

## SELECTIONS.

**MANUFACTURES.**—In the New England States manufacturing towns spring up as if by magic. In Lancaster, Massachusetts, an immense factory is being built, covering an acre and a half of land; and a new village is being formed at Springfield, exclusively for carrying on manufactures. It is estimated that in three years, the new village will contain 5,000 inhabitants. The following paragraph from an American paper will show the flourishing state of the manufactures of New England:—“There never was a time when more capital was being invested in manufactures than there is at this moment in New England—they are erecting them not by the foot, but by the mile. I saw a whole city building up in the midst of a snow-storm—not a hand stopping or descending from the house tops. Three or four incorporated companies, with three or four millions of capital, all at work erecting factories by the dozen, and houses by the hundred—one machine-shop 1,000 feet long, and a single factory the floors of which would cover seven acres of ground—another which will consume the wool of 800,000 sheep annually, and one of cotton which will employ 1,800 girls—and countless others going up or commencing in this new city, on the Merrimack, half way between Boston and Lowell, not yet named. In Lowell they are opening a new race or canal, at a cost of half a million, to drive a new set of factories built and building, perhaps equal in power and extent to those already in operation there. I saw in one factory 1300 beautiful girls, with cheerfulness, happiness, intelligence and contentment legibly written on every countenance. In another woollen factory, (Sam'l Lawrence's,) in looking over the pay roll, or book, which I accidentally picked up from the table, I found on 27 consecutive pages, containing 800 signatures, nearly all girls, but a single one that made a mark or X. All were written in a good, and many of them in an elegant hand.—*Correspondent New York Paper.*”

**MERCER COUNTY, ONTARIO.**—The history of the coloured settlement in Mercer county, as a western paper informs us, is this. Some eight or ten years ago, Augustus Wattles procured a piece of land there for the purpose of a manual labour school, to accommodate coloured youths, who by injustice and prejudice were precluded from the advantages of the common schools of the State, for whose support their parents were equally taxed with their white neighbours. This benevolent effort of Mr. Wattles soon attracted the attention of the coloured people. Numbers of them settled around this school in the woods. They have worked, cultivated their intellect, and improved their morals. They now number several hundreds—say five or six. Most of the families have homesteads. White people are convicted of crime at every term of the courts, but there has not been an instance of charge against, or conviction of any person belonging to this colony! In education they have shot ahead of their white-skinned neighbours. The coloured boys are often called upon by the pathmasters to do their writing, and by the justices to cast up their bills of cost for them! Is it worth while for white folks to brutalize themselves by a cultivated hatred of such a people?—*Am. Paper.*

**AUBURN STATE PRISON.**—The clerk of this prison has published a detailed account of the operations of this institution, for the year ending December, 1846, from which we glean the following items. The greatest number of convicts confined at any time during the year was 706, and the smallest 609. The earnings from all sources during the year amounted to fifty-six thousand five hundred and eighty-seven dollars; and the expenditure for all objects during the same period, was only fifty-two thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight dollars;—leaving a balance of three thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine dollars in favour of the institution. It is needless to say that the system by which a prison is thus made to support itself is excellent, and worthy the most extensive imitation. When will Canada be favoured with a similar report from the Provincial Penitentiary? Under the present system of management we dare not even hazard a conjecture.—*Hamilton Spectator.*

The baptismal admonition of the Hindoos is as impressive on the bystanders as it is beautiful; “Little babe, thou enterest the world weeping, while all around you smiled; contrive so to live, that you may depart in smiles, whilst all around you weep.”

A little urchin, not quite three years old, said to his sister, while munching a piece of gingerbread—“Siss take half ub dis cake to keep till afternoon, when I get cross!” This is rather better than the story of the child, who bellowed from the top of the stairs—“Mamma, Hannah won't pacify me!”

**LORD NORMANBY'S WIT.**—Recently, in the saloon of Lord Normanby, at the British embassy, a Parisian lady maintained the opinion that the French were more polite than our countrymen. The noble lord, taking the part of his fellow-subjects, was not altogether of the same way of thinking. “You astonish me,” exclaimed the lady, “Why, the English themselves allow the fact.”—“That is very possible,” replied the ambassador; “but surely that only proves them a highly polite people.”—*Newcastle Advertiser.*

**DUTIES OF FATHERS.**—When parents discover in a child a want of disposition or a habit which is evil, it is always well to examine carefully whence it proceeds—to ascertain as accurately as possible, whether it results from innate propensity, or is the effect of evil example. If it is found to proceed from imitation, and the fault originated with themselves, the only sure method of curing it in the child,

will be to cure it in themselves. Thus is “the axe laid at the root of the tree.” This course, we fear, is seldom followed, and particularly by fathers. Often have we heard the father say, on seeing a fault in a child—“Mother, do try to correct that bad habit, I would do so if I were with him all day as you are,”—when perhaps that fault is but a perfect transcript of a part of his own character—and he forgets or fails to see, that to correct it in himself is the secret, and perhaps the only way radically to cure it in his son. A pious mother once remarked of her husband, that he was so conscientious and scrupulous with regard to his example, that if he said or did anything which he thought was wrong, he immediately and candidly acknowledged it before them, saying, “It would have been better for me to have spoken or acted so and so,” pointing out the right course. Thus he immediately wiped away the bad impression from their minds, and prevented the imitation of what was unlovely or unchristian. Would that all were thus particular. Christian father, suffer a word of exhortation addressed especially to yourself. Throw not off the burden which Divine Providence has laid upon you. Feel not that you are exempted by your more public labours, from the work of fireside education. Lay not upon the mother the sole charge of training the little ones God has given you, for usefulness and glory. But seek in every way to share her trust, and lighten her task—and above all, see to it that your life is an irreproachable commentary upon her daily instructions. Would you not have her dishonour you in their eyes, by reproving and punishing them for faults which they witness constantly in you? Then let your temper be lovely, your conduct discreet, your conversation such as becometh the Gospel of Christ. Nor can you, with justice, criminate in your children, what you know you are guilty of yourselves.—*Advocate of Moral Reform.*

**SPARE MINUTES.**—Spare minutes are the gold dust of time; and Young was writing a true, as well as a striking line, when he taught that, “Sauds make the mountain, moments make the year.” Of all the portions of our life, the spare minutes are the most fruitful in good or evil. They are gaps through which temptations find the easiest access to the garden of the soul.

**PICKLING PLUM TREES.**—It has been frequently recommended to strew salt around plum trees, not only for the purpose of destroying the grubs of the curculio which may be in the soil, but to stimulate the tree to bear. We saw a successful experiment of this kind the other day, in the garden of our brother, Capt. P. Holmes, of Gardiner. He has several plum trees planted in a stiff clayey loam, which had not borne any fruit for seven or eight years. Last fall he strewed a quantity of salt around the roots, and this season they are hanging full of fruit. It is an experiment easily tried, and if successful, a very cheap mode of manuring the trees. Some species of plums will not thrive unless planted where the salt water can occasionally wash their roots, or unless salt is applied, as in the case of the beach plum; and it seems that salt is congenial to all kinds. Downing, in his “Fruits and Fruit Trees of America,” says, in common salt we have one of the best fertilizers for the plum tree. It not only promotes its health and luxuriance, but from the dislike which most insects have to this substance, it drives away or destroys most of those to whom the plum is liable. The most successful plum-grower in our neighbourhood applies, with the best results, half a peck of coarse salt to the surface of the ground under each bearing tree, annually, about the first of April.—*Maine Farmer.*

**ROCK SALT.**—All who keep domestic animals, are aware of the necessity of supplying them regularly with salt. Various means have been tried to effect this desirable object; but so long as the ordinary kinds are used, it cannot be done without considerable extra trouble, attended with more or less waste. We have tried all sorts of ways on our farm—the manger, troughs, both under and without cover, together with some few patent inventions, and yet we could never contrive to place this necessary commodity where it could at all times be accessible to stock, till we procured the English rock or mineral salt. This salt is as hard as alum. A lump of it may be placed in the field, where it will lie for years exposed to all sorts of weather, with but little waste. It is therefore just the thing for horses, cattle and sheep. Place a lump in the rack of a manger, in a trough, or in a field, and there it will remain till it is gradually licked away. By using this kind of salt, the stock will always take it as they desire; nor can they get it in excess, or suffer injury from it as is often the case with the use of most other kinds. We have recently had a small quantity of this article sent us from England, and in answer to numerous inquiries, add, that we can supply it at one dollar per 100 lbs.—*American Agriculturist.*

**LOVE CHRIST MORE THAN THIS.**—A Karen woman offered herself for baptism. After the usual examination, I inquired whether she could give up her ornaments for Christ. It was an unexpected blow. I explained the spirit of the Gospel. I appealed to her own consciousness of vanity. I read her the Apostle's prohibition, 1 Timothy ii. 9. She looked again and again at her handsome necklace; then, with an air of modest decision that would adorn, beyond all ornaments, any of my sisters whom I have the honour of addressing, she took it off, saying, “I love Christ more than this.”—*Judson's Address.*

**BAXTER'S BEAUTIFUL SAYING.**—While we wrangle here in the dark, we are dying, and passing to the world that will decide all our controversies, and the safest passage thither is by peaceable holiness.