

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE BETHROTHED.—We were very anxious to give a place to the story bearing this name which was sent to our office; but the manuscript requires so much correction that we cannot for the present attend to it,—if the writer will send for it we will break thro' our rule and return it, with a few lines for his guidance.

JOSEPH L.—You are evidently a good-natured person but we have found so many friends ready with ADVICE that we must keep the balance of our stock of thanks for those who prove their good wishes by aiding the increase of our circulation.

A VOICE FROM THE COVE.—If the owner of the "Voice from the Cove," would clear his throat from political hoarseness and send us an article calculated to elevate the character of Ireland and her sons—he would prove himself a useful Cove to his native land and a welcome contributor of ours.

A VERY OLD SUBALTERN.—Our space is so limited that we cannot undertake to answer all questions that our correspondents may put to us, however, we shall always be happy to oblige, when we have an opportunity and we are now able to inform 'A very old Subaltern,' that the quotation he alludes to, is from a "Song to Celia by Ben Johnson," the first four lines are as follows:

"Drink to me only with thine eyes
And I will pledge with mine;
Or leave a kiss but in the cup,
And I'll not look for wine."

EMILY.—Asks us how to translate the following:

"Je ne suis pas ce que je suis,
Car si j'étais ce que je suis,
Je serait ce que je suis."

The suis final is from the verb suivre—there's a key for you Miss Emily.

A YOUNG MECHANIC.—Gutta percha is a non-conductor of electricity, it was first discovered by a Mr. Thomas Lobb while on a botanical mission to Syngapore, and introduced into England in 1843 by a Dr. Montgomerie, it is extracted from a tree that grows to an enormous size in the Malay Islands; the purposes to which Gutta percha is applied are so numerous that we cannot attempt to enumerate them but the curious will be gratified by inspecting some books for sale at Mr. Sinclair's shop, the binding made of Gutta percha in imitation of ancient carving.

At the suggestion of some country friends we send this number of our Journal free of all charge to several parties in the country; those who favour us by becoming subscribers can have the early as well as the future numbers forwarded to them FREE OF POSTAGE.

Worldly prosperity is a much greater drain upon our energies than the most severe adversity; there is no spring, no elasticity; it is like walking through life upon a Turkey carpet. Large and noble faculties are required to make a wise use of worldly prosperity; there is little stimulus in, and no excitement beyond, what the individual can furnish for himself; his days are rounded with security, and softly cushioned against all the harsh realities of life.

SINCLAIR'S JOURNAL

Of British North America.

QUEBEC, 31ST MARCH, 1849.

SCOTCH CAUTION.

It has become a settled point that the people of Scotland are remarkable for a cold and cautious temper. Has it never occurred to any of the multitudes who receive and respect this doctrine, that it is strangely at issue with a vast proportion of the facts known regarding the Scottish people? We make no apology for briefly discussing the subject, because it is manifestly a curious circumstance that a people should generally act in contradiction of one of their most notable attributes.

A potent English monarch had, at the close of the thirteenth century, by craft and force completely established a right of dominion over this poor little northern country. A private gentleman rose in rebellion. The people for years supported him in a guerilla warfare, which scarcely was blessed with a hope of success. Wallace at length came to the end that might have been expected. He was put to death by the ungenerous usurper. Within two years, one of the claimants of the crown, who might have continued to be a great Lord under Edward, is found taking up the same dangerous game. In the whole series of transactions which followed, down to the battle of Bannockburn, there is a show of almost every quality on the part of Bruce and the Scots *except* caution. That battle itself would never have happened, if Bruce had not been a romantic knight rather than a politic king, for it was obviously impolitic for a leader with thirty thousand troops to meet an enemy with a hundred thousand in the open field.

Throughout the almost incessant wars, external and internal, in which the Scotch were engaged for two hundred years after this period there is no trace of a Fabian policy: all is headlong ardour. A pretty young French queen, wishing to make a diversion against the king of England, with whom her husband was at war, sent a ring to the king of Scotland, with a request that he would ride three miles into English ground for her sake. The Scottish monarch, though a married man above forty years of age, immediately invaded England under this call. In a few weeks, while resting with his army on a Northumbrian hill, he saw an English army deploying over a bridge to fight him. A politic man would have attacked it when half over, and beaten it. James was too gallant to take any such advantage. In the consequent battle, he lost his life, along with the flower of his nobility and people. One is astonished at the utter want of caution and consideration in the whole of this affair; yet it did not serve as a lesson. The son of this gallant king sent an army against England in nearly similar circumstances, and on its coming to the destruction which was to be expected, he died of grief. In all of these collisions, the English leaders appear as the wary men. Scotland seems as a simple reckless child in comparison. Where was Scotch caution on the day of Pinkie fight? In