

NEW AND ECONOMICAL MODE OF FOREIGN VEGETABLES.—It has been suggested by a manufacturer, that the waste steam of factories may be advantageously applied to the roots of plants; and without any expense for artificial heat large quantities of tropical fruits and vegetables may be raised at all times, besides such of our own as we can otherwise have in perfection, only during the summer months. A series of common draining tile, laid within suitable distances underneath properly-prepared beds, containing the plants, which from frost or cold air, would be all that is necessary for the underground arrangements.—Moisture would be thus communicated as well as heat, and a slight covering of wood, or brick and glass to protect the plants from frost or cold air, would be all that is essential to securing the most prolific growth.—American Agriculturist.

PALE MANAGEMENT OF BEES.—The months of October and November are the season when the state of the hives will require particular attention. The hives should be examined, and those not containing honey enough for its occupants to sustain them during the Winter, must be fed. An ordinary swarm or family of bees will consume from 15 to 20 pounds of honey from October to May. If the Winter be very mild, more than this quantity will be required; but not in an ordinary season.—The sparrows should be able from practice, to know at once on raising the hives whether the above quantity exists in them or not. Hives that have been occupied several years will be as heavy without any honey as others that have been used but one season with from five to ten pounds of honey.

CUT WORMS.—These pests are most effectually destroyed at the north, by deeply plowing the fields just as the winter is setting in. They have by this time settled into the snug winter quarters, far below the surface, and by throwing them upon or near the surface, where the pelting storms and severe frosts will catch them, when too much chilled to seek new for a hiding place, large quantities of them are destroyed. Colonel Fisher, of Louisiana, says, for the cotton crop of that state, they are most effectually exterminated by ploughing deep about the 1st of April, just before planting the cotton. In this way, they have been destroyed, and his own fields have been saved from their ravages, while others around him have been greatly impaired by them.—American Agriculturist.

ADVANTAGES OF DRILLING WHEAT.—The advantages claimed for drill culture, in the Transactions of the New-York State Agricultural Society, are as follows:—1. A smaller quantity of seed is required to sow drilled wheat than broadcast; every kernel is neatly covered at a uniform depth.

2. A Saving of Labor.—Any person can manage a team as completely in the exact manner, from ten to fifteen acres per day.

3. An Increase of Crop.—Small ridges of earth are left between the rows of wheat which, by the action of the frost, slides down and covers the roots, thereby protecting winter-killing frosts, and heat are admitted between the rows and prevent injury by rot. A vigorous growth is given to the young plant, and its position in a constantly moist place, prevents injury from drought.

IRELAND.

The tide of emigration from the province of Connaught continues to flow on, unintermitted, through this town, to an almost inconceivable extent. The public conveyances are unable to afford accommodation to the number of decent, comfortable, and well-clad people that are leaving the country. It would seem that some deadly plague had smitten that unfortunate province, from the eagerness with which the people flee out of it.—(Westmorland Independent.)

During the last few days Rosera has been crowded with emigrants, destined for New-York, and the principal part of them had been respectable and industrious farmers.—(Leinster Express.)

For the last week, over fifty families have passed through Kilmartin, on their way to the ports of Cork and Limerick, to embark thence for America. The greater number of these individuals were from Ireland. Such a drain on that part of the country, of its bone and sinew, has never been known, and some of our oldest inhabitants say that greater numbers have emigrated from this part of the country, within this season, than they recollect to have seen during the past twenty years.—(Tralee Chronicle.)

Fire at SPRINGFIELD.—A very destructive fire has occurred at Springfield; loss \$25,000.—Globe.

A SIBERIAN WINTER.

The Traveller in Siberia, during winter is so enveloped in furs that he can scarce move; and under the thick fur hood, which is fastened to the bear-skin collar and covers the whole face, one can only draw in, as it were by stealth, a little of the external air, which is so keen that it causes a very peculiar and painful feeling to the throat and lungs. The distance from one halting place to another takes about ten hours, during which time the traveller must always continue on horseback, the cumbersome dress makes it impossible to wade through the snow. The

poor horses suffer at least as much as their riders, for, besides the general effect of the cold, they are tormented by ice forming in their nostrils and stopping their breathing. When they intimate this, by a distressed snort and convulsive shaking of the head, the drivers relieve them by taking out the pieces of ice, to save them from being suffocated. When the icy ground is not covered by snow, their hoofs often burst from the effects of the cold. The caravan is always surrounded by a thick cloud of vapor; it is not only living bodies which produce this effect, but even the snow smokes. These evaporations are instantly changed into millions of needles of ice, which fill the air, and cause a constant slight noise resembling the sound of torn satin or silk. Even the rein deer seeks the forest to protect himself from the intensity of the cold. In the tundras, where there is no shelter to be found, the whole herd crowd together as close as possible to gain a little warmth from each other, and may be seen standing in this way quite motionless. Only the dark bird of winter, the raven, still cleaves the air with slow and heavy wings, leaving behind him a long line of thin vapor, marking the track of his solitary flight. The influence of the cold extends even to inanimate nature. The thickest trunks of trees are rent number with a loud sound, which, in these deserts, falls on the ear like a signal shot at sea; large masses of rock are torn from their ancient sites; the ground, in the tundras and in the rocky valleys, cracks and forms wide yawning fissures, from which the waters which were beneath rise, giving off a cloud of vapor, and become immediately changed into ice. The effect of this degree of cold extends even beyond the earth. The beauty of the deep blue polar star, so often and so justly praised, disappears in the dense atmosphere which the intensity of cold produces. The stars still glisten in the firmament, but their brilliancy is dimmed.—[Travels in the North.]

ATROPHIC FRISK OF NATURE.—On Friday last, an old lady, aged 81 years, died at Lawrenceville of a disease of the bowels. A few days prior to her death it was discovered that a tumor existed in her abdomen, and on being asked whether she was willing to have her bowels opened after her death for the purpose of ascertaining the nature of the tumor she assented. Accordingly immediately after her death a post mortem examination was held, and a bony substance of an oval shape was removed. Upon sawing through this it was discovered that the tumor was a fully developed female child! So perfectly formed was the child in all its parts that no difficulty whatever was found upon deciding upon the mode of its removal. The child was a female, and was found to be a fully developed female child! So perfectly formed was the child in all its parts that no difficulty whatever was found upon deciding upon the mode of its removal. The child was a female, and was found to be a fully developed female child! So perfectly formed was the child in all its parts that no difficulty whatever was found upon deciding upon the mode of its removal.

A FEDERAL UNION.

"Fear God—honor the King—and moderate not with them that are given to change"—is, or should be, particularly the last, a good old Tory say. The destruction of the Parliament buildings and the scenes exhibited in connection therewith showed how little influence the saying exercised on them. But it is with regard to the latter that Tory principles has been most flagrantly violated. Since the League was also has been heard from the Tories, and the cause of the League has been bleated there, have been celebrated for nothing else for some time past. Once and again they have started the cry for a Federal Union; and this time the Hon. Henry Sherwood takes up the pen. A letter of his, now some weeks old, is before the public, in which he argues for such a Union, and lays claim to the empty honour of having advocated the same for the last 13 years.

With the desire for Retrenchment so generally expressed, we fear the project of a Federal Union will not meet with much support from the people. What with the Municipal Councils dabbling in politics; the proposed Provincial Parliament; and a Federal one besides, the public would be well represented. But so long as the present connection exists, a Federation such as that proposed would only be attended with additional expense without any commensurate advantage. We believe that the best plan of retrenchment is to reduce the number of office-holders rather than to reduce the amounts paid to each, and as one result of a Federal Union would be the increase of petty officers, and election excitements, and talk-and-do-nothing Parliament, in which we are much better as we are. Situated as at present, a Federal Government would be supererogatory—it would simply cost a great deal and have little or nothing to do. We have no need for a foreign or diplomatic system—sense or the cares of a standing army are unnecessary, and the office of a victory is one for which the need has been felt.—Bearing this in mind, the advantage of uniting the whole of the British Provinces for the purpose of subdividing them again seems quite unnecessary. The object of the union between Upper and Lower Canada was a good one—to unite a people having similar interests, but differing in some particulars. The result of a union such as that proposed would only serve to continue distinctions which are already wearing away. In place of a united Province we would have such a union as the one proposed by a French and an English one.—Free Press.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILROAD.

We observe that the Great Western Railroad Company are advertising for tenders for building a post and bond fence between Hamilton and London, and as some of our readers might possibly desire to have a finger in the pie, we give the notice a gratuitous insertion. The following is a copy of the placard:—

"Sealed tenders will be received until two o'clock, P. M., the 30th day of November, instant, at the office of the Great Western Railroad Company, for the erection of a post and bond fence, on the line of Railroad from the city of Hamilton to the town of London, according to a plan in the office of the Engineer of the Company, where specifications of the manner of building, and all information in relation to the same may be obtained.

"Proposals to be addressed to the undersigned, marked 'tenders for fencing,' and should state the quantity proposed for the price per rod, and upon what portion of the line of Railroad.

"The Board of Directors reserve the privilege of accepting such proposition as they shall consider for the interests of the Company.

"By order of the Board, J. T. GILKINGSON, Secy., Office of the Great Western Railroad Co., Hamilton, 11th November, 1850."

We have been spoken to by several parties respecting this wonderful fence, and we quite agree with the opinion expressed by many of them, that its construction seems to be premature. On the other hand, we are told that the act of incorporation requires it; if so, we can only say that it is a very silly act. What urgent necessity there can be for fencing the line of road before it is formed, we cannot even guess. Many of the American lines are not fenced at all, but what is the use to talk of American Railroads. We are not American, and what is far worse, we are not the good sense to copy from them what is essentially desirable. Unless we can have a railroad of the most expensive construction, we refuse to have any, and thus it is that so many really valuable improvements are doomed to burst like soap bubbles. But supposing a fence is absolutely necessary, why should that good old-fashioned zig-zag, which has been so pre-eminently instrumental in shaping this continent into snug, well-tilled farms, in place of one huge common, be sacrificed. It can be easily moved, and is admirably adapted both for hills and valleys, for rock and swamp. It may be said that we have no right to complain of the manner in which the money is spent, since Dundas has no interest at stake in the shape of stock. This we regret, and we firmly believe that most men in this town will live long enough to regret it also, but that does not lessen the interest we feel in the early construction of this truly national work. This fence building reminds us of the boy who bought a parcel with his cent penny, and did not find out that the said parcel was useless to him, until he discovered that he had nothing to put in it. Let the Directors of the Great Western Railway, with public confidence by the following that youth's example, or a similar mortification might possibly overtake them.—Dundas Herald.

When the desire for Retrenchment so generally expressed, we fear the project of a Federal Union will not meet with much support from the people. What with the Municipal Councils dabbling in politics; the proposed Provincial Parliament; and a Federal one besides, the public would be well represented. But so long as the present connection exists, a Federation such as that proposed would only be attended with additional expense without any commensurate advantage. We believe that the best plan of retrenchment is to reduce the number of office-holders rather than to reduce the amounts paid to each, and as one result of a Federal Union would be the increase of petty officers, and election excitements, and talk-and-do-nothing Parliament, in which we are much better as we are. Situated as at present, a Federal Government would be supererogatory—it would simply cost a great deal and have little or nothing to do. We have no need for a foreign or diplomatic system—sense or the cares of a standing army are unnecessary, and the office of a victory is one for which the need has been felt.—Bearing this in mind, the advantage of uniting the whole of the British Provinces for the purpose of subdividing them again seems quite unnecessary. The object of the union between Upper and Lower Canada was a good one—to unite a people having similar interests, but differing in some particulars. The result of a union such as that proposed would only serve to continue distinctions which are already wearing away. In place of a united Province we would have such a union as the one proposed by a French and an English one.—Free Press.

Our old friend Mr. George Brooks of Fredericksburgh, has sent us word that he has in his garden, two pear trees grown from slips grafted into the same one trunk 30 weeks since, and which now measure, including the several branches, thirty feet and six inches in length.—Napsace Rec.

A LONG FENCE.

We observe that the Great Western Railroad Company are advertising for tenders for building a post and bond fence between Hamilton and London, and as some of our readers might possibly desire to have a finger in the pie, we give the notice a gratuitous insertion. The following is a copy of the placard:—

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