

on the community generally. In several of the other Districts of the Province, Building Societies have been established, and are going on prosperously, and we are satisfied, that, the more the benefits arising from these institutions are understood, the more general will they become. We notice the commencement of some new ones lately, that have been set on foot in different parts of the Province, from witnessing the prosperity that attend those already in operation.—*Colonist*.

TORONTO BUILDING SOCIETY—At the monthly sale of funds last night, £1,300 were disposed of in lots of £100 each, at an average of 41½ per share. Highest bids, 43.—lowest 40½. The premium for new members on admission has been advanced to £6 per share.—*Id.*

MISTAKEN NOTIONS RESPECTING LABOR—FALSE EDUCATION.

We find the following remarks in one of our Provincial papers slightly altered from what they were, as they originally appeared in the *Albany Cultivator*. "They are so just and so much to the purpose, that we recommend their perusal to fathers and to young men everywhere. Now that the subject of "Education" is so much talked of, and often we fear for no honest purpose, let right views on this great subject be inculcated. The suggestions below are so much to the point, that we shall not at present attempt to add to them:—

If there is one subject more than another, upon which the opinions of the public require to be set right, it appears to us to be the great one of labor. We do not pretend to assign any causes other than such as exist every where,—the natural tendencies of mankind to separate into castes, in which freedom from labor is considered the great good, and where the necessity of submitting to it is associated with the ideas of degradation and dependence. In European countries, where the ancient forms of society tolerate such artificial distinctions, they may be expected to prevail; where one man is born with a golden spoon in his mouth, and another with an iron chain about his neck, freedom from which is impossible, we should not be surprised to find such erroneous ideas of labour; but here, where every man makes or mars his own fortunes, and is the architect of his own destiny, to dream of any other distinctions than such as merit confers is preposterous, or to talk of labour being disgraceful or degrading, is a gross perversion of terms. Still, with such facts staring them in the face, there are multitudes in our country who have yet to learn, "that any condition of life is honourable, which shall permit them to be independent, and preserve them from dishonour."

If the opinion that labour is degrading,—personal labour with the hands we mean—were a harmless error; (if any error can be considered such) if it did not have a blighting and pestiferous influence on the prospects of thousands in our country, it might be allowed to pass without notice, but such is not the case,—for its influence is shown and felt in a vast number of cases, and particularly is it discovered in the anxiety displayed by many parents to crowd their sons into what are called the learned professions, in preference to giving them a sound practical education, and fitting them for usefulness as farmers and mechanics. Is the acquisition of wealth more general with professional men, than with well informed, industrious farmers or mechanics? It is believed not; but the boy and the young man is flattered with the idea that he is going to escape the primal curse, and that when mixing with his fellow men, he shall not be classed with the common mass that toil for their daily bread. Poor fool! if such are his reasons for spending so many years of his life, and so much money in obtaining what is too frequently misnamed an education, he had better been a slave at the oar; for of one it may be said he is useful, in one way at least, while the other is not only useless to the world, but, by his example, serves to perpetuate error. Educate the young as much as you please; but do not educate them for places where they are not wanted; nor in such a way as to render them worthless members of the community, incapable of getting a direct living in any honourable way, if a change of circumstances or unavoidable necessity, throw them upon their own resources. That is not education, at least not such as we require in this country, which only accumulates abstract knowledge, without regard to utility or condition, or that physical and mental training so indispensable in a country like ours.

A poor boy commences his life in the country; and there he gains vigor of constitution and energy of will. He goes to the city and amasses a large property. His wife was selected for the qualities he admired, thrice and good housewifery. His sons and his daughters are educated with all the fashionable additions of the age, but entirely ignorant of any

useful occupation or mechanic work,—they consequently entertain cordial dislike to labour in any form. Misfortune overtakes the family, and from the heights of gentility they are plunged into the abyss of destitution. How few of these sons and daughters will have energy and decision of character enough to accommodate themselves to their new condition; to set about in earnest learning the art of being useful,—of being able by honest industry to provide for themselves? We wish we could say there was any probability that a single one would do so. On the contrary, it is almost certain they will cling to former associations, still strive for the former good society, despise or reject honest labour, and thus gradually sink down into a kind of shabby gentility, the principal ingredients of which are poverty and pride. Too often, however, to keep up appearances, resort is had to courses which debase the mind, and are sure precursors to infamy, degradation and ruin. Let it be fully impressed on the mind of every one that labour, personal labour, in itself is never disgraceful; but on the contrary, that honest and well-directed labour is most honourable in all, and that the ability to provide for themselves, is a duty enjoined by God himself on every individual.

CANADIAN RAILROADS AND CANADIAN CAPITAL.

The *Cobourg Star* has very handsomely explained that the Peterboro and Port Hope Railway is an exception to the rule it has adopted, which forbids the making of Railways in Canada with Canadian capital, and in support of its sincerity, refers us to the file for evidence that this scheme has had its support. We are extremely happy to acknowledge the favourable consideration which the Company has received from the *Star*, and in turn we beg to explain that it is the general principle enunciated, from which we differ, and refer both our readers and our neighbor the *Star* to the letter of our correspondent, *Common Sense*, which came to hand too late for insertion last week, for principles more in accordance with our ideas of the course which a young country ought to pursue. We have not had personal experience in the working of wooden Railways, but we know them to be in existence in the State of New York, and we remember the iron roads on which heavy merchandise and in some instances passenger cars were accustomed to be transported before steam locomotives and the present perfect system of Railway conveyance was thought of. We are, however, far from being of opinion that Canada cannot make iron roads and use steam. Canadians, like Yankees, are a luxury-loving people, and we hold that "where there is a will there is a way." One very considerable item in Railway construction in Europe is land, another is timber. On the Great Western line, a large portion of the fuel is given, and save the expense of labour upon it and its carriage,—the latter is all over Canada, at present of merely a nominal value.—The difficulty of making Railroads with us is in the obtuseness and selfishness of land owners, and the cupidity of the mercantile classes. And as we are without any separate class of capitalists or manufacturers, we must remain of necessity in the happy condition of independence of each other until we arrive at the conclusion "that true self love and social are the same," then will each contribute of what he possesses, the land owner his land, which in most cases is held in superfluity and the merchant, in lieu of extending his commercial transactions, will consent to appropriate a portion of his years' profit.—*Port Hope Commercial Advertiser*.

Literary Department.

A CRY FROM THE CONDEMNED CELL

(From Punch.)

[THE CASE OF MARY ANN HUNT.—It having been satisfactorily ascertained, after a proper medical examination, that there is every reason to believe that this wretched woman is quick with child, her execution is stayed by order of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex.—*Times*.]

Two prisoners in a cell
Where felons, doomed to die
Are garner'd for the gibbet, dwell:
The time of each is nigh:
A murderess and a babe unborn within that dungeon lie.

Ere this the wretch had died,
But the law abstains
From taking human life, whose tide
Doth flow in guiltless veins
The hangman therefore waits till she hath passed
Her travail's pains.

Prepare the bed, and see
The woman that ye tend;
And then prepare the gallows-tree,
To be the felon's end,
Soon as a mother's anguish shall have ceased her
frame to rend.

Prepare the swathing bands,
The hempen cord prepare;
Alike ye need the hangman's hands,
The nurse's tender care:
The infant to the cradle—to the drop the mother
bear.

Oh! weary day on day,
For this unhappy soul
To count the hours that pass away
To watch the moments roll;
And view through childbirth's agonies the scaffold
as her goal

Her crime, though nought can screen
Yet, ere her course be run,
Think what her sufferings will have been
For all that she hath done.
Surely Death's bitterness is past with that most
wretched one.

Think on the anguish dread
That hath aveng'd her deed;
Think how that woman's heart hath bled
If "blood for blood" you need,
And "eye for eye, and tooth for tooth," be still
your law and creed.

CAUSES AND ANTIDOTE OF CONSUMPTION.

The larger the lungs, the more perfect their development, the less they are liable to pulmonary consumption. That the more they are exercised, the larger they will become; that as we take active or laborious exercise, our lungs will be continually enlarging; and that on the contrary, indolence, want of exercise, &c., will render the lungs smaller until by absence of air, the air cells will close up, and collapse their walls as a bird folds up its plumage. By this we learn that pure air, and even cold air, becomes more dense, is the best friend to the lungs, and should be resorted to with the greatest confidence, both to prevent and cure their diseases.

It is found in the history of the American Indians—at one time numbering many millions of people, and inhabiting from the most extreme point north to Patagonia south; embracing all varieties of climate and location; resting in the frigid, temperate and torrid zones; occupying every variety of situation on the seaboard, and on the borders of the lake, on the tops of the highest lands, and in the most secluded valleys; on the wide spread and open prairies, and in the most arid deserts; the countries of the greatest humidity and where it rarely ever rains, as in Peru, yet in all these countries, and every where such a thing as a case of pulmonary consumption has never occurred, whilst those people remained in their savage state. Bring them into our settlements, civilize them, educate them, and let them adopt our habits, and they become as liable to consumption as we ourselves.

By what peculiarities is the Indian distinguished from the civilized American? First, the American Indian is remarkable for the perfect symmetry of his figure. "Straight as an Indian," is an old proverb, whose truth is instantly recognized by all who ever saw the wild Indian; his chest is perfect symmetry; his shoulder blades are laid flat against his chest, and the whole weight of his arms, shoulders, and shoulder blades, is thrown behind the chest; thus always expanding, instead of contracting it. The naked chest, and whole person, is often exposed to the open air; they are much out of doors, breathe the pure air, never stoop in gait or walk, and pursue no avocations that contract the chest, or prevent its free expansions; often wash themselves in pure cold water, exercise the lungs freely by athletic exercise, running, racing, the chase, frequently dancing, and shooting, &c., &c., most vehemently, nearly every day. The same holds true in regard to animals.

Animals in their wild state never have the consumption; whilst animals domesticated have it; as the monkey, the rabbit, the horse, &c. Consumption is a child of civilization, results chiefly from loss of symmetry, and from effeminacy induced by too much clothing, too luxurious living, dissipation, too little exercise, and debilitation, disease and occupations.

If there is any appellation that would apply to us as a nation, it is round shouldered. The habit of contracting the chest, by stooping, is formed in multitudes at school or out of school by not holding themselves erect, either sitting or standing; and it is a matter of habit in a great degree; tailors, shoemakers, machinists, clerks, students, seamen, in fact all whose occupation causes them to stoop at their work, or at rest, or at pleasure or amusements.

Practice will soon make sitting perfectly erect, vastly more agreeable and less fatiguing than a stooping posture. To persons predisposed to consumption, these hints as regards writing or reading desks are of the greatest importance. In walking, the chest should be carried proudly erect and straight, the top of it pointing rather backwards, than forwards.

The North American Indians, who never had consumption, are remarkable for their perfectly erect, straight walk. Next to this it is of vast importance to the consumptive to breathe well. He should make a practice of taking long breaths, sucking in all the air he can, and hold in the chest as long as possible. On going into the cold air, instead of shrinking from it, draw in a long breath of the pure cold air. Do this a hundred times a day, if you have any symptoms of weak lungs, as it will cure you. Should you have a slight cold, be in the habit of often drawing in a full chest of air.

Luxurious feather or down beds should be avoided, as they greatly tend to effeminate the system and reduce the strength. For this reason beds should be elastic, but rather firm and hard; straw beds, hair mattresses, those on a feather bed are well; a most excellent mattress is made by combing out the husk or shuck of Indian corn—I first met these beds in Italy; they are delightful. Cold sleeping rooms are in general the best, especially for persons in health; they should never be much heated for any person, but all should be comfortably warm in bed.—*Dr. S. S. Fitch on Consumption*.

THE RIVER ST. LAWRENCE.—The vastness of the River St. Lawrence far exceeds all European conceptions. Its entrance from Labrador to Nova Scotia is 103 leagues, a running course of 3,000, varying from one to 70 miles broad, 2,000 miles of which are navigable for large ships, and

the remainder by vessels up to 60 tons. The great basin of the St. Lawrence contains in mass more than one half the fresh water in the world, the superficial area of which being 72,930 square miles, a quantity which form a cubic column of nearly 22 miles on each side.

Scientific.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERIES.

The *Montreal Herald* contains the following letter, announcing certain important results of an exploring expedition on the northern shores of America.

"YORK FACTORY, HUDSON'S BAY, September 20, 1847.

Sir: I have now the honour to acquaint you that the expedition which left Churchill under my command on the 5th July, 1846, for the purpose of completing the survey of the northern shore of America, reached this place in safety on the 6th inst.

Having already written you by way of Red river, and enclosed an outline of my discoveries, I shall merely mention here that I reached Repulse bay on the 25th July, last year, and immediately had a boat taken across land and through lakes to the sea west of Melville peninsula. The ice here was too closely packed for us to make any progress, so that I determined on returning to Repulse bay and making preparations for wintering. A stone house was built, measuring 20 feet by 14, and covered with oil cloths as a roof. There being no wood, some moss and a sort of heather were collected for fuel; and 162 deer were shot before November was ended, when all these animals had passed southwards. Our house was frequently cold enough, the thermometer being sometimes 10 or 20 degrees below zero. On the 5th of April I started with a party, and traced the coast up to Lord Mayor's bay of Sir John Ross, thus proving that veteran discoverer to be correct in his statements. Boothia Felix is part of the American continent. This journey occupied us until the 5th May, and we had travelled about five hundred and sixty geographical miles. I again set out with four chosen men on the 13th of the month (May), and after undergoing much fatigue and suffering, and some privations, we traced the west shore of Melville peninsula to within six or eight miles of the Fury and Hecla Strait. We arrived at winter quarters on the 5th June, all in good health and spirits, but much reduced in flesh. From this time until the 11th August when the ice broke up, we were all busily employed in procuring the means of existence and in making preparations for our homeward voyage. We took leave of our dreary home and of our Esquimaux acquaintances on the 12th August. Our progress southward was much impeded by contrary winds, so that we did not enter Churchill river until the 31st. We had still eight bags of pemican and four hundred weight of flour on hand. Being detained here two days, we did not arrive at York Factory until late in the evening of the 6th September, where my sudden appearance somewhat surprised my friends, who had not expected to see me so soon.

"As I intend going to England by the ship, I shall do myself the honour of addressing you more fully from London.

With the utmost respect, I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN RAZ
"Sir George Simpson"

HORSES.

Horses are often employed as movers of machinery by their draught. A horse draws with greatest advantage when the line of draught is not horizontal, but inclines upwards, making a small angle with the horizontal plane. The force of a horse diminishes as his speed increases. The following proportions are given by Professor Leslie, for the force of the horse employed under different velocities. If his force when moving at the rate of two miles per hour, is represented by the number 100, his force at three miles per hour will be 81,—at four miles per hour 64,—at five miles 49,—and at six miles 36. These results are confirmed very nearly by the observations of Mr Wood. In this way the force of a horse continues to diminish, till he attains his greatest speed, when he can barely carry his own weight.

Various estimates have been made of a horse's power by Desaguliers, Smeaton, and others; but the estimate now generally adopted as a standard for measuring the power of steam engines, is that of Mr. Watt, whose computation is about the average of those given by the other writers. The measure of a horse's power, according to Mr Watt, is, that he can raise a weight of 3300 pounds to the height of one foot in a minute.

In comparing the strength of horses with that of men, Desaguliers and Smeaton consider the force of one horse to be equal to that of five men; but writers differ on this subject.

When a horse draws in a mill or engine of any kind, he is commonly made to move in a circle, drawing after him the end of a lever which projects like a radius from a vertical shaft. Care should be taken that the horse-walk, or circle, in which he moves, be large enough in diameter, for since the horse is continually obliged to move in an oblique direction, and to advance sideways as well as forward, his labour becomes more fatiguing, in proportion as the circle in which he moves becomes smaller.

In some ferry boats and machines, horses are placed on a revolving platform, which passes backwards under the feet, whenever the horse exerts his strength in drawing against a fixed resistance, so that the horse propels the machinery without moving from his place. A horse may act within still narrower limits, if he is made to stand on the circumference of a large vertical wheel,