

LITERARY NOTICES.

1. Annual Circular of the Medical Faculty of the Washington University of Baltimore. Session 1850-51.

We acknowledge the receipt of this Circular by the kindness of our worthy and esteemed friend, GEORGE C. M. ROBERTS, M. D., one of the Medical Faculty. The *Staff* is strong, and the University enjoys a deservedly high reputation. "The Faculty have at their command the most ample means, apparatus, models, &c., for a course as thorough and complete as is delivered in the best regulated institutions in the country. The Obstetrical models are the largest and best ever imported, and were procured in Paris, at great cost. Clinical lectures will be repeatedly given at the hospital building."

2. Baptismal Regeneration exhibited in the Prayer Book of the Church of England. By JOHN DIXON, A Missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. W. Goswold, Granville-street, Halifax N. S., 1850.

We have read this small pamphlet, in which the Rev. Author has attempted to prove what many of his Clerical brethren stoutly deny. We do not intend at present to enter into the merits of the points at issue between contending parties in the Church of England; but we may just say, that Mr. Dixon coincides in opinion with the Bishop of Exeter, whereas we do not. What struck us forcibly whilst reading the pamphlet, was, that from beginning to end, not the slightest reference is made to the teaching of the WORD OF GOD on this vexed question,—rather ominous we think. Such reference it may be said lay aside from the Author's avowed object: but still we are of opinion, that the views advocated will have little weight with evangelical men unless supported by divine testimony.

Tribute of Respect to Miss D. L. Dix.

The lady to whom the following highly complimentary, but well merited tribute of respect was offered, visited our Province last year, with the benevolent design of aiding in the establishment of an Asylum for the care and cure of the insane, that grievously afflicted, but yet most neglected portion of our fellow beings.

We regret that her efforts were not as fully appreciated nor attended with the same success here, as they have been in many parts of the U. S. and in some of the British Provinces. The comparison is not creditable to us, especially when it is known that there are perhaps 300 such afflicted subjects suffering under this heaviest of human woes, and that as many as 40 or 50 persons belonging to the Province are in Asylums of the United States; 10 or 12 have been sent in the course of the present year. Nova Scotia is the only place in which no suitable provision is made for such sufferers; we hope that some decisive steps will soon be taken to remove this reproach.

Nashville, January 26, 1850.

The Subscribers respectfully represent that, moved by admiration of her disinterested and persevering philanthropy, as honorable to their sex and a common humanity, they are desirous of seeing, in a permanent and pleasing form, a countenance expressive at once of feminine delicacy, heroic courage, sensibility and strength, compassion and firmness; and they therefore beg that Miss Dix will sit for her likeness to Mr. Hall, an American Sculptor, whose genius and skill in his beautiful art has been successfully illustrated in the busts of some of our most distinguished citizens, and will undoubtedly, in this instance, be heightened by respect for the subject.

Mrs. S. S. M. Rutledge, Mrs. Washington, Selma P. Wheat, and a large number of other subscribers.

To Miss D. L. Dix.

ANSWER.

To Mrs. Wheat, Mrs. Rutledge, Mrs. Washington, and other Ladies whose names are attached to a Communication, received through Mrs. Wheat.

DEAR LADIES: On more topics of business I do not usually find myself at a loss for language in which to express my opinions and feelings; but in reply to the gratifying communication embracing the generous request by which you have distinguished me, I feel that words fail to convey fully the emotions I experienced in receiving the expressions of your good will and respect, but especially of your sympathy in the vocation to which the best strength of my life is surrendered.

While I thank you for those evidences of your womanly and liberal sentiments and esteem, and profoundly appreciate the delicacy and taste through which you would give them permanent expression, I ask to decline the proposal so gracefully and persuasively made.

Permit me, Ladies, rather to dwell in your hearts, affectionately remembered as a fellow-

labourer in the world's wide harvest-fields; for, though our paths may conduct to different objects, our lives are alike devoted to lessen the woes of suffering humanity, and to soften the trials which are so often the stern discipline by which the soul acquires that heavenly knowledge which causeth not to err.

To us, women, it peculiarly belongs to reveal in its holiest aspects the spirituality of religion, to bring consolations upon the troubled earth, and sanctify and perpetuate by our lives and actions a remembrance of our existence which shall cause many to feel that the world is better for our having lived in it.

With sentiments of obligation and respect, I am sincerely yours,
D. L. Dix.

Sovereign Hall, Nashville, January 25.

The following description of Miss Dix is furnished by an English Correspondent of the *Christian Intelligencer*, which we have pleasure in publishing. The Lady is worthy of the highest honour as a Christian Philanthropist.

"Dorothea Dix—that good genius, that ministering angel to the criminal and maniac, the outcast of earth and the stricken of God—is, as you would suppose, a woman of most noble and prepossessing appearance. She is fair and slight, and looks but ill adapted, physically, for a life of self-sacrifice, endurance, and almost superhuman exertions to which she has consecrated herself. But her eye, though calm and mild, and full of soft persuasion, also reveals the strength of the great soul—the wondrous magnetic power of a deep, inward life. She has a gentle, even-toned voice, and her manners are simple and winning, yet dignified and womanly."

HORSE-RACING.

During the week our City was made the scene of the low past-time of horse-racing. The usual accompaniments of dissipation, profanity and gambling were manifest. We know not whether there was dancing, but there was some reel-ing. There was a great holding on to the stakes. We do not blame the dumb animals as they could have nothing to say, however they might be made to feel; but we blame those in the shape of men who spurred on the matter and were found abetting the cruel practice. Altogether the amusement was a coarse affair and the whole concern discredit to rational and accountable beings. It is time that horse-racing were placed on the same footing with bull-fighting, and for ever driven from a christian country.

DEFEATING THE LAW.

The City Council very justly prohibited the sale of spirituous liquors on the Common during the recent races. But the proprietors or occupants of adjoining fields rented these grounds to those who had no scruples of conscience to defeat the law by the sale of intoxicating liquors. To have rendered it effectual, the Ordinance of the Council required a *Rider*, prohibiting the races themselves.

Worrying down a Little.

An old lady of Pennsylvania had an unaccountable aversion to *rye*, and never could eat it in any form, "till of late they have got," she said, "to making it into whiskey, and I find I can now and then, worry down a little."

We don't believe with all her aversion to *rye*, the old lady could "worry down a little" even in the transformed shape of "whiskey," without making a *very* face at it.

GENERAL TOM THUMB made his appearance in our City on Wednesday last. He is truly the wonder of the age.

WM. HARRINGTON and HENRY BOGGS, Esqrs., have been appointed City Auditors.

ASAPUS McCASKILL, the Cape Breton giant, is seven feet two inches in height, well proportioned, remarkably strong, is in his twenty-first year, and is still growing in height and strength. At the age of twelve years, he was considered a dwarf. His parents are only ordinary sized persons. He has left Cape Breton for the United States on this City. He and General Tom Thumb would form quite a contrast!

EDWARD ALLEN, Esq., Alderman elect for Ward No. 3, as reported in our last, has refused to serve, and has paid the fine of £25.

THE FAMOUS SEA SERPENT, a crooked stick, has been seen, so it is said, slipping down the Gulf of St. Lawrence. He is a *scaly* fellow, otherwise he would come ashore and let us *scraps* his acquaintance.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Halifax Mechanic's Library held at the Exchange Reading Room last week, Robert Noble, Esq., proposed uniting the Library with the Athenaeum of the Sons of Temperance. The proposition is to be made matter of further consideration.

THE FUGITIVE SLAVE BILL, authorizing the capture and removal of slaves who have fled to Free States, is creating great excitement in New England. The papers are full of the subject, and denounce the Bill in no measured terms. The free-coloured population of the Northern States are preparing for self-defence, determined to resist to the utmost all attempts at force by Southern emissaries. Slavery is black with crime. The Bill itself we apprehend will prove "fugitive"—it cannot endure; and we are inclined to think it ought to have been designated *The Fugitive "Slave-Bill"*, as it is evident the slave-States have taken a march on the free.

A Hay stack near St. Andrew's Cross was burnt on Wednesday night last—supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Halifax, 5th October, 1850.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to appoint the following gentlemen to be Justices of the Peace:—
County of Inverness—John H. McKen, Alear. Chisholm, Archibald McIntyre.
County of Hants—Shas Card, James Withrow.
County of Cape Breton—Benjamin Shephard.
County of Lunenburg—Benjamin Ryland.
His Excellency has also been pleased to appoint John I. Rice to be a Tide Waiter and Seizing Officer for the County of Annapolis.—*Royal Gazette*.

Discovery of a Second Satellite to the Planet Neptune.

The following extract of a letter dated Starfield, 14th August, 1850, from Mr. Lassell to the Astronomer Royal, is printed in the last number of the proceedings of the Royal Astronomical Society, just published to the public:—"I have strong reason to suspect that I have to-night detected a second satellite of Neptune. Last night, the 13th instant, at about eleven o'clock, I observed the satellite of Neptune for the first time this season, and made a diagram of it, the satellite being towards its southern elongation. The sky was extremely unfavourable; and finding that no measures of either position or distance could be taken with any chance of accuracy, I attempted none. To-night, in a somewhat better, but still bad sky, I see what I conceive to be another satellite, in the line of northern elongation of the old satellite, and about two diameters distant. This cannot well be the satellite already known, which ought to be almost preceding the planet; and in that position is generally invisible. There can be no question of the reality of the observations, the satellite of to-night (considerably fainter than that of last night) being repeatedly and almost constantly seen with various powers, e. g. 316, 479, 628. The position of the satellite is, as I have said, very nearly in the direction of the greatest northern elongation of the old one, and being barely two diameters of the planet distant, may probably be inferior to it.—The sky became cloudy shortly after eleven and remained so, which prevented any confirmatory observations of motion. But I think the hypothesis of a fixed star of a similar magnitude and in the precise direction being located there, is too unlikely to throw much doubt upon the discovery." Mr. Lassell discovered the first satellite of Neptune soon after the discovery of the planet. Both discoveries were made with a reflecting telescope of twenty feet focal length, constructed by himself, and which, it is said, is perhaps the most powerful telescope in Great Britain. With the same instrument, Mr. Lassell discovered, some time ago, an eighth satellite accompanying the planet Saturn.

Mill Driven by Artesian Wells.

At Millwood, Dr. Withers has a mill which is supplied with water from six Artesian Wells, situated on the premises, at distances from the Mill varying from some 50 to 200 yards, ranging in depth from 300 to nearly 600 feet, and affording nearly 1000 gallons of water per minute. The water flows from all the wells to a common reservoir, and is conveyed thence to the Mill by an aqueduct under ground, and is received into a box or reservoir, whence it falls on a reaction wheel 40 feet below, and thus puts the Mill in motion. After acting on this wheel, the water is conveyed to the river by means of a Tunnel, dug through the limestone rock, 240 feet in length, and, at the highest point, upwards of 50 feet in depth. The Tunnel is 5 feet 8 inches deep, by 4 wide.

As the water is nowhere visible under the Mill, and empties into the river at a point not seen from the Mill, some 50 odd feet below the top of the bluff, the Mill when in motion presents to the superficial observer the appearance of a self-acting piece of machinery.

The reaction wheel is one of Whitelaw & Stirrat's, and was manufactured at the West Point Foundry. It is only 30 inches in diameter, with two apertures for the escape of the water, 1 by 4 inches. It makes 450 revolutions per minute, and the saw 150 strokes, cutting about 2000 feet of lumber per day. The wheel is calculated for running two saws, though only one has been yet attached. The entire machinery works finely, and appears to be constructed on the most approved principles.—*Greenboro Alabama Beacon*.

Newly Discovered Metal.

According to a paper read before the Stockholm Academy of Sciences, a new metal has been discovered by M. Ulgren, and has received the name *Aridium*. This substance is found principally in the chrome-iron ores of Bioras. Its oxides show some analogy to those of iron, but may be distinguished from them by several reactions. Thus, with prussiate of potash, a solution of the peroxide gives, indeed, like iron, a dark blue precipitate, but on adding excess of the prussiate, it passes into a dirty green. Metallic *aridium* has not yet been obtained.

New Daguerreotype Discovery.

The *Boston Transcript* states, that Mr. Howes, a daguerreotypist of that city, has discovered a process by which an ordinary sized daguerreotype

miniature can be magnified to life size, or larger, if necessary, and thrown upon a canvas or any flat surface, retaining at the same time all the clearness and detail of the daguerreotype, so that an artist may sit himself before this magnified reflection and render it a perfect copy, in light and shade, as well as outline, of the original. This discovery will facilitate the work of the portrait painter, and save a large amount of time consumed in sitting.—*Farmer and Mechanic*.

Milking Machines.

Gutta percha patent milking machines are in use on Long Island, and it is said that they work well. The simple instrument is easily applied to the teat of the cow, without injury to the animal, and the milk flows in a regular stream until the fountain is exhausted.

A Generous Offer.

Mrs. Sarah R. Arnold, of this city, proposes to give to the New Bedford Port Society, the large dwelling house on Water-street, known as the 'Acushnet House,' together with a suitable lot of land on Bethel Court, north of the Bethel, and remove the building thereon, &c., &c., provided the sum of Three Thousand Dollars shall first be raised by subscription to be applied to furnishing the house and establishing it as a Sailor's Home. The donation of Mrs. Arnold will amount to seven or eight thousand dollars. We have no doubt the sum needed will be immediately subscribed, and the benevolent designs of Mrs. A. be put in operation the present Autumn. The building is very large, and when improved and furnished, will make a Sailor's Home that will be a credit to the city, as well of those by whose liberality the project shall be completed.—*New Bedford Standard*.

Summary of News.

FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

An invention has been patented, called the Autographic Press, by which a letter written on prepared paper can be transferred by a short process to a metallic plate, from which any number of copies may afterwards be taken on common paper, and by ordinary pressure.

The London proprietors of hackney carriages, excluding omnibuses, pay £30,000 a year duty to the Government and the metropolitan rate, and other hack vehicles, are estimated to represent a capital of £300,000.

An order has been issued by the *Supreme Government of India* discontinuing in the army the morning drum of arrack.

Mr. G. K. Porter, Secretary of the Board of Trade, has lately read a paper before the British Association for the advancement of Science, showing that the working classes of the United Kingdom voluntarily tax themselves to the enormous amount of fifty millions sterling a year, in the consumption of intoxicating drinks! The sum exceeds the whole taxation raised by the government.

A simple and economical contrivance for excluding draughts of air from rooms has been invented by Helbrunner, of 261, Regent Street.—It is an elastic roll of fine wood, to be neatly glued in the angle of the frame of the door-jamb in which the door is embedded. It thus presses along the whole edge of the door, and effectually keeps out every breath of air. Buried out of sight, and stained to the colour of the wood, it is quite imperceptible.

The alarm about the sinking of Blackfriars-Bridge seems to have been unfounded. An official report from the engineer sets the matter at rest.

His Majesty the King of Denmark has presented four white deer to the Marquis of Breal-albani.

The French treasury will profit by the death of Louis Philippe the duties to be paid by his family on succeeding to his real and personal property being not less than the enormous sum of 9,500,000 francs (£380,000).

A letter from Constantinople states that great sensation has been caused by the wife of Mehemet Pacha having strangled one of her eunuchs, assisted by a groom and some other servants.—She has been arrested. She was formerly the wife of an English physician named Melligen, but was divorced from him.

A most interesting discovery has been made in Russia, between Dornat and Norva, of a combustible as carboniferous and calcareous as coal. It is of a yellowish brown colour, with white spots, and is the subject of much speculation, being said to be of a much earlier geological period than any known coal-field.

The London Morning Chronicle states that the number of Mormons who have emigrated to the United States during the past ten years, is 14,000. They are mostly English peasants, the most ignorant and degraded class in the whole world.

Mr. Layard, in penetrating the great mound of Nemroud, at Nineveh, has discovered a vault containing the tomb and statues of Sardanapalus, with full annals of that monarch's reign engraved upon the walls.