

POETRY.

THE YOUNG WIDOW.

She is modest but not bashful,
Free and easy but not bold,
Like an apple, ripe and mellow,
Not too young and not too old;
Half inviting and half repulsive,
Now advancing, and now shy,
There is mischief in her dimple,
There is danger in her eye.

She has studied human nature,
She is schooled in all her arts,
She has taken her diploma
As the mistress of all hearts,
She can tell the very moment
When to sigh and when to smile;
Oh! a maid is sometimes charming,
But the widow all the while.

Are you sad? how very serious
Will her handsome face become;
Are you angry? she is wretched,
Lonely, friendless, fearful, dumb;
Are you mirthful? how her laughter
Silver sounding, will ring out—
She can lure and catch and play you,
As the angler does the trout.

Ye old bachelors of forty,
Who have grown so bald and wise,
Young gallants of five-and-twenty,
With the love-locks in your eyes,
You may practice all the lessons
Taught by Cupid since the fall,
But I know a little widow
Who could win and fool you all.

THE FIRESIDE.

(Original.)

REFLECTIONS.

BY TIMOR.

I have a horror of critical men; that is, of those men, who, busy themselves perpetually in talking about the concerns of others. These men are without charity, for they have little or no mercy, on whatever is opposed to their desires. The standard of all things with them is their own will and judgement. Measuring things by this rule it is not astonishing that they are never at peace; how could they? since nothing in their eyes is great or agreeable, which is contrary to them. It is a very great pity that men should loose themselves in their own folly; because not one are they thereby without comfort, but it is the cause of much discomfort to others whom they oppose in the way of truth. It is very harassing to a sensitive man, to have his actions perpetually commented upon by men who are only anxious to distort them, and put the most monstrous constructions upon what he does. The matter is very grave for it is the cause of many quarrels and misunderstandings in life. And why should men meddle with their fellows in this ungenerous way? Surely language was not given for censure. The mind has a nobler mission than that of fault finding. And to what may the soul be likened that turns from the contemplation of God and his perfections, and refuses delight therein; to seek out the infirmities of man, and therein to delight. If indeed a man charitably, and from motives of good, reprimand the follies or frailties, of a fellow, there is not only no harm in the act, but much

good; but to pick out faults of character, for the purpose merely of parading them before the eyes of the public, is not only very contemptible but extremely sinful. If a man have nothing to talk about except evil of his fellow creature, wherefore speak. There is no law commanding it; but a very positive law informs us that we shall be judged as we judge. And what do critical men do but judge their neighbors. This is to be remembered, for He who promulgated that law, will execute it. And because a man chooses to do a thing one way rather than the other, is he to be vexed and tormented therefor by a person whom it concerns not. Rather let us profit by the example of our neighbour, than hold up his faults to the light. Why should a man see and hear those things only in life, which bring uneasiness to him; it were a wiser and a holier course by far to think only of those things which bring peace. Much evil also would disappear from the world, if on the most trivial matters, very critical men, would leave to others their own way of thinking and not plunge into contentious discussion. No profit comes from criticism; but on the contrary harm. It is rather by precept and example that good is done than by noisome declamation and pretence, and these latter are the characteristics of critical men. They are positive evil in a community, and like pirates they hang out false colors. Their teachings necessarily lead to bewilderment, for being lost in outward things; all with them, is din and confusion. The absolute negligence of themselves it is, which makes them so anxious after trivialities and things of no profit. Did they digest themselves thoroughly, they would be less critical, for there is nothing like the well-knowing of ourselves, to make us patient with others. If we would but study ourselves we should make great headway, and in a multitude of particular things we should attain great perfection. He is surely on the wrong path who seeks abroad for things that he may find at home; and he encounters many dangers who turns from his own dwelling to ransack that of his neighbours. It is his duty, as well as his interest, to be a friend to mankind who would that men should be friendly to him. Who desires to do good, and searches out the occasion of removing the oppressions of another relieves himself. But he who opens his ear to slander, and makes deceit the business of his life, is a fool, who passes his days in perpetual constraint.

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means go and inspect them.

Quebec, Nov. 12, 1870.

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THE BUDGET.

A new paper, with a new name, established mainly in the interest of trade, is after all, in itself, a fair indication. We shall not issue our little sheet daily,—not at all—once a week,—we are of those who believe that a fair statement of matters, weekly, is a desirable thing. Our principal aim will be to bring out the manufacturing interests of Quebec, and if possible to show that we are not so far behind in this respect as some people imagine. This growing industry also requires its speaking trumpet, and provided it may now and again be heard amid the din of politics, and party warfare, it will be satisfied. The fact of its speaking at all will remind men that mere politics is not so much as its blatant votaries would have us believe. We aim at making our public men remember that they are answerable to the manufacturers and trades people of this city and country, and if possible to convince them, by facts, that the growing commercial party, both in and out of Quebec, require from public men that they should give a little more attention in the future, than they have given in the past, to the policy of the government, in its relations with the interests of the producer. We shall deal fairly throughout and speak plainly, but all that we can do to turn the attention of our people, from the business of mere politics to Trade, and to politics only, as it concerns the development of the various industries of the country, we shall do. We have no party ties, and shall always reserve to ourselves the privilege of speaking independently upon questions of trade. We have a reasonable prospect of success, and made arrangements abroad, that our little sheet may be read out of Quebec. In the long run it will be felt that our plan of issuing a weekly sheet is not a bad one, and our patrons will find that we shall ever do our best to deserve well of them.

Publisher's Announcement.

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