

The Quebec Argus.

We watch o'er all—and note the things we see.

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THE QUEBEC ARGUS.

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THE CHURCHES OF OUR LAND.

BY MISS MARY ANNE BROWNE.

They lie in valleys buried deep,
They stud the barren hills
They're mirror'd where proud rivers sweep,
And by the humbler rills;
A blessing on each holy fane,
Wherever they may stand,
With open door, for rich and poor,
The Churches of our Land!

To boast of England's palaces,
Her cities, and her towers;
Of mansions where her sons at ease
Dwell midst her greenwood bowers;
But a deeper sense of reverence
God's temples should command,
While knees shall bend, and prayer ascend,
In the Churches of our Land.

Oh! pleasant are the pealing bells,
Heard at the Sabbath time,
Calling to prayer from hills and dells,
With their melodious chime;
And glorious is the sacred song,
Sweetly by a fervent band,
When the organ's note doth proudly float
Through the Churches of our Land.

Talk not of England's "wooden walls,"
Her better strength is here;
Here trust around the spirit falls,
Subduing doubt and fear;
Here her brave sons have gather'd power,
Nerving each heart and hand—
Most fearless prove those who best love
The Churches of our Land.

They stand, the guardians of the faith
For which our fathers died;
God keep those temples still from scathe,
Our blessings and our pride!
Our energies, our deeds, our prayers,
All these should they command,
That never foe may lay them low,
The Churches of our Land.

(From the Toronto Patriot.)

FACTS CONNECTED WITH THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TOWARDS CANADA.

- 1.—Navy Island was invaded from the American frontier.
- 2.—The inhabitants along the Detroit River and residing at Amherstburg and Sandwich, were exposed to the galling fire of an armed schooner, fitted up and equipped from the United States.
- 3.—Bois Blanc was invaded and occupied by persons from the U. S.
- 4.—Fighting Island the same.
- 5.—Eickory Island the same.
- 6.—The Sir Robert Peel Steamer taken and destroyed, at an American Island, whilst taking in her fuel.
- 7.—An attack made at the Short Hills from the United States, a house burnt, &c.
- 8.—The Island of Point-au-Pele taken by an army from the United States, a severe fight with the regular troops, many killed and wounded.
- 9.—The attack made below Prescott from Ogdensburg, many killed, the body of Lieutenant Johnson brutally mutilated.
- 10.—An attack made on Windsor from Detroit, United States, the Thames steamer destroyed, the Barracks burnt, the body of Surgeon Hume brutally mutilated.
- 11.—An attempt made to blow up the Great Britain steamer when leaving Oswego, with all her passengers aboard.
- 12.—The cold blooded midnight assassination of Captain Usher, from a person or persons rowed from the opposite frontier.

13.—An attempt made to blow up the Monument erected to the memory of the beloved and illustrious Brock.

14.—The Church at Chippewa burnt by incendiaries.

15.—The tavern at the Falls and 19 houses burnt.

16.—Dr. Newburn's property burnt.

17.—Mr. Laing's property at the Short Hills burnt.

18.—An attempt made to destroy the Steamboats Mimos and Toronto.

19.—An attempt made to blow up the Welland Canal.

We mention these facts which are notorious and indisputable, not for the purpose of excitement, which we are happy in believing, there is a fair prospect now of seeing allayed, but to show that the militia of Upper Canada with these great provocations have exhibited a forbearance, a discipline, a propriety of conduct that has earned for them the lasting gratitude of their fellow subjects in Canada, and will procure for them the equal regard of their fellow subjects at home. Of what outrages had they been guilty? What violence have they committed? The only measures of retaliation that have been resorted to during the long period of provocations they have received, were the destruction of the Caroline—the shooting of four banditti in the Western District, by order of Colonel Prince—and the late forcible seizure of Grogan in the Eastern part of Canada. The first act has been formally sanctioned by Great Britain—the second approved of by the people of the Province, and never condemned by any portion of the American press—and the third notwithstanding the open and unblushing villainy of the incendiary Grogan, his arrest being considered illegal, he was immediately given up and the parties who ordered his arrest punished. Now then look at the opposite side: it is perfectly notorious that it was unsafe for any one who had distinguished himself in defending Canada, for a long period, in the United States. It is equally notorious that Theller, Sutherland and others who had been inflicting the most grievous and the most wanton injury on the people of the Western frontier, hating down their houses with grape and canister, traversed 250 miles through Canada, with no guard but a few of this slandered militia, and who received no insult or angry word at the hands of the people they had so shamefully misused. We also know that it is now dangerous for those who were employed in destroying the Caroline to travel in the States—that McLeod was taken up, confined, and tried for murder for a supposed participation in it—and that Lett, the notorious Lett, who boasted of enormities, without a parallel in history, was frequently seen hovering on the frontier, within the frequent grasp of the Canadian Militia, and was never molested by them.

Some satirical rogue defines monomania thus:—
"Tom, wot's monimany? 'Wy, you see, Dick, wen a poor feller steals, it's called larceny—but wen it's a rich 'un, the jury says it's monimany, and they can't 'elp it; that's it!"

WESTERN ELOQUENCE.—The following appears in a Western paper:—

Gentlemen of the Jury—Can you for an instant suppose that my client here, a man what has allers sustained a high depreodation in society, a man you all on you suspect and esteem for his many good quantities; yes, gentlemen, a man what never drinks more nor a quart of likker a day; can you, I say, for an instant, suppose that this ere man would be guilty of hookin' a box of percushum caps? Rattle-snakes and coon skins forbid! Pictur to yourselves, gentlemen, a feller fast asleep in his log cabin, with his innocent wife and orphan children by his side—all water hushed in deep repose, and nought to be heard but the muttering of the silent thunder and the hollring of the bull frogs; then imagine to yourselves, a feller sneaking up to the door like a despicable hyena, softly entering the dwelling of the peaceful and happy family, and, in the most mendacious and dastardly manner, hooking a whole box of percushum! Gentlemen, I will not, I cannot, dwell upon the monstrosity of such a scene! My feelings turn from such a picters of moral turpentine, like a big wood-chuck would turn from my dog Rose! I cannot for an instant harbor the idea that any man in these diggings, much less this ere man, could be guilty of committing an act of such rantanterous and unexampled discretion. And now, gentlemen, ater this ere brief view of the case, let me retreat of you to make up your minds candidly and impartially and give us such a verdict as we might reasonably suspect; from such an enlightened and intolerant body of our teller citizens—remembering, that in the language of Nimrod, who fell in the battle of Bunker Hill, it is better than ten innocent men should escape, rather than that one guilty should suffer. Judge, give us a chew of tobacco.

The following stanzas by Miss Gould, from "The Token," is one of the prettiest little conceits we have for a long time met with. It reminds one of the Leigh Hunt's "Musical Box."

FROST.

The frost looked forth one still clear night,
And he said, "Now I shall be out of sight,
So through the valley and over the height,
In silence I'll take my way;
I will go on like that blustering train,
The wind and the snow—the hail and the rain,
Who make much bluster and noise in vain;
But I'll be busy as they!"

Then he went to the mountain and powdered its crest,
He climbed up the trees, and their boughs he dressed,
With diamonds and pearls, and over the breast
Of the quivering lake he spread,
A coat of mail, that need not fear
The downward point of many a spear,
That he hung on its margin far and near,
Where a rock could rear his head.

He went to the windows of those who slept,
And over each pane like a fairy crept,
Wherever he breathed, wherever he stopped,
By the light of the moon, were seen
Most beautiful things; there were flowers and trees;
There were beves of birds and swarms of bees;
There were cities, thrones, temples, and towers, and them
All pictured in silver sheen!

But he did one thing that was hardly fair;
He went to the cupboard, and finding there
That all had forgotten for him to prepare,
"Now jus: to set them a thinking,
I'll bite this basket of fruit" said he;
"This bloated pitcher I'll break in three!"

Evil Influence of Fashion.—Never yet was a woman really improved in the attraction by mingling with the motley throng of the *beau monde*. She may learn to dress better, to step more gracefully; her head may assume a more elegant turn, her conversation become more polished, her air more distinguished; but in point of attraction she acquires nothing. Her simplicity of mind departs—her generous confiding impulses of the heart are smothered—she is no longer inclined to interpret favourable of men and things—she listens without believing—sees without admiring—has suffered persecution without learning mercy, and been taught to mistrust the candour of others by the forfeiture of their own.—The freshness of her disposition has vanished with the freshness of her complexion; hard lines are perceptible on her very soul, and crowsfeet contract her very fancy. No longer pure and fair as the statue of Alabaster, her beauty, like that of some painted waxen effigy, is tawdry and meretricious. It is not alone the rouge upon the cheek and the false tresses adorning the forehead which repel the ardour of admiration; it is the artificiality of mind with which such efforts are connected that breaks the spell of beauty.—[Mrs. Gore.

Imprisonment for Debt.—It is disgraceful that this relic of barbarous times should be allowed to exist in Christian countries. A late London paper contains an account of the proceedings of a coroner's jury, sitting over the body of Lieut. Charles Wallington, R. N., who del in the Queen's Bench Prison. It appears that Lieut. Wallington was arrested at the suit of one W. H. Burfield, for £6 13s, the amount of a doctor's bill, which costs to £133 6s. He had promised to pay the debt by two instalments, but had been refused. The jury returned a verdict of Natural Death, and at the same time they begged "to express their unqualified disgust at the conduct of the sole detaining creditor, at whose suit the deceased was kept in prison, twelve months for the trifling sum of £6 13s."

Another Forgery.—This morning it was discovered that three of our banks, the Pennsylvania, Farmers and Mechanics, and the North America, have been swindled out of \$13,000 by means of forged checks, in the name of a firm on South Wharves, by a clerk in the establishment, whose whereabouts at the present time is problematical.—[Philadelphia Gazette.

A young man in the employ of the Postmaster at Frederick, Tanrill county, Ohio, has been arrested for robbing the mail. In order to avoid being detected, he has been in the practice of opening letters, taking out any genuine bank notes they contained, replacing them with counterfeit, and then forwarding the letter.—[Canada Times.

"Oh dear! mother, I've got a cramp in my toe!" said a girl of ten years, tripping into the house.
"My darling how vulgar you talk," said the exemplary matron, "why could you not just as well have said, I have a muscular contraction in one of my pedal extremities."

The Bench vs. the Bar.—At Mount Vernon, Ky., some time since, a judge seized a bench five feet long, and floored a contumacious lawyer in fine style.—The latter boasted that it took the whole bench to put him down.—[Aurora.

Insensibility of Worldliness.—The thoughts of worldly men are forever regulated by the moral law of gravitation, which, like the physical one, holds them down to earth. The bright wonders of the day, and the silent wonders of a starlit night, appeal to their minds in vain. There are no signs in the sun, or in the moon, or in the stars for their reading. They are like some wise men, who learning to know each planet by its Latin name, have quite forgotten such small heavenly constellations as Charity, Forbearance, Universal Love and Mercy, although they shine by night and day so brightly that the blind may see them; and who, looking upward at the spangled sky, see nothing there but the reflection of their own great wisdom and book learning. It is curious to imagine these people of the world, busy in thought, turning their eyes toward the countless spheres that shine above us, and making them reflect the only images their minds contain. The man that lives but in the breath of prices, has nothing in his sight but stars for courtiers' breasts. The envious man beholds his neighbour's honours even in the sky; to the money-hoarders, and the mass of worldly folk, the whole great universe above glitter with sterling coin—fresh from the mint—stamped with the sovereign's head—coming always between them and heaven, turn where they may. So do the shadows of our own desires stand between us and our better angels, and thus their brightness is eclipsed.—Dickens.

Modesty.—The extreme modesty attributed to females of the present day, appears to have been productive of some benefit to married men. We heard yesterday of a husband who has thereby become "master of his house" again—a matter he has been unable to accomplish for several years past. On a slight squabble in the morning, as to who should "wear the pants," the wife got the best of it and had them on, when the "gude mon" suggesting that the *bullions had eyes*, his wife's modesty was so shocked, that she burst into tears and put on the pants.—[Boston Transcript.

Big BUILDING.—The Merchandise Depot, on the South Cove, at the terminus, in this city, of the Western Railroad, is said to be, with the single exception of one in Russia, the largest building in the world under one roof—without pillars or partition walls. It covers an acre and a quarter of ground.—Boston Transcript.

Danney, a bankrupt at Birmingham, who commenced business at the end of 1828 with £1,000 in money, and absconded in 1840, leaving debts of nearly £20,000, had been taken at Cuxhaven, and brought to trial for evading his bankruptcy, but, from a flaw, was acquitted. He appeared to the Insolvent Debtors' Court, and was examined at the last sittings at Birmingham. His effects were about £1,700; so that in business for one year and three quarters he had £1,000 to begin with, realized a profit of £2,000, owed £20,000, and left to his creditors £1,000, thus contriving to dispose of upwards of £20,000 in his own way. Not more than £40 has hitherto been realized by the estate, and three assignees are prosecuting at their own risk. The prisoner was remanded.

Ages of Newspapers.—It appears from a compilation by Mr. F. L. Simmonds of Chichester, that the oldest existing London papers are the "English Chronicle" or "Whitehall Evening Post," which was started in 1774; the "St. James Chronicle," 1761; and the "Morning Chronicle," 1769. The oldest existing papers are, "Lincoln Mercury," published at Stamford, 1695; the "Ipswich Journal," 1737; "Bath Journal," 1742; Birmingham Gazette" 1737; "Chester Courant," 1733; "Derby Mercury," 1742. The oldest newspaper in Ireland is the "Belfast News Letter," which was commenced in 1747. In Scotland, the "Edinburgh Evening Courant," is the oldest paper, having been first published in 1705.

PLenty of Ground.—The British Colonies in America are in extent about two millions eight hundred thousand square miles.

The Ice Trade.—Mr. Tudor is building a new icehouse at Fresh Pond, near the terminus of the Branch Railroad, which will hold ten thousand tons of ice; and he contemplates the erection of another, to hold thirty thousand tons. Mr. Tudor cuts nearly fifty acres off this beautiful pond having a share of three quarters of a mile. He intends to lay rails along this whole distance, with ice houses on the side next the pond.—Boston Mail.

Cork Reporter.—The Earl of Coventry, who made a very brief but very extraordinary speech, not long ago in the House of Lords, upon the subject of the corn laws, (noticed in our columns at the time), has been removed to an insane hospital. His lordship was labouring under incipient insanity when he made the speech, though no one suspected it.

Mechanics' Institutes.—There are 216 mechanics' institutions in England, comprising 26,651 members and subscribers, of whom about half belong to the class of workmen. The average number of members, therefore, is 119. The number of lectures delivered yearly in these institutions is about 1,125.