Poetry.

CURIOUS RHYMES.

What is earth, sexton—
A place to dig graves;
What is earth, rich man—
A place to work slaves;
What is earth, grey beard—
A place to grow old;
What is earth, miser—
A place to dig gold;
What is earth, school-boy—
A place for my play;
What is earth, maiden—
A place to be gay:
What is earth, seamstress—
A place where I weep;
What is earth, sluggard—
A good place to sleep;
What is earth, soldier—
A place for battle;
What is earth, herdsman—
A place to raise cattle;
What is earth, widow—
A place of true sorrow;
What is earth, tradesman—
I'll tell you to-morrow;
What is earth, sick man—
'Tis nothing to me;
What is earth, sailor—
My home is the sea;
What is earth, statesman—
A place to win fame;
What is earth, author—
I'll write there my name;
What is earth monarch—
For my realm, 'tis given;
What is earth Christian—
The gateway of heaven!

Family Reading.

THE AVARICIOUS MERCHANT.

There was once a merchant named Filargiro, one of the most avaricious characters in the world; for though he had realised a handsome property, all his thoughts were bent upon amassing more and more, his avarice still increasing with the increase of his wealth. It happened that on returning one day from a sale of some of his goods, with a purse of four hundred gold crowns, while engaged in transacting other business, he was unlucky enough to lose the whole sum; nor was he aware of his loss until he reached home. Arriving there, he opened an immense chest containing many thousand crowns, and on preparing to add the four hundred to the number, he was struck dumb with astonishment to find that they were gone. He uttered an exclamation of horror every time he put his hand into each of his pockets, till, convinced at last that his loss was but too true, he ran off in great consternation along the path he had come, inquiring of the very dogs he met on the way whether they had seen or seized upon his treasure. He was quite confounded when he reached the place where he had first received the money, without obtaining the least tidings of it.

Almost overwhelmed with despair, he suddenly bethought him, as a last resource, to apply to the magistrate, entreating that a public crier might be instantly sent forth, and offering the sum of forty crowns for the recovery of his treasure. With great courtesy he acceded to the request, expressing himself at the same time concerned to witness the excessive affliction under which the unfortunate Filargiro seemed to labour. The reward was accordingly proclaimed, and the gold soon afterward made its appearance in the hands of an old lady, who found it on her way home from church. Fearful lest her conscience should be loaded with such a weight of gold, though extremely poor, she would have been very greatly perplexed in what way to act, had she not luckily heard the crier announcing the reward of forty crowns, which she hoped she might receive with a safe conscience.

Observing her destitute appearance, the judge very humanely inquired whether she had any means of procuring her subsistence, and whether she had no one to assist her. "I have nothing," she replied, "but what I gain by the work of my hands, and the help of one daughter; we weave and spin, Signor, to earn as much as we want, living in the fear of the Lord in the best way we are able. My daughter, to be sure, I should wish to see married before I die; but I have nothing to give her for a portion." The judge, on hearing the poor woman's account of herself, highly praised her integrity in thus restoring what she might so easily have reserved for herself, and for a marriage portion for her daughter; observing that it was an action of which he feared that few others, under the same temptation, would have been capable. He then summoned the merchant, informing him that the lost treasure was found, and requesting him at the same time to put into the woman's hands the stated reward.

The raptures of the miser were truly amusing when he beheld and seized upon the gold; but on hearing the demand of the stipulated sum, his countenance again fell, and he began to think how he could possibly withhold the promised reward. Having numbered the pieces once or twice exactly over, though he found them perfectly correct, he turned toward the old woman, saying, "There are four-and-thirty ducats short of the sum which I put into this bag." The old lady appeared extremely confused at this accusation, exclaiming in a distressed tone to the magistrate, "Oh, sir, can that be possible? Is it likely I should have stolen thirty-four ducats, when I had it in my power to possess myself of the whole? No; believe me, I swear, as I value my hopes of heaven, that I have restored the exact sum which I found on my return from church; not a single farthing have I taken out."

But the miserly old wretch continuing to affirm most solemnly that the ducats were in the same bag with the crowns, and that she must consider them as a sufficient remuneration, the affair seemed to perplex the worthy judge not a little. Yet, when he reflected that the old miser had only mentioned the four hundred crowns in the first instance, he began to suspect his design of imposing upon the poor woman, in order to save the paltry sum offered as a reward. He felt the utmost indignation at the discovery of this deceit, believing no punishment too severe for this despicable breach of faith. But checking his rising passion for a moment, he reflected that the most effectual chastisement he could bestow upon the miser's attempt to impose upon the magistracy would be to make him fall into the very snare he had laid for another. With this view he thus addressed the merchant: "And why did you not mention the full amount of your loss before proclaiming the reward?" "I overlooked it; I quite forgot it," was the reply.

"But it seems somewhat strange that you, who appear so particular about trifles, should not have recollected the circumstance of the ducats. And as far as I can understand, you wish to recover what is not your own. I mean to say, that this bag of gold could never have belonged to you at all, since the sum you first mentioned is not to be found in it." The judge then turned toward the old woman, observing, "Since it is clear that the money is none of his, and you have had the good luck to find it, pray keep it; the whole is your own, should no owner appear who can prove his right to the property; therefore give it as a wedding-gift to your daughter. If it should happen that you meet another purse, containing the ducats as well as the crowns, belonging to this gentleman, I beg you will return it to him without demanding any reward.

The wretched merchant, finding that the judge had truly penetrated his motives, and that there was not a chance of succeeding in his nefarious design, declared that he was now quite willing to pay the reward he had promised, if she restored the remaining money, which was indisputably his own. But it was now too late; the judge, turning toward him with an angry air, threatened to punish him for such a disgraceful attempt to defraud another of so large a sum; since from his own account it could not possibly be his: "Get out of my presence, and beware how you exasperate me further! If this good woman should be fortunate enough to meet with the purse with the exact amount you mention, she has promised to restore it to you untouched. That, I think, is enough."

Without venturing to answer a single word, the unhappy Filargiro was compelled to leave the place, unaccompanied by his newly recovered treasure, and filled with vexation at having refused to fulfil the conditions he had made. The poor old woman, on the other hand, went away overjoyed with her unexpected good fortune; and it need hardly be said, that no claimant for the lost property ever appeared. Her daughter, after having long indulged in vain attachment, had at length the pleasure of being united to the object of her choice at the expense of the avaricious old merchant.

MISSIONARY PERILS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

From a letter in New York Spectator.

"We arrived here at half past seven o'clock this morning, and we have found the Umkomazi so swollen as to be impassable for the wagons or cattle.—In consequence, I must send to Mr. Ireland, the nearest missionary beyond, to meet us here, and take us forward in his wagon. We have unusual reason to be cautious at this river at the present time. Probably others will have told you of the sad misfortune which happened to Mr. Butler about four weeks ago. I am now sitting just where he entered the river, and in full view of the scene of his well nigh fatal struggle with a crocodile.

"He went on Monday to Amahlongwa, to make some arrangements for the preservation of the house and premises, till he should be able to remove thither. No natives being at hand to manage the boat, he ventured to cross on horseback, though the water was deep and turbid. As he went over safely, when he returned the next day he again ventured into the river the same way. When about two-thirds of the way across, his horse suddenly kicked and plunged, as if to disengage himself from his rider; and the next moment a crocodile seized Mr. Butler's thigh with his horrible jaws. The river at this place is about one hundred and fifty yards wide, if measured at right angles to the current; but from the place we enter to the place we go out, the distance is three times as great. The water at high tide, and when the river is not swollen, is from four to eight and ten feet deep. On each side, the banks are skirted with high grass and reeds.

"Mr. Butler, when he felt the sharp teeth of the crocodile, clung to the main of his horse with a death-hold. Instantly he was dragged from the saddle; and both he and the horse were floundering in water, often dragged entirely under, and rapidly going down the stream. At first the crocodile drew them again to the middle of the river; but at last the horse gained shallow water, and approached the shore. As soon as he was within reach, natives ran to his assistance, and beat off the crocodile with spears and clubs.

"Mr. Butler was pierced with five deep gashes and had lost much blood. He left all his garments, except his shirt and coat, on the opposite shore with a native who was to follow him; but when the struggle commenced, the native returned, and durst not venture into the water again. It was now dark, and without garments and weak from loss of blood, he had seven miles to ride before he could reach Mr. Ireland's. He borrowed a blanket of a native; and after two hours succeeded in reaching the station, more dead than alive.

"His horse was also terribly mangled: a foot square of the flesh and skin was torn from his flank. The animal, it is supposed, first seized the horse; and when shaken off, he caught Mr. Butler, first below the knee, and then in the thigh. There are five or six wounds, from two to four inches long, and from one half to two and a half inches wide. For eight or ten days he seemed to recover as fast as could be expected; but was then seized with fever which threatened to be fatal. There was a tendency to locked jaw."

"Mr. Butler had so far recovered in March as to be able to return to his family. He arrived at D'Urban on the 12th of that month.

Mr. Wilder at the Umkomazi.

On the evening of the succeeding day, Mr. Wilder completed the account of his adventures at the Umkomazi. He wrote as follows:—

"I am destined to have a little exciting work in the Umkomazi. I was returning from this side of the river, where I had just taken a boat load of trunks, &c., when I saw the oxen rushing down to the river. Every effort was made to stop them; but so great was their thirst, that out of fifteen only seven could be prevented from plunging into the stream. As soon as they touched the water, they were taken from their feet, and carried with great velocity toward the ocean. For a great distance below the pool, the banks are so precipitous, that had they been able to approach the shore, they could not have got out. On they went; and in five minutes I would have taken a shilling for what was just before worth twenty five pounds. To save them seemed impossible; but we followed in the boat, to watch their fate.

"After floating a mile, four got out on a little standing place, at the foot of a lofty ledge of rock, and bellowed for their companions, who were still swept onward. We followed the foremost; and soon the broad sea opened before us. But the ox struck a shallow, and succeeded in getting upon a flat rock, which was surmounted by a steep bank and a thick jungle. Up this bank he tried to mount, but it gave way, and down he tumbled into the water. He then made for the other shore, and was finally drawn out. We were nearly three miles down from the ford; and with one broken oar we must get back. It took a long, weary time; but we had the satisfaction of falling in with the three remaining oxen; and after great labour, in towing them across the river, and pulling others from their rocky standing places on the opposite shore, we saved them all. Of course we had the pleasure of riding to Mr. Ireland's station in the night, over a very rocky road."

A Scene at Sing Sing Prison.—We passed an hour at Sing Sing State Prison the other day; and while regarding, with irresistible sympathy, the wretched inmates, we could not help thinking how little, after all, of the actual suffering of imprisonment is apparent to the visitor. The ceaseless toil, the coarse fare, the solemn silence, the averted look, the yellow-white pallor of the convict, his narrow cell and its scanty furniture, his hard couch—these, indeed, are "visible to the naked eye." Yet, do but think of the demon Thought, that must "eat up his heart" during the long and inconceivable dismal hours which he passes there in darkness, in silence, and alone! Think of the tortures he must endure from the ravages of that pleasantest friend, but most terrible enemy, Imagination! Oh, the height, the depth, the length, and breadth of a sensitive captive's sorrow! As we came from the gloomy scene, we passed, on a hill within the domain of the guard, the Prison Potter's Field, where lie, undistinguised by headstone or any other mark, the bones of those who had little else to lay there when their life of suffering was ended. There sleeps Monro Edwards, whose downward fate we had marked in successive years

We first saw him when on his trial—a handsome, well-dressed, black-whiskered *seeming* self-possessed person, with the thin varnish of a gentleman, and an effrontery that nothing could daunt. Again we saw him, while holding court with courtesans at the door of his cell at "the Tombs" the day before he left for Sing Sing; clad in his morning gown, with luxurious whiskers, and the manners of a pseudo prince receiving the honors of sham subjects. The next time we saw him, he was clad in coarse felon stripe; his hair was sheared to the skull; his whiskers were no more; a dark frown was on his brow; his cheeks were pale, and his lips were compressed with an impression of remorse, rage, and despair. Never shall we forget that look! He had a little while before been endeavoring to escape, and had been punished by fifty lashes with a cat-o-nine-tails—four hundred fifty an stripes on the naked back.

Once again we saw him, after the lapse of many months. Time and suffering had done their work upon him. His once erect frame was bowed; his head was quite bald at the top, and its scanty bordering hair had become grey. And thus he gradually declined to his melancholy 'west of life, until he reached his last hour, dying in agony of terror; gnawing his emaciated fingers to convince himself that he was still living, that the appalling change from life to death had not actually taken place! And now he sleeps in a felon's grave, with no record of his name or fate. Is not the way of transgressor hard.—*Knickerbocker.*

Remember your God.—The Rev. William Taylor, so favorably known in San Francisco, as "the seamen's chaplain," in speaking of a religious meeting recently held on board the "Bethel ship," says:—

"Yesterday afternoon a venerable looking old man arose, and said that he had been a sea-faring person for sixty-four years, having gone to sea with his father at the age of seven years. The first day he went aboard his father said to him, "My son, remember your God." His mother also said to him, "My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thee not." His uncle also said to him, "George, whenever you are tempted to do wrong, or get into trouble, repeat the Lord's prayer." These short sayings were so impressed on his heart that they became great life regulating principles. At the age of seventeen years he was put in command of a vessel, and for six years was employed in the Newfoundland fisheries, where Sabath desecration was notorious. The Saturday afternoon preceding his first Sabbath in command he had his fishing tackel brought in, and the decks scrubbed. The Sabbath was remembered, and kept holy.

The following week complaint was made to the owners against him for waste of time.

When called to account he replied that he would not command the vessel unless he was allowed to keep the Sabbath, and that if he did not return with as many fish in six days out of every week as the other vessels did in seven, he would give it up.

We need hardly add, what has proved true in thousands of similar instances, he was successful. He said further, that as commander of ships for fifty-seven years, he had never lost a man, nor a mast, and had never but one small average, in all that time. He would have his prayers, and keep his Sabbaths, and thus enjoyed the protection and blessings of the God of the Seas.

An Alarming Epidemic.—Entering many churches at the present season, one cannot but note the thinness of the congregations. "What," he asks, "has so reduced their number? Had death indeed so fatally revelled, as to take hence from one family a father, from another, the mother; from another, both; and from another, all the members?" Alas, the grief which must be wailing under many a roof! Yes, there is a fearful disease abroad. It is not fever, ague, cholera, nor small pox; but it is a periodical, returning once in seven days. He who, on the day preceding, till late at night, was stirringly busy, is found stricken down the next morning—indisposed and inert, and the particular morning is Sunday. The epidemic is called "*the Sunday sickness.*" The symptoms are lolling on the sofa, aggravated by the reading of a novel, or gazing listlessly from the window, till it is too late to prepare for church. Other symptoms might be named, but as "every heart knoweth its own bitterness," a further mention is needless. In the hope of effecting a few cures, we insert the following recipe:

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is."—*Hebrews x 25.*

"When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? *and the Sabbath*, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsify the balances by deceit?"

"And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord, that I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day."—*Amos* viii.

"He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."—*Prov.* xxix.—*Calendar.*

New Orleans.—Our readers are kept apprised through the daily prints of the fearful mortality prevailing at New Orleans from the effects of the epidemic at present raging there. The deaths for the last three weeks amounted to 1518, of which number 1277 were by yellow fever. Amid the distress and affliction every where present, many deeds of charity have come to light, that but for the occasion would have remained dormant and inactive.

As may be readily surmised, the kind, tender, willing services of the gentler and better sex, have been most freely bestowed upon the sick and destitute.

One of these ministering angels is the wife of an active member of the Howard Association, who never tires in the good cause, and is well known to all our friends as an indefatigable and successful collector of the Association. A day or two since being sent for by the sick, a call to which she never turns a deaf ear, she went at once, and in the miserable hovels of the destitute sick, she was employed in ministering to their wants as only a kind, gentle woman can do. God bless her! She is laying up a reward which surpasseth all that this world can bestow.

Another gentlewoman, who ministers assiduously to the living, was seen a few days past, paying the mournful tribute of respect to the dead. Herself in deep affliction, a widow of but three weeks date, in the absence of the minister of the Gospel, she read the funeral service of the Episcopal Church over the remains of a young friend whom she had tenderly nursed.

We have heard of very many instances of pure, active benevolence by the ladies of New Orleans, illustrating most beautifully the heavenly qualities of woman.—*Evangelical Catholic.*

Advertisements.

Trinity College, Toronto.

The Annual Examination for Matriculation and for Scholarships, will commence ON MONDAY, the 3rd OCTOBER, 1853.

The following Scholarships will be open to competition:—

Five Divinity Scholarships, tenable for four years, viz. one of £30 currency per annum; two of £25; two of £20.

The holders of these Scholarships will be required to reside for four years, during the first two of which they must attend Lectures and Examinations in the Arts course.

One Law Scholarship, value £30 currency per annum; tenable for three years, on condition of regular observance of Terms and Lectures, and good conduct.

All persons presenting themselves for examination, must produce testimonials of good conduct. Candidates for Matriculation must have entered upon their sixteenth, for Scholarship, upon their seventeenth year.

Early application, for the subjects of examination and any other information desired, should be made by letter to the Provost of Trinity College.

N.B.—Students matriculating in October Term are able in the following June to compete for a Wellington Scholarship, and for a Scholarship either on the Burnside or on the Bishop Strachan Jubilee Foundation.

Trinity College, Toronto,
8th July, 1853. 52-5i

THE TORONTO LADIES' SCHOOL.

Lady Principal, ... Mrs. Poetter.
Lady Resident, ... Mrs. Warner.

ASSISTANTS:

2nd " " .. Mrs. Liddell.
3rd " " .. Miss Driscoll.
Resident French Governess, Madlle Coulon.
Writing and Arithmetic Mr. Ebbels.
Drawing ..... Mr. Bull.
Music, ... { G. W. Strathy, Mus.B / Mr. G. F. Hatter.
Singing, ... Mr. Humphreys.

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The religious instructions are under the kind superintendence of the clergymen of St. James' Cathedral.

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Finishing Pupils ..... 5 additional.
Boarding 30

NO EXTRAS.

The great success which has attended the first year of this institution, has encouraged Mrs. Poetter to leave nothing undone that can add to the advantages already offered in her School. In consequence of the increase in her pupils, she has engaged another Music Master, (an English Professor from Boston,) who has been highly recommended as a finished musician. Mrs. Poetter has during the past year taken her more advanced pupils through a course of English Studies, which have prepared them to give their time next year only to the higher branches of English Literature, and the French, Italian and German languages, in which they have already made some proficiency. Mrs. Poetter will take this opportunity of expressing the pleasure she has felt at the kind and satisfactory letters she has received from many of the parents, and she trusts that her system, combining home comforts with the advantages of a sound and finished education on such very moderate terms, will continue to be appreciated and encouraged.

The School will re-open on the 5th of Sept.

Mrs. Poetter has taken the splendid house, with grounds attached, the residence of the late Mr. Justice Jones, situated on Front Street, where she will have increased accommodation for Boarders.

Persons wishing for further information are requested to apply (if by letter *post-paid*) to

MRS. POETTER,
Front Street.
Toronto, August 3rd, 1853. 2-tf.

LADIES' SEMINARY.

WELLINGTON STREET, TORONTO.

Miss MACNALLY begs to announce that the Classes will be resumed on THURSDAY, the 1st of SEPTEMBER, 1853.

Musical Professors .. { J. P. Clarke, *Mus. Bac.* / J. Strathy, *Mus. Bac.*
Singing Professor ..... Herr Hecht.
French Assistant ..... Mademoiselle Simon.
Calisthenics ..... Mr. Goodwin.

Toronto, 1st August, 1853. 1-td.

Ontario, Simcoe & Huron Railroad.

THE Freight Train going north, will until further notice, leave the foot of Bay Street, on each Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 8 A. M. for Bradford.

Returning will leave Bradford, on each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 8 A. M.

Freight for this train must be delivered before 7, on the morning of departure; or it will be received from 4 to 7 P. M., on the previous evening.

ALFRED BRUNEL,
Superintendent.
Toronto, June 23, 1853.

ONTARIO, SIMCOE AND HURON RAILROAD.

NOTICE.

ON and after MONDAY, 18th July, the Passenger Trains will run daily, between Toronto and Bradford, as follows, (Sundays excepted.)

Express Train leaves Toronto, at 8, A.M. arrives at Bradford, at 10 25, A.M.
Accommodation Train leaves Toronto, at 3,30, P.M., arrives at Bradford, at 5 45, P.M.
Accommodation Train leaves Bradford, at 7.15, A.M., arrives at Toronto, 9 30, A.M.
Express Train leaves Bradford, at 2.54, P.M., arrives at Toronto, 5,00, P.M.

Passengers by these Trains will please take Notice that 7½ Cy., will be charged in addition to the regular Fare, for all Tickets purchased in the Cars, by passengers taking their places at Stations where Tickets are sold.

All Extra Baggage by the Express Train, will be carried in charge of the Express Agent.

ALFRED BRUNEL,
Superintendent.
Superintendent's Office, Toronto, July 13, 1853. 51-tf

TORONTO AND HAMILTON.

THE STEAMER
CITY OF HAMILTON,
(Capt. John Gordon.)

WILL leave TORONTO for HAMILTON, every Afternoon (Sundays excepted) at 2 o'clock; and will leave HAMILTON for TORONTO, every morning at 7 o'clock.

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Royal Mail Steam Packet Office, Toronto, April 19, 1853. 38-tf

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The PRINCESS ROYAL will also call at Grafton and Colborne.

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Royal Mail Steam Packet office, Toronto, April 23rd 1853. 30

BELLS! BELLS! BELLS!

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THE SUBSCRIBER having purchased a complete Printing Establishment, has duplicates of several articles for disposal, which he offers either for Cash or approved credit. The following is a list of a portion thereof:—

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