

DR. A. M. ROSS, THE ABOLITIONIST.

The names of but few Canadians are more familiar to the people of Canada than that of Alexander Milton Ross, whose portrait we have pleasure in presenting to our readers on this page.

Dr. Ross' fame as a naturalist is world-wide; but his claims to public recognition are not confined to his achievements in that field. His labours, perils and successes as an active, earnest worker in the great anti-slavery struggle in the United States, which culminated in the liberation from bondage of four millions of slaves, won for him the praise and friendship of his co-workers, Garrison, Tappan, John Brown, Gerrit Smith, Joshua K. Giddings, and Lucretia Mott.

Although Dr. Ross' sphere of labour in that great struggle for human freedom was less public than that of many other workers in the cause, it was not less important and required the exercise of greater caution, courage and determination; and also involved greater personal risk. Senator B. F. Wade, of Ohio, said in speaking of the abolitionists:—"Never in the history of the world did the same number of men perform so great an amount of good for the human race and for their country as the once despised abolitionists, and it is my duty to add that no one of their number submitted to greater privations, perils or sacrifices, or did more in the great and noble work than Alexander Ross."

Gerrit Smith in speaking of Dr. Ross' labours as an abolitionist, said:—"No one knows better than I do, how deeply devoted he was to the cause of the oppressed, or with what determination he laboured to bring the poor slave out of bondage."

Whittier, the poet of freedom, inscribed the following lines to Dr. Ross in remembrance of his labours in their common cause:

DR. A. M. ROSS.

For his steadfast strength and courage  
In a dark and evil time,  
When the Golden Rule was treason,  
And to feed the hungry, crime;



DR. ALEXANDER MILTON ROSS, THE "ABOLITIONIST."

For the poor slave's hope and refuge,  
When the hound was on his track,  
And saint and sinner, state and church,  
Joined hands to send him back.

Blessings upon him!—What he did  
For each sad, suffering one,  
Chained, hunted, scourged and bleeding,  
Unto our Lord was done.

JOHN G. WHITTIER,  
Secretary of the Convention in 1833,  
which formed the American Anti-Slave Society.

There is no risk now in denouncing the sin and injustice of human slavery; but it was another thing to denounce and to seek individually to release its victims from bondage twenty-five years ago when it was upheld by the law, the church and self interest in the Slave States; yet, that is just what Dr. Ross did on many occasions. The little band of radical abolitionists with whom he was labouring were despised, hated and ostracised by the rich, the powerful and the so-called higher classes; but Dr. Ross has always possessed the courage of his opinions and prefers the approval of his own conscience to the smiles or favours of men. The subject of our sketch is a native of Canada and a highly esteemed citizen of Montreal.

RACHEL NOAH figured in a truly dramatic scene in Chicago recently. During the performance of "Voyagers in Southern Seas" at the Grand Opera House, a man named Eagan, from Colorado, became dissatisfied with the position of affairs on the stage in the fifth act, where M. J. Jordan, as Burck, is about to brain with an axe Rachel, impersonating the boy James Grant. Eagan was seated in the balcony, from which he entered one of the upper boxes, which dropped into the one beneath, from which he jumped to the stage, and, seizing Jordan, bade him "hold on until the boy's father came." The audience rose to its feet, not knowing what would follow; but the supers rushed in from the wings and hustled the rescuer of one of the children of Captain Grant from the stage. Eagan afterwards apologized to the managers, saying he was just in from Colorado and unused to such stage scenes, which carried him away!



U. S. METEOROLOGICAL BUREAU.—ROOM WHERE THE WEATHER PROBABILITIES ARE CALCULATED.