

[FOR THE BEE.]

"As a cloudy swarm of flies,
With angry hum and slender lance, beset
The sides of some huge animal; so did
They buzz about the illustrious man."

Pollok.

MR. EDITOR,

The age in which we live, is, happily, one in which the meridian sun of knowledge is shining with unparalleled lustre, on the intellectual world. It seems to be the spirit of this age to penetrate into the deepest recesses of every subject that is worthy of attention; and as almost every enquirer after truth sets himself to the task under peculiar motives and impressions, we need not at all be surprised at that diversity of opinion which obtains throughout the literary world. Thus we have of late been presented with much writing in pro and con on the subject of Temperance Societies. The Rev. Mr. Trotter has favored the public with his views on the subject, through the medium of the *Novascotian*. The letters which he has published in that paper, although they may be repugnant to the views of some, should certainly be hailed by all with pleasure, as they afford a fund of valuable information, beyond the reach of the mass of our countrymen. But I am sorry to think that from at least a few they have not met with that reception which they so justly merited. To these few I would take the liberty of making a few remarks, which if more strictly attended to by members of Temperance Societies, would prevent much of that opposition to the cause which arises out of their own uncharitable way of treating those who do not adopt their sentiments. If Mr. Trotter, whom nature has endowed with superior talents, whom knowledge classes among her chief possessors whom religion claims as one of her zealous promoters, and whose conduct has invariably exemplified piety of heart. If I say this gentleman, after a thorough investigation of the subject of Temperance Societies arrives at the conclusion that he cannot conscientiously promote the cause of Temperance by these institutions, but only by the Gospel—that grand and only efficient agent which was given to man for the express purpose of moralizing the world. It certainly displays extreme narrowness of intellect and uncharitableness of spirit, to heap on him that scurrilous abuse that has appeared in some of our public prints, because he persists in promoting the cause of temperance by that means which the Scriptures, and doubtless his own conscience can only authorize.—Were the arguments by which this learned gentleman supports his views, silly, and his reasoning futile, the friends of Temperance Societies might have some plea for the manner in which they have written; but when his arguments are scriptural and his reasoning sound, the writings of his enemies should certainly be regarded with contempt. As far as I can learn, his positions have not in a solitary instance, been disproved of, by those temperance zealots, whose insignificant voices have been raised against him; but they pass over this only and essential point, and content themselves with venting their abuse on one who offers to the public inspection, the Gospel mode of promoting temperance. But I am very certain that those writings which have appeared against Mr. Trotter will have no influence against his character in the minds of those who are acquainted with him. It is a fact well known to all the friends of Mr. Trotter, that from the moment he first stepped his foot on the shores of Nova Scotia, until the present day, he has been a noted and zealous promoter of Temperance, both by precept and by example, although not by Temperance Societies.

With the hope that the friends of Temperance Societies may in future be more circumspect in their writings,

I now subscribe myself,

Yours, &c.,

A FRIEND OF TEMPERANCE.

March 14, 1836.

[FOR THE BEE.]

MR. EDITOR,

Sir,—Since the commencement of your little periodical, I have frequently received much entertainment from the perusal of the useful knowledge which it contains; and have read with pleasure many of the communications there inserted. There are some, however, of which I cannot approve, as they seem to be of no real use either to the correspondents themselves, or to those who read them. I refer principally to the Communications of Delta and his opponent Gamma, who finding you willing, as far as is practicable, to oblige every Correspondent, which is very commendable in you as an Editor, have taken that opportunity of making your paper the means of conveying their unmeaning debate.

In the 84th No of the Bee, Delta, in order to prove that dogs possess reason, produces a variety of anecdotes which if well authenticated, as he asserts, do indeed manifest amazing sagacity in that species of inferior animals. But though he gives an account of the thoughts of each dog, apparently as precisely as if he had conversed with each of them after the occurrence happened; or as correctly as he could have done had he been the dog himself; I am inclined to question whether his penetration would enable him to dive so deeply into dog-thoughts, as to tell exactly what they were upon these occasions.

Had he been speaking of human beings, his statements might have been subjected to less doubt. Nor do his premises warrant the conclusions which he draws, viz: "That man is not the only reasoning animal; and also, that many of the inferior animals display an acuteness of reasoning which might shame many of those who style themselves men." His previous assertions are indeed of the same import, but the arguments adduced amount only to a presumption. Were his opinion correct, we should doubtless before now have seen much improvement among the canine tribes; but nothing of the kind has happened, nor is it to be expected.

However, for his first communication, he might have been excused; as he only gives his opinion, though in a very confident manner. The controversy which it occasioned is worthy of more censure. In the next paper, Gamma assails him in a very satirical manner, and though evidently of an opposite opinion, does not endeavour to confute the reasoning of Delta. He seems plainly, as Delta has said, to have adopted the opinion that "ridicule is the test of truth." The controversy which follows is of little consequence, as it consists principally of ridicule and is of no service except to show the dispositions of the writers.

Another communication equally culpable, is that of Epsilon, the absurdity of whose sentiments must appear evident to every one. Who could ever imagine that the present generation could advance too far in improvement or discovery, and thus produce the effects which he so greatly fears?

The idea is certainly too puerile to be presented to the public; and the contrary is so evident that it requires no reasoning to support it. I would therefore wish, that such scribblers would either produce something more worthy of public attention, or leave the pages of the Bee to be filled with more useful selections.

Yours truly,

A CORRESPONDENT.

[We agree most cordially with "A Correspondent," and until the writers to whom he refers, can show us better data than they have yet produced, in support of their speculative opinions, we must shut our pages against them.—ED.]

JUST PUBLISHED,

And for Sale by the Subscriber, Price 6d.

THE NOVA-SCOTIA SONGSTER,

being a selection of Scotch, English, Irish, Love, Naval and Comic Songs. JAS. DAWSON.
Pictou, February 10, 1836.

TO BE SOLD

BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

That valuable and well known property, near the centre of the town of Pictou, part of the real estate of the late John Dawson, Esquire, deceased; consisting of the Eastern half of the

LARGE HOUSE AND LOT,

at present occupied by Mr. James Skinner and J. Martin, and the Lot and Wing adjoining, occupied by Mr. Thomas Fraser, as a paint shop.

This property admeasures, on Water Street, forty feet, on Kempt Street, eighty feet, and can be disposed of in one lot, or divided, and sold in two lots. A warranted title will be given, and terms of payment liberal.

For Particulars, please apply to

ABRAM PATTERSON.

Pictou, 18th Dec'r, 1835.

BLANKS

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE on Britain, U. States, and Canada

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Seamens' Articles

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Deeds of Conveyance and Mortgage do.

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Arbitration Bonds

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[December 20.]

TO BE LET,

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION,

THAT DWELLING HOUSE, and GARDEN, and also the SHOP, lately occupied by Mr James Beaton, sailor. The house is well adapted for a small family. For Particulars apply to the Subscriber, who offers

FOR SALE,

1. That valuable LOT of LAND, on Sutherland River, Merigonish, formerly possessed by Hugh Skinner, containing 200 acres, and on which there is one of the best MILL SEATS in the Province.

2. That HOUSE and LOT on Colerain Street, situated between Messrs. Adamson's and McKenzie's properties.

3. A LOT of LAND, containing 120 acres, on Mount Dalhousie, bounded on the East by land belonging to Mr John Robertson, W. R.

4. A LOT of LAND, containing 71 acres, on Scotch Hill, bounded on the North by land belonging to Mr Thomas Lowden.

A liberal Credit will be given,

THOMAS G. TAYLOR.

15th December, 1835. m-m cc-6

NAILS,

ON CONSIGNMENT.

THE Subscriber has received, ex Sch'r ADRIEN, from Montreal, a large consignment of best quality or tough Cut Nails, of all sizes, from 2lb. or shingling, to 30lb per thousand, and which he now offers wholesale or retail, very low for cash. These nails have been pronounced superior to any wrought nails for house work, wherever they have been introduced. JAS. DAWSON.

December 1.

A Few Copies of THE COMPLETE FARMER and RURAL ECONOMIST, for sale at Office. Price \$2 each. [Oct. 21.]

LOST!

BETWEEN the 3 Mile Inn and Pictou, on the 9th Instant, a SILVER WATCH. The Person who may have found the same will be rewarded by leaving it at Mr. Geddie's, Watch maker. Pictou 16 March. 1836.

ANY person who may have a spare copy of the PROVINCE LAWS (Session 1831) for Sale, will hear of a purchaser by applying at this Office.

TO LET.

Entry Immediately.

THE Premises lately occupied by Mr. J. Romans as a SHOP and DWELLING.

For particulars apply at this Office.

if

Pictou, July 10, 1835.