

THE GLEANER.

THE *Financier* states that the coin and bullion in the Bank of England now stand at the highest point ever known.

It is stated that Mr. Disraeli has been ordered by his medical advisers to go for a time to one of the German watering-places.

THE Highland costume appears to be a judicious mixture of knives and nothing with the knives predominating.

It is believed that the total loss of life as the result of the floods in the south of France does not exceed 300.

NEWSPAPERS wrapped around ice in a refrigerator, several thicknesses, will help to keep and preserve it.

HEREAFTER the Prussian Government will levy a tax on beer and on stock operations, in order to meet a deficit of \$5,000,000 in the annual budget.

GAMBETTA has been elected a member of the Cobden Club of London, and returned thanks in a letter highly eulogistic of Albion as the friend of France.

SIXTY railroads, with thirteen hundred cars, were supplied with more than three thousand Bibles by the American Bible Society during the past year.

HORSE is eaten openly and without reserve in Sweden, generally in September, or after the summer heats are over. Various preparations of colt and filly, *fillet de cheval* included, of course, may be seen entered without disguise upon all bills of fare about the fall of the year.

A MEDICAL correspondent of an English journal says that the advantages of asparagus are not sufficiently appreciated. Those who suffer with rheumatism are cured in a few days by feeding on this delicious esculent; and more chronic cases are much relieved, especially if the patient avoids all acids, whether in food or beverage.

SOME interest was recently excited in the Bois de Boulogne, Paris, by the appearance every morning between 7 and 9 o'clock, of a woman with a black velvet mask concealing her features, and mounted on a fine chestnut horse. The fair unknown is tall, and judging from her rounded figure, she must be young.

No two sides of any human face are precisely alike. It is the same with every limb: no pair of limbs are fashioned alike. One hand is almost always larger than the other; so with the foot the leg, and the arm. But the greatest of all marvels is this; never were two human faces alike.

A NEW-England man has a fine dog which he is educating by throwing sticks into the water and making the dog bring them out. The other day the dog mistook the buoy of a lobster pot for the missile and, as no persuasion could induce him to let go of it, a boat was put out for him and rescued him just as he was sinking exhausted.

THE fever of centenaries is spreading; that of Bœlédieu, the most French of French musicians, has hardly been concluded, when the idea is started and making way to *fête* the centenary of Voltaire in May, 1878, and as that of Rousseau would arrive on the 3rd of July of the same year, it is proposed to include in a common ceremony the two grand adversaries, and the precursors of the French Revolution.

THERE are 2,500 miles of streets in London! The metropolitan houses at the present time amount to nearly half a million; they are consequently sufficient, with an average frontage of five yards, to form one continuous row of buildings right round the Island of Great Britain, from the Land's End to John O'Groat's (600 miles), from John O'Groat's to the North Foreland (540 miles), and from the North Foreland back again to the Land's End (320 miles), equal to 1,460 miles altogether.

It is proposed to acclimatise the canary in a wild state in England, both climate and food being favourable to the project. Though the bright yellow canary is the favourite colour, and supposed by many to be the natural one of the bird in its wild state, yet such is not the case. On the contrary, it is of a dappled olive green, black and yellow, either colour predominating; and in proof of this it is a noticeable fact that when two yellow birds are mated together there will be almost always a green or green and yellow one among the progeny.

A TRAVELLER, who has just returned from the Aures Mountains, in Algeria, thinks that region has the most multitudinous wild flowers, the most wonderful ruins, and the most beautiful women in the world. He says: "I never saw such beautiful women, with perfectly classic features, showing unmistakably their Roman descent. Is it not curious that they have nearly the same names for the months as we have? And they keep the 25th of December, and call it 'the birth,' though they do not know of whom."

A FRENCH newspaper gives a quotation which, though not new, has never yet been published. It was written under rather peculiar circumstances during the siege, when a tolerably-sized joint of horse was a luxury. Victor Hugo asked the daughter and son-in-law of Theophile Gauthier (M. and Madame Catulle Mendès) to dine with him. The lady could not accept the invitation, whereon the author of *Les Misérables* sent her next morning the following gentle reproach:—

"Si vous étiez venue, ô beauté que j'admire, Je vous aurais fait faire un festin sans rival; J'aurais tué Pégnase et j'aurais fait cuire Afin de vous offrir une aile de cheval."

ROUND THE DOMINION.

Fort Henry, at Kingston, is to be further repaired, and rifled guns mounted on it.

The Canadian soldiers to be sent to Manitoba, this month, will go by the Dawson route.

Arrangements are being made to get up a good collection of New-Brunswick products for exhibition at the Philadelphia Centennial.

It is reported that the hunters in the Northwest Territory have seized and confiscated property and set up a government of their own.

It is probable that Hon. Mr. Laird, Minister of the Interior, will be the first Lieut.-Governor of the new Province in the Northwest.

The Belleville *Intelligencer* says:—A seine on the beach near Wellington brought in 4,100 whitefish at a single haul one day last week, and 3,000 at another.

The Intercolonial railway from Campbellton to Monckton will be open for traffic, it is understood, on the 1st of November, and the rails will be laid through to Rivière du Loup by the end of the year.

It is strongly urged that the sewage improvement of Winnipeg be proceeded with this year, as on account of the grasshopper plague the work can be done cheaply, besides relieving the embarrassment of many.

His Honour Lieut.-Governor Morris was recently made the recipient of a handsome (speaking from an Indian stand point) Indian suit, by a chief of the Qu'Appelle tribes, with whom the treaties were made last summer.

It seems now that Winnipeg has negotiated and sold its bonds for \$250,000, and has realized therefrom some \$200,000, and has, as we suppose, —after paying its floating debt incurred in making streets, side-walks, and other improvements, with provisions against fire—a balance of \$170,000 or \$180,000 on hand.

HEARTH AND HOME.

VICES AND UNHAPPINESS.—You can lay it down as a sacred maxim that every man is wretched in proportion to his vices.

RELIGION.—Religion begins in the family. One of the holiest sanctuaries on earth is home. The family altar is more venerable than any altar in the cathedral. The education of the soul for eternity begins at the fireside. The principle of love, which is to be carried through the universe, is first unfolded in the family.

SORROW.—There are many fruits which never turn sweet until the frost has lain upon them. There are many nuts that never fall from the boughs of the forest tree till the frost has opened and ripened them. And there are many elements of life that never grow sweet and beautiful until sorrow comes.

AMBITION.—Give a man the necessities of life and he wants the conveniences. Give him the conveniences, and he craves for the luxuries. Grant him the luxuries, and he sighs for elegances. Let him have the elegances, and he yearns for the follies. Give him all together, and he complains that he has been cheated both in price and quality of the articles.

TRUE GENTLENESS.—Gentleness, which belongs to virtue, is to be carefully distinguished from the mean spirit of cowards and the fawning assent of sycophants. It renounces no just right from fear; it gives up no important truth from flattery; it is, indeed, not only consistent with a firm mind, but it necessarily requires a manly spirit and a fixed principle, in order to give it any real value.

MARRIAGE.—There is no graver event in a man's life than marriage. It may prove an inestimable blessing, the subtle influences of which will permeate every hour of the day, strengthen every fibre of his moral being, and by its satisfying repose to the affections give its intellect a calmer and more continuous sweep. It may also prove a desolating evil, numbing the sympathies, irritating and scattering the intellectual energies, distracting the life.

NEEDLESS DELAYS.—Steadfastly set your face against needless delays in doing any work for the good of your fellow men, or for your own edification. A dilatory spirit is one of the most delusive of all the temptations of the great destroyer. It purposes merely to postpone, perhaps for an hour or a day. It would shudder at the thought of final and utter neglect of what it thus defers. Do this very day and hour the duties this hour and day demand.

A GOOD MAN.—There is an expression in the face of a good married man, who has a good wife, that a bachelor cannot have. It is indescribable. He is a little nearer the angels than the prettiest young fellow living. You can see that his broad breast is a pillow for somebody's head; and that little fingers pull his whiskers. No one ever mistakes the good married man. It is only the erratic one who leaves you in doubt. The good one can protect all the unprotected females, and make himself generally agreeable to the ladies, and yet never leave a doubt on any mind that there is a precious little woman at home worth all the world to him.

FAMILY TIES.—In the passing of human life there frequently comes a time when the mutual duties of child and parent are reversed. Advancing years bring a childhood to the one and the care of childhood to the other. To the aged father and mother the days of labour are over, the work of life has been done. Now attentive tenderness becomes the duty of those who once received it all themselves, while those are depen-

dent upon it who once gave it all. Now the parent is the child and the child is the parent. The watchfulness and care of many years ago are to be repeated over again; only that the giver then is the receiver now. To a true-hearted child here is a return of love which it is good to make. There is a deep satisfaction in being able to repay by words and looks the lavished love of the bygone time.

BRELOQUES POUR DAMES.

CHARLES NODIER somewhere observes, "that of all animals, cats, flies, and ladies are those that lose most time over their toilettes."

"MOST PROVOKING." "He provoked me into loving him!" was a pretty girl's excuse for engaging herself to a man whom she had always professed to hate.

Two rival belles met at a fancy ball last winter. "How well you look under candle-light!" exclaimed one. "And how charming you are in the dark!" said the other.

"LIZZIE," aren't you going to church this morning?" "No, dear, the pews are so narrow, you know, and I couldn't think of going without my bustle," and she did—not go.

JUST think of it! It costs one million two hundred and fifty thousand five hundred and eighty nine dollars and ten cents to keep the women of America in imported corsets for one year.

ALL bachelors are not entirely lost to the refinement of sentiment: for the following toast was lately given by one of them at a public dinner—"The ladies—sweetbriars in the garden of life!"

"SIRE" said Madame de Stael to the great Emperor Napoleon, "can you tell me what is the most curious thing in the world?" The Emperor hated the celebrated blue-stocking, and so he replied, "Yes, madame, it is a woman who is not curious."

"JESSIE, what was Joe's arm doing round your waist when you were at the front gate last night?" asked a precocious Lebanon boy of his sister. "His arm wasn't round my waist; I won a belt from him, and he was taking my measure," replied the indignant young lady.

A rustic couple, newly married, marched into a drug store and called for soda water. The obliging clerk inquired what syrup they would have in it, when the swain, deliberately leaning over the counter, replied, "Stranger, money is no object to me; put sugar in it."

THE Indianapolis *News* has found out how the sex of that man in Europe who went about in woman's clothes was discovered. He inadvertently said "Thank you," when a gentleman gave up his seat in a street car.

This sweet to wait, but oh how bitter. To wait for a girl and then not git'er."

In an English Sunday school, the vicar's daughter, who was very proud of her Bible class on inquiring of one of her pupils how Queen Sheba came to Solomon, received the reply, "By railway, Miss." On asking for an explanation she received the answer: "Because, Miss, the bible says she came to Jerusalem with a very heavy train."

A blind man had been sitting one day and pleasantly chatting with some visitors for an hour, when one of them wished the company good morning and left the room. "What white teeth that lady has," said the sarcastic blind man. "How can you possibly tell that?" said a friend. "Because," was the ready answer, "for the last half hour she has done nothing but laugh."

A CASE of mistaken identity took place as the cars left the Newark depot. A pretty girl, with her handkerchief up to her eyes, had seen her lover seat himself in the last seat of a car, but while she was bathed in tears, she did not see that the train had backed, and a different car stood in front of her; but presently she looked up and with a sweet smile said "good-bye darling" to an astonished and bashful young man who was sitting there, in the place where the other fellow should have been.

LORENZO DAY having married Miss Martha Week, a local paper comments:

A Day is made, a Week is lost. But time should not complain—There'll soon be little Days enough To make the Week again.

"Oh, yes, gimme ten cents worth of hair pins," added an up-river farmer as he was about to leave a store, and while they were being handed down he continued: "It's har pins today and ribbons to-morrow and a toothbrush the next day. The gal is always wanting some flim-flam thing, and I shouldn't be surprised if she'd some day get up and want me to bring home one of them combs with a brass back."

SCENE in Eldridge Park: "Oh, do be mine," he said, attempting to draw her a little nearer to his end of the seat. She made herself rigid and heaved a sigh. "I'll be a good man and give up all my bad habits," he urged. No reply. "I'll never drink another drop," he continued. "And give up chewing?" No response. "And smoking?" Cold as ever. "And join the church?" She only shook her head. "And give you a diamond engagement ring," he added in desperation. Then the maiden lifted her drooping eyes to his, and leaning her curls on his shoulder, trembling, murmured into his ravished ear: "Oh, Edward, you—you are so good!"—And there they sat and sat until the soft arms of night—that dusky nurse of the world—had folded them from sight, pondering, planning, thinking—she of the diamond ring, and he of how on earth he was to get it.

LITERARY.

TENNYSON and Walt Whitman are close friends and frequent correspondents.

IT is said that the Marquis of Bute will shortly have ready a book on "Archeology."

MR. JOHN FORSTER is said to be engaged on a *Life of Swift*, and a new edition of his works.

THE English journals are urging their Government to grant a pension to the widow of Mr. Shirley Brooks.

IT is said that the late Lord Lytton has left a large quantity of MSS. which will serve as notes for a biographical memoir.

MR. SMILES has nearly ready a work to be entitled *Thrift*, which will form a companion volume to his popular illustrations of character and self-help.

GEORGE ELLIOT is said to have another novel, in scope not inferior to "Middlemarch," nearly ready for publication.

TENNYSON'S "Queen Mary," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, would add to almost any reputation save that of its author.

"DID you say," asked one of Miller's admirers of Tennyson, "that Joaquin Miller was the greatest poet living?" "No," replied the Laureate; "but I said he would be if he worked as hard as I do."

THE report that an edition of Shakespeare was to be brought out with illustrations by Gustave Doré (price \$50,000) is joyfully contradicted by *The Athenæum* which thinks that Shakespeare illustrated by Gustave Doré would be "an ineffable tragedy."

A STORY is going round that Mr. Disraeli, having been asked what he thought of the paper of Mr. Gladstone in the *Contemporary Review*, replied that its writer should be appointed Judge of the Court created by the Public Worship Act of last year.

FATHER PROUT'S unpublished writings are being collected, and will shortly be published under the title of "The Final Reliques of Father Prout." It appears that the family of the late Rev. Mr. Mahoney possess several MSS. which will form the chief item in the forthcoming volume.

BARON DE LESSEPS is about to publish a history of the Suez Canal. It ought to be an interesting work, for it will contain a history of his negotiations with the different European States to whom he applied for aid. He will give the letters which he received from many distinguished persons.

KING VICTOR EMMANUEL told M. Alphonse Karr, on the latter apologizing for appearing in the royal presence in travelling costume, that so far as he was concerned he might come in his shirt-sleeves if it should suit him on his next visit. And affability could no more when his Majesty added: "We French and Italians will always remain friends."

MISS JERROLD, daughter of the late Douglass Jerrold, has been given, by order of the Court of Chancery, absolute possession of the £2,000 which was raised after the death of her father for the benefit of his widow and unmarried daughter. The proceedings which have resulted in this decision arose from a brother who in this country claimed to be entitled to a share in the capital.

LADY ANNE NOEL BLUNT has written to Mr. Disraeli, as President of the Byron Memorial Committee, to protest against the proposal to place a table in Hucknall Torkard Church in memory of the poet. The family of Lord Byron have not, says Lady Blunt, forgotten that when Lord Byron's remains were brought back to England they were refused a resting-place in Westminster Abbey, and that it was left to his sister, Mrs. Leigh, and his friend, Mr. Hobhouse, to bury him, and that together they placed a tablet to his memory. What their affection then deemed suitable, Lady Blunt and those in whose name she writes, still hold to be enough.

"MR. TENNYSON," says one who has had the pleasure of listening to the poet's criticism of himself, "proceeded to discuss the possible reception of his new play when it is represented on the boards of the Lyceum. He very frankly admitted its dramatic defects. 'It is,' he said, 'an epic poem—and I am well aware of it—in a dramatic shape. I feel as much as any of my critics can, and probably a good deal more, the absence in it of edifying episodes of interest. There are not enough rocks, so to speak, in the bed of the torrent for the water to circle round. All is too even—too continuous. Nevertheless, I am sanguine. I believe that it will stir the public; and with Mr. Irving as my probationer—and without Mr. Irving I should not have consented to its production upon the stage—I am convinced that you will be surprised, and that I myself will be surprised at what it does.'"

ARTISTIC.

TOJETTI, an artist, is said to have fooled San Francisco into enthusiasm over an oil-painted copy of a drawing by Doré, representing it as an original picture.

THE Marchioness of Lorne is executing a bust of the Countess of Percy, sister to the Marquis of Lorne, to be placed in Alnwick Castle, Northumberland.

AN allegorical statue in white marble has just been placed in the Tuileries garden, representing comedy. This work is of life-size, by Julien Roux, a young sculptor of promise.

EX-GOV. MORGAN of New York has received from Rome a marble statue, of heroic size, in illustration of Longfellow's "Hiawatha." It is the production of Mr. Augustus St. Gaudens, a native of New York, and is pronounced an excellent piece of work.

A NUMBER of tablets, written upon and carefully arranged in an ivory box, have been discovered in the ruins of Pompeii. They contain receipts for payments of money, and bear the consular date, with the name of the day and the month, and the amount paid. The tablets are evidently accounts, and from the way in which they are kept there can be no doubt that the spot where they were found was the site of a Roman banker's house.

THE house of Michael Angelo, which was bequeathed by his descendants to the City of Florence is undergoing decoration by Florentine artists, who contribute their designs and services. The exterior has been transformed into a modern Florentine habitation, and the plaster is ready for the artists. But the latter have got into a quarrel about their designs and are unable to agree sufficiently to do any work.

A PICTURE by Broughton in the British Royal Academy, called "The Bearers of the Burden," represents a big, brawny fellow sauntering with his hands in his pockets, and behind him three weary women are overlaid with his household property. Two men were looking at the picture, and one of them said, without any intention of joking, "That's the way the poor workingman is burdened with women."

DRAKE'S statue of Humboldt has been exhibited recently at the artist's studio in Berlin, previous to being sent to America to be cast in bronze and set up for exhibition at the Centennial in Philadelphia next year. The statue represents Humboldt at about 60 years of age, dressed in the costume of the time, but with a cloak falling in large folds thrown across his shoulders. He is standing, holding in one hand a roll of paper against his breast, and resting the other lightly on a large globe. The figure is more than three meters in height.