

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

V. R.—A number of papers on the early history of Canada, were published in the first volume of the READER. We shall be glad to receive popularly written articles on other subjects.

J. E. L.—We accept the story, on your own terms, with many thanks. When you have the requisite time at your disposal, please continue your contributions, and we will remit as before.

G. C. G., QUEBEC.—Have you received our letter with enclosure? Please write.

DR. G. S.—If you will forward an article on the subject occasionally, we shall be happy to publish it.

T. B. D.—With every disposition to oblige our correspondents, we cannot always accede to their requests as promptly as we would wish. We think a little reflection would convince T. B. D. of this fact.

POLLY.—We are pleased to hear that our correspondent is enjoying herself so thoroughly, and feel a little disposed to be envious, when we read about rambles on the beach, and delightful sea breezes; but as we prisoners of the city must pine in vain for the invigorating freshness of sea air, it is true wisdom to be philosophical, and submit to our lot with a good grace. We are convinced that Polly will succeed, when she has leisure to "try."

IONA.—Many thanks for your good wishes. The article will appear in an early issue.

WM. J.—We will, if possible, find room for your communication; but cannot positively promise, as we have not been able, as yet, to give it an attentive perusal.

NELLY B.—The lines are pretty, but the versification is not sufficiently correct to permit their insertion.

M.—The sketch, with careful revision, might be worth publishing. As M. has asked us to point out its most glaring faults, we will add that the orthography is very incorrect, and that such expressions as "drowned" are unpardonable.

W. J. "The Live Coal" is respectfully declined.

YOUNG CANADA.—William Henry West Betty, an English actor, who made his *debut* at the Belfast Theatre, when not twelve years old, was called "The Young Roscius." In fifty-six nights he drew nearly one hundred and seventy thousand dollars, and in his sixteenth year, after winning immense popularity and accumulating an ample fortune, he retired from the stage.

C. A.—Catherine is derived from the Greek, and means "pure." Amy is from the Latin, and signifies "beloved."

H. M.—Please accept our thanks.

AN ADMIRER. We shall commence our next volume with an original serial story, by a popular English author. It will be published from advanced sheets for which the publishers pay liberally. Illustrations have been specially prepared for the story, and will appear in the *Reader* in advance of or simultaneously with their appearance in England. We can assure "An Admirer" that no efforts will be spared to render our paper worthy of the cordial support of our friends.

G. A.—Respectfully declined.

Meta.—Thanks!

MISCELLANEA.

THERE is a man in Cincinnati taxed on an income of thirty thousand dollars, who, eleven years ago, exhibited a monkey in the streets for a living.

THE quarterly return of emigration from Liverpool shows an increase of over seven thousand passengers compared with the corresponding period of last year.

SWEARING in conversation indicates a perpetual distrust of a person's own reputation; and

is an acknowledgment that he thinks his bare word not worthy of credit.

GENERAL CIALDINI was originally a medical man, and subsequently an engraver, and a portrait of PONIATOWSKI, done in 1826, is attributed to him.

MORE than one million five hundred thousand human beings derive their sole support from the culture and manufacture of the fibres spun by the silkworm.

AMONG the many curiosities of the Paris Exhibition will be a piano-violin. Attached to a piano of the ordinary kind will be a box containing a violin, and from some admirable mechanical arrangement, when the keys are touched the violin will discourse excellent music. It is an American invention.

AT Athens, a malady, hitherto unknown, has broken out among the beasts of burden. The animals, seized with a sudden fit of rage, tear their own flesh.

THE English pheasant is now numbered among the feathered inhabitants of the woods of some parts of Australia.

A "colored" millionaire announced as the Duke de Bouton qui Perce, in Paris. He is the wealthiest of the ex-Emperor Soulouque's ebony courtiers. His fortune is stated to be seven millions; and a splendidly decorated and furnished hotel has been prepared for him in the Avenue de l'Imperatrice.

MISS Rye, an English young lady, is about to send one hundred working women to Australia, in August. On the arrival of the girls in Victoria, they will be received into excellent barracks, and kept there, free of expense, until situations are provided for them.

APPLICATION OF THE VOLTAIC PILE.—It is perhaps, not generally known that the French prize of 50,000 francs for the most important application of the voltaic pile to industrious purposes, is open to all nations. Competitor's names will be received at any time within five years from the date of decree (April 18th), and the claims will be examined by a Commission appointed by the Minister of Public Instruction.

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

CARE OF HARNESS.—If harness is not washed occasionally, it becomes hard, dry, and rotten. Harness for service needs about two applications of neat's-foot oil a year, but it should be washed as often as once in three or four weeks in strong Castile soapsuds, and kept in a dry place away from the dust.

ONE pound of green copperas, dissolved in one quart of water, and poured down a sink-drain, will effectually destroy the foulest smells.

COMMANDER Warren has patented a plan for stopping shot-holes or leaks in iron ships by sheets of lead fastened over the damaged part by means of screws acting on the outside of vulcanised India-rubber suckers.

TO PREVENT THE RAVAGES OF INSECTS UPON TREES.—Take one part of French vinegar, and nine parts of water. When the liquids have been well mixed, sprinkle the solution over the flower-beds by means of a garden-syringe or a watering-pot with a fine rose.

TO SOFTEN HARD WATER.—We have found no plan better for softening hard water than exposing it for a few days to the atmosphere. The water not only becomes less hard, but is aired and warmed, and is in every way better for watering plants than water from a well or spring.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE MOON.—Mr. Warren de la Rue, with his thirteen-inch telescope, has obtained photographs of the moon so perfect that they bear being enlarged to a diameter of three feet; and they are found so exact when submitted to micrometrical examination, that they furnish correct data for the measurement of the vibration of the moon. They serve also as a foundation for the lunar map, six feet in diameter, undertaken under the auspices of the British Association.

WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

WHAT day in the month of March is a command to go-ahead?—March 4th.

As long as a miser lives, his money-chest is very sure to be heir-tight.

"Look well before you loap," is very good advice in its way, but how can *sickly-looking* people follow it?

"WELL, Annie, how did you get along with that stupid fool of a lover of yours? Did you succeed in getting rid of him?"—"Oh yes, I got rid of him easily enough. I married him, and have no lover now."

AFFECTIONATE TIMES.—When everthing is about as dear as it can be.

AN OLD BACHELOR'S MAXIM.—As people sprinkle the floors before they wash them, so some ladies sprinkle their husbands with tears in order to sweep cash out of their pockets.

DEAR Miss Chibbles says, even if a woman had as many locks upon her heart as she had upon her head, a cunning rogue would find his way to it.

AN Irish gentleman having lost a horse, sent an advertisement to a newspaper, offering a reward for its recovery, with the following post-script added at the last moment:—"No further reward will be offered, as I have found it!"

THACKERAY'S nose was almost a broken-bridge snub. Jerrold, being told that the wit's religious opinions were unsettled, and that a lady of his acquaintance was doing her best to convert him to Romanism, exclaimed, "To Romanism? Let us hope she'll begin with his nose."

JONES once discovered the respective natures of a distinction and a difference. He says that "a little difference frequently makes a great many enemies, while a little distinction makes a host of friends to the one on whom it is conferred."

THE latest style of bonnet is described as consisting of two straws, tied together with a blue ribbon on the top of the head, and red tassels suspended at each of the four ends of the straws.

A MILLER, in giving a testimonial to the proprietor of a powder for destroying vermin, astounds us with the assertion, "A fortnight since I was full of rats, and now I don't think I have one."

"DEAR me, how fluidly he talks!" said Mrs. Partington, recently, at a temperance meeting. "I am always rejoiced when he mounts the nostril, for his eloquence warms in every cartridge of my body."

THE editor of a Yankee newspaper says that he never dotted an *i* but once in his life, and that was in a fight with a contemporary.

THE earth is a tender and kind mother to the husbandman; and yet at one season he always harrows her bosom and at another plucks her ears.

"CAN you tell me how old the devil is?" asked an irreverent fellow of a clergyman. "My friend, you must keep your own family record," was the reply.

MOTTES.—For a Draper. "Good mourning."—A sheep-breeder. "Lovely wether."—A sea-sick Passenger. "Sic transit."—A Breeches Maker. "Knee-plushultra."—A pleasure-boat in August. "The last rows of summer."—A Woodman. "For he is a jolly good feller."

THE following advertisement recently appeared in a daily paper:—"A young lady who has received a good education, can read and write, and is versed in geography, history, music, dancing, and elementary mathematics, wishes a situation in a respectable family as washer and ironer."

"JEANNIE," said a Scotchman to his daughter, who was asking his consent to accompany her urgent and favoured suitor to the altar, "Jeannie, it's a very solemn thing to get married." "I know it, father," replied the sensible damsel, "but it's a great deal solemn not to."