

THE

CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

Vol. VIII.

TORONTO, JUNE, 1862.

No. 12.

GOD RENEWETH THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

"The bursting buds look up
To greet the sunlight, while it lingers yet
On the warm hill-side—and the violet
Opens its azure cup
Meekly, and countless wild flowers wake to fling
Their earliest incense on the gales of spring.

Continual songs arise
From universal nature—birds and streams
Mingle their voices, and the glad earth seems
A second Paradise!
Thrice blessed Spring! thou bearest gifts divine!
Sunshine, and song, and fragrance—all are thine.

Nor unto earth alone—
Thou hast a blessing for the human heart,
Balm for its wounds, and healing for its smart,
Telling of Winter frown,
And bringing hope upon thy rainbow wing,
Type of Eternal Love—thrice blessed Spring!"

The year as it rolls is full of God. Sweet Spring has opened its song of praise. Its spiritual aspects may well gladden our hearts, as its gentle footsteps come stealing over forests and fields. The prospect of a full harvest is good, yet should it come to a blighted, frozen, dead soul—what gain is there? Notes of thanksgiving rise heavenward from myriads of creatures all tasting of God's goodness. Shall the lays of birds put to shame the ingratitude of Man? Look then at the handiwork of God in renewing the face of the earth. What an aspect of beauty breaks on our view on every side! The boundless resources of the Almighty stand out before us. An energy that never tires fings from the fountain of life ten thousand forms crowned with beauty. Supreme taste presides where the lily grows; silvery and golden feathers on the wing of insect and bird rival the robes of Monarchs,—whose hand gives that loveliness? No power of a creature could form a blade of grass. The skill of the Artist may imitate flowers or fruit, but the life is absent; growth, fragrance, usefulness are wanting. The power of God giveth life.

The ceaseless care of an all bountiful Creator secures that seed-time and harvest shall not cease. God prepares food for Man. "The eyes of all wait on Thee." What wide spread havoc would result from a conspiracy among