



Agriculture.

WASHING DAY.

BY G. W. HOLMES.

It chanced to be our washing day,
 And all our things were drying;
 The steam came roaring through the lines,
 And set them all a flying.
 I saw the ahbits and petticoats
 Go riding off like witches—
 I huz!—ah, butterly I wept—
 I lost my Sunday breeches!

I saw them straddling through the air,
 Alas! too late to win them.
 I saw them chase the clouds, as if
 The devil had been in them.
 They were my darlings and my pride,
 My boyhood's only riches.
 "Farewell! farewell!" I faintly cried,
 "My breeches! O, my breeches!"

That night I saw them in my dreams.
 How changed from what I knew them.
 The dew had steeped their faded threads,
 The wind had whistled through them.
 I saw the wind and ghostly tent
 Where demon claws had torn them.
 A hole was in their hinder parts,
 As if an imp had worn them!

I have had many happy years,
 And times I led and clever,
 But these roving pantalooners have gone,
 Forever and forever.
 And now, my fate has set the last
 Of all my earthly stitches.
 This aching heart shall cease to mourn
 My loved—my long lost breeches!

the best outlet for the produce of Canada proceeding from Toronto, Cobourg and Kingston, and their vicinities. Our true policy is to build up a domestic trade, and encourage that with our neighbours, by reciprocal free trade. We, as a people, have all the elements and materials for domestic manufactures, and can compete, if we had capital, with Massachusetts. Farmers, make up your minds to raise more stock, less wheat, and from your wool make your cloths. All the surplus beef and wool we can raise, will, for generations to come, find a ready market in Boston and New York. If we could do as well as a people by turning our commerce down the St. Lawrence, we should do it; but it seems to us that nature has pointed out our best markets. Man may patch up things, and try to avert what seems inevitable, yet commerce, like water, will find its natural outlet.

When once the political atmosphere of Canada is settled by her people, commerce will find its proper outlets. We regret to say there are many political questions in Canada unsettled, and likely to be. At the same time, when we look at our statistics it is gratifying to find that we are increasing in wealth and population. What is to be feared most is that we are bringing upon ourselves too much indirect taxation by railroads. If in addition to our domestic railways, we are to be taxed indirectly by raising the customs duties, to pay for the interest on the capital borrowed to build a part of the great Eastern Trunk Railway, what will we, ten years hence, have to pay for our sugar and cotton? The interest must be paid by a poll tax on our people, or a custom tax on our imported necessities of life.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

A public meeting for the Township and Village of Ancaster took place at Rousseau's Hotel, on Monday afternoon, for the purpose of encouraging the formation of a Joint Stock Company, to erect a Factory at Ancaster, for the manufacture of carpets, knotted goods and woollen yarns. The meeting was well attended, and a lively interest was taken in the proceedings by those present. G. B. Rousseau, Esq., having been called to the chair and Mr. Goldie, of Hamilton, appointed Secretary, the Chairman explained the objects of the meeting, and read the Prospectus, as it appears in this and other journals.

Mr. Hyndman, who has had 27 years' experience in the manufacture of woollen goods of every description, had a document before the meeting, showing that the articles proposed to be made at the Factory could be produced at a rate one-third lower than they can be imported.

It was then moved by Mr. Gable, and seconded by Mr. Spohn in an able speech, and carried unanimously.

That this meeting deems it expedient to establish a Company, in accordance with the prospectus, and pledge themselves to use their influence and interest, zealously and earnestly, in carrying out the object of the meeting.

The Stock books were then opened for fifteen minutes, during which period upwards of 120 shares were taken, amounting to £3000. The Chairman adjourned the meeting until Friday, the 20th Feb., at half-past 2 o'clock.—*Hamilton Spectator.*

Household Measures—As all families are not provided with scales and weights referring to ingredients in general use by every housewife, the following may be useful—What flour, one pound is one quart. Indian meal, one pound two ounces is one quart. Butter, when soft, one pound one ounce is one quart. Leaf Sugar, broken, one pound is one quart. White Sugar, powdered, one pound one ounce is one quart. Best Brown Sugar, one pound two ounces is one quart. Eggs average size ten eggs are one pound. Sixteen large table-spoonfuls are half a pint, eight one gill four half a gill, &c.

Lights! Lights! I say—Instead of their being the slightest chance that wonders will ever cease, we have strong reasons for thinking that wonders have only just begun. The last new marvel is a Company for lighting our streets, our shops, our houses, and even our bed-chambers, with electric fluid, so that we may sit, and read or write by flashes of lightning, and go to sleep with columns of electric fluid oozing down for a rushlight in our room. The new lights that have sprung up within the last few years have been extinguishing and snuffing each other out in rapid succession. The first breath of science blew out the dips, which fell prostrate under the wax of discovery, and then came the metallic wicks, offering "metal more attractive," then they took the candles in hand, superseded with the composite fashion (the once popular "mould of form," until the public, having nosed the presence of arsenic, stopped its nostrils and its patronage. The electric light now threatens to supersede all, and considering the universal use now made of electricity, we would not be surprised at the formation of a Company to fix a lightning conductor instead of the ordinary conductor to every omnibus.

Regulating Clocks—We perceive from our English papers that it is proposed, by means of electric telegraph to regulate all the public clocks throughout the kingdoms of Great Britain, in accordance with Greenwich or railway time. Precisely at noon, the signal indicating Greenwich time, as observed by the great electric clock, in the central station, Lothbury, is to be sent over the various lines of wire, giving at an inappreciable interval, the exact time at every terminus. Greenwich time, as distinguished from local time, is at present kept by nearly all the towns of importance in England, but they have not the advantage of exact regulation. The only towns of consequence where uniformity of time is not adopted, but where local time is adhered to, are Norwich, Yorkmouth, Cambridge, Ipswich, Colchester, Harwich, Oxford, Bristol, Bath, Portsmouth, Exeter, Dorchester, Lancaster, and Falmouth, on the east and west of England.

The Invention of the Steam Engine Claimed by France—The invention of the steam engine, like almost every other great invention is claimed by the French—Hitherto they have based the claim principally on the fact that Solomon de Claus, who died in 1630, and Papin, who died in 1709, first expressed the opinion that steam might be used as a motive power. And now, going a step further, they lay claim to having been the first people who had the idea of applying steam to navigation. A certain Abbe Gautier, who, it seems, was Professor of Mathematics at Nancy, presented they say to the academy of that town, in 1753, a paper describing a machine invented by him for propelling vessels on water. We have some recollection of having read some months ago, in the French or German papers, that the said Abbe made the proposition to the Academy of Venice, and that he was an Austrian subject. The Academy of Sciences of Paris has, however, appointed a committee to examine into the Abbe's claim, and it will probably clear up all doubt on the subject.—*Literary Gazette.*

The Frost—We regret to learn that most of the fruit, cherries, peaches, apples, and pears, which had escaped the extreme cold of the past winter, have all been carried away by the recent and unexpected visitation of Jack Frost. The warm weather immediately previous to the recent cold had tempted most of the fruit trees and flowers into leaf, and the buds of fruit had swollen so that frost, having a fair chance, has captured the entire lot. We shall have to give up for another year, hope of fruit. The loss of two successive seasons will prove a loss severely to be felt by farmers and horticulturists, and just be estimated at several millions of dollars. We have accounts from a great many sections of the East and of the West, and all appear to have suffered severely. In some places entire orchards of fruits, which have just come into bearing have been destroyed.—*Cr. Gazette.*

A Clean Mouth—Unclean teeth is a serious detractor from beauty, and the main cause of an offensive breath. A few simple directions how to keep the teeth clean may be an advantage to somebody. First, if your teeth are badly coated with tartar, get a good dentist to scrape them. Wash your teeth in soft, cold water every day, or oftener, rubbing the teeth and gums, with your fingers. A tooth brush may do as well, if the gums are not too tender to bear it. Once a week mix a little vinegar in the water. Do these things from youth, and you will never be troubled with sore gums, offensive breath, rotten teeth, or toothache.—*Mr. Temperance Waterman.*

EMERS—there is little prospect of grain rising. The last news from England show even a decline in the price of wheat. The manufacturing interests of Britain are so great; and the owners and workers, engaged therein, are so great and powerful, that there is little hope of a new ministry, although inclined to do so, on any duty on foreign grain. If the people of England require cheap food, it is very questionable morality on our part to raise the price of wheat to line our pockets with a little more gold. We need expect little from a protective policy in wheat. Let us turn our attention to our own resources. If grain-growing be not so profitable, farmers should raise more stock and poultry, and devote more upon the dairy. Whilst wheat, during the past winter, has been at a very low ebb, butter, eggs, cheese, beef and pork, have advanced at good prices. Even barley, peas and clover are varied little, and poultry has been high. It is not better for our farmers to turn their capital into other channels than wheat. Wool brings a fair price. Our future commerce will be our domestic ones, and those of the United States. Everything in Canada is tending to a commercial alliance with the neighbouring United States. When the Great Western, Erie and Buffalo, and Lake Huron and Toronto canals are finished, the commercial interests of Canada and the United States will be still more united. At this time the port of New York is the chief outlet, and always will be, for a large portion of the wheat, lying west of Hamilton; and Boston is