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Wm. H. Hunter

THE CANADIAN FAMILY HERALD.

FIVE SHILLINGS PER ANNUM.]

Virtue is True Happiness.

[SINGLE, THREE HALF PENCE.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1861.

No. 3.

Poetry.

WE ARE GROWING OLD

We are growing old—how the thought will rise—
When a glance is backward cast,
On some long-remembered spot, that lies
In the silence of the past,
It may be a shrine of our early vows,
Or the tomb of early tears;
But it seems like a far off isle to us
In the stormy sea of years.

While and wild are the waves that part
Our steps from its greenness now,
And we miss the joy of many a heart—
And the light of many a brow
For deep o'er many a stately bark
Have the whelming billows rolled,
That steered with us from that early mark—
Oh! friends, we are growing old.

Old in the dimness of the dust
Of our daily toils and cares—
Old in the wrecks of love and trust
Which our burthened memory bears.
Each form may wear, to the passing gaze,
The bloom of life's freshness yet,
And beams may brighten the latter days
Which the morning never met
But the many changes we have seen
In the far and winding way
The grass in our path that has grown green,
And the locks that have grown grey!
The winter still on our own may spare
The sable or the gold,
But we see their snows upon brighter hair,
And, friends, we are growing old!

We have gained the world's cold wisdom now,
We have learned to pause and fear,
But where are living founts whose flow
Was a joy of heart to hear?
If we've won the wealth of many a clime,
Or the lore of many a page,
Where is the hope that ead in time
But its boundless heritage?
Will it come again when the violet wakes,
And the woods their youth renew?
We have stood in the light of sunny brakes,
Where the bloom is deep and true,
Our souls might joy in the spring time then,
But the joy was faint and cold,
For it never could give us our youth again—
My friends, we are growing old!

Literature.

THE EPPING GIPSEY.

A TRUE STORY.

In the summer of the year 1793, the Forest of Epping became the resort of a numerous clan of Gipseys, whose depredations on the surrounding farm-houses rendered them exceedingly obnoxious to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, by whom they were viewed with considerable apprehensions, not only on account of their disposition to plunder, but from the well known ferocity of a portion of the gang. Scarcely a night passed without a robbery having been committed; and so daring were the marauders, that farmers were attacked on the public highway, and robbed and ill-treated at noon-day. The magistrates of the county were applied to without effect; for the local constables, who acted under their directions, and who were generally petty farmers, were too timid to enter the precincts of these formidable freebooters, either to search for stolen property, or to execute a warrant of arrest; so that the gipseys had little to apprehend from the power of the

law. Indeed, the best policy under the circumstances seemed to be, to wink at the loss of a stray sheep or a few geese, to treat a chance member of the gipsy camp with a cup of your home-brewed ale, or to toss a few halfpence amongst their little ragged, sun-burnt children, who would often wander to the neighbouring villages to seek for what they could pick up. Thanks to the excellent arrangement of our police, and our able efficient magistracy, things are now in a better state.

The gipseys, although in many parts of England and Scotland they are still to be seen hovering on the outskirts of society, are a declining race, and in a few years more will, in all probability, become totally extinct. Aware that their mode of life is unlawful, and that they are rather endured than protected in a country where good order is so strongly enforced, they are cautious how they commit the least excess, lest they should draw upon their heads the terrors of the law. But up to the close of the last century, the name of gipsy was generally coupled with that of robber, and every species of excess was committed by these reckless vagrants.

The leader of the formidable gang, to which we have just referred, was named George Young, whose first breath was drawn in a gipsy tent, and whose limbs, from that moment to the hour of his death, never rested on a softer bed than that which the bare earth afforded. His temper and habits partook naturally of the wild life in which he had been reared. He was bold, determined, and ferocious, added to which, he possessed a constitution of robust health, and a frame of great muscular strength and activity. Unaided as he was by the advantages resulting from education, he at times displayed no mean capacity; and he had something in his demeanour and appearance, which seemed to raise him far above those with whom he was associated. He appeared ardently attached to the life he had chosen; and he has been known to declare, that he would not exchange his condition for a bed of down or a home of luxury. According to the most authentic account which we have been enabled to gather of his person, he was nearly six feet in height, and his frame was one of uncommon strength. His usual dress was a loose coat of gray frieze, fastened round the middle with a leather belt; a broad leaved hat which he usually wore slouched over his sun-burnt features; bare legs, and strong shoes. The only weapon, offensive or defensive, which appeared upon his person, was a huge ash staff, which he used when walking. It was believed, however, that he was provided with weapons of a more destructive nature.

It happened that, whilst the terror raised by the depredations of the gipseys was at its height, a poor lone woman who inhabited a miserable cottage on the borders of the forest, was robbed of her little all, consisting of three guineas and some silver, which she had carefully hoarded up to purchase a cow. Her lamentations excited the sympathy of a young

man, a wheel-wright, named Dorkins, to whom she made known her loss, and he readily determined to proceed to the gipseys' haunt, and demand restitution in the name of the poor woman, whom they had so cruelly robbed. Dorkins was a young man of considerable spirit, and having acquired some celebrity in the neighbourhood for his strength and agility, felt, perhaps, no small degree of confidence in his bodily powers, should the gipseys attempt to assault him. He would have endeavoured to prevail on one of his companions to accompany him in his enterprise, but that he knew how useless would be the attempt, besides, having a dash of the romantic in his composition, he was unwilling to share the fame of the exploit with another. The truth is, the young man was in love, and having a rival, though not a very successful one, he was anxious to distinguish himself in the eyes of his mistress, in order to gain her good opinion. Bent on this hazardous undertaking he left his home, and directed his steps on the evening of a fine summer's day, towards the gipseys' tents, which were pitched in the centre of the forest, which at this time was nearly as unfrequented, excepting by gamekeepers and poachers, as many of the woods of America are at the present day. Young Dorkins entered the thickets with a fearless heart, but never returned to tell the result of his adventure.

Three days having elapsed since the evening on which he was missed from home, his family and friends, and indeed the entire neighbourhood, expressed the most serious apprehensions for his safety; nor were these apprehensions at all diminished by the sudden disappearance of the gipseys. Not a straggler was now to be seen on the outskirts of the forest; and the tops of their tents, which could till now be distinguished from the high grounds of Epping that overlooked a portion of the wooded scenery, were no longer visible. The fears of the neighbours were further confirmed by the old woman—the unhappy cause of the young man's rash undertaking. She related the nature of her conference with him on her loss, and mentioned his promise to see her righted. A conclusion was soon drawn. The brave young man, impelled by his generous spirit, had, it was determined, sought the haunt of the gipseys, and there fell a victim to their cold and cruel treachery.

Dorkins was a general favorite, and his companions, mustering together to the amount of ten or twelve young men, with two of the forest-keepers, and a parish constable at their head, resolved to explore the forest, and recover, if possible, the body of the young man, alive or dead. They sallied forth accordingly, and proceeded directly to the gipseys' haunt, which they found completely deserted; although, from the hurried manner in which the removal appeared to have been effected, it was evident that some strong and sudden motive had urged their departure. Not a trace, however, could here be discovered of the object of their search; but being determined not to return without gaining some clue to the fate of

their companion, they divided their party for the purpose of exploring the neighbouring thickets. Their excursions were at length crowned with success, on a patch of dark green grass, surrounded on every side by thick trees, through which the last beams of the setting sun could scarcely penetrate, they discovered the body of the unfortunate young man stretched out, cold and lifeless, with a desperate gash on the right temple, and his throat cut from ear to ear. A broken ash staff, stained with clotted blood, lay on the ground, and from the trampled appearance of the grass around the body, it was evident that the deceased had offered to his assailants a vigorous and prolonged resistance.

The terror excited by the news of this inhuman murder can hardly be described. The body having been conveyed to an inn at Epping, a jury was summoned to investigate the matter. The evidence of the old woman seemed to confirm the general belief, that the gipseys had perpetrated the dreadful crime, and their sudden disappearance left scarcely a doubt upon the subject. The crowd collected around the inn was immense, and the body, in compliance with a popular superstition, was exposed to public inspection, in order, that those, against whom suspicion was entertained, should undergo the ordeal of touching it. As there was but one opinion, however, as to the authors of the murder, it was considered unnecessary that any of the spectators should try the experiment, but a number of the companions of the deceased voluntarily walked round the mangled corpse, and touched it as they passed. There was one among the number, however, who kept aloof from the assembled crowd, and seemed to shun the object, which all appeared so desirous to view. It was Walter Savage, a first cousin of the murdered young man, and the rival in his love. An enmity of long standing had existed between them. It arose out of a wrestling match, in which Dorkins threw Walter, whose pride was so sensibly touched by his defeat, that he never afterwards forgave him.

Walter had taken to bad courses, was addicted to drink and evil company, and had in other means of subsistence than what he derived from his dangerous pursuit as a deer stealer. Connecting these circumstances with the murder, it was surprising nobody suspected that he might have had some hand in it. His very look, as he stood a mute but not inattentive spectator of the scene, would have implied that he was labouring under the weight of some hidden guilt, yet so entirely had people's suspicions been excited by the gipseys, and so deeply were they impressed with the idea that they were the guilty persons, that suspicion had never once pointed at Walter Savage.

As yet we have made no mention of Jane Barnes, the unhappy young woman, who had exchanged her vows with the murdered Dorkins. She was present at the awful investigation, and as the jury, after viewing the mangled remains, were about to retire to consider of their verdict, she shrieked aloud, in a voice that appalled the heart of every bystander "In the justice of Walter Savage has not touched the body!" All eyes were immediately turned upon Savage, at whom the half-crazed girl pointed as he stood in a corner of the room, his arms folded on his breast, and his eyes cast upon the ground. Hearing himself thus singled out he suddenly raised his head, and advancing slowly towards her, by whom he was thus publicly impeached, while his pale lips quivered with agitation and his limbs seemed to totter beneath his weight, said, in a voice scarcely audible "It is true Jane I have not touched the body, but if it is right that I should I am quite willing that I should die now." He accordingly advanced to the corpse and passed his fingers across the forehead while every one pressed forward to witness the result. It was most singular. He had scarcely withdrawn his hand, when the blood gushed from the dead man's temple at sight of which a general thrill of horror ran through the room.

The confusion and consternation which fol-

lowed may be better imagined than described. Poor Jane, whose feelings had been wound up to intensity by the scene before her, fell into strong hysterics, and in this state was obliged to be conveyed home. The coroner and jury were thunderstruck, and the rest of the spectators were speechless with surprise and horror. Savage, though deadly pale, had recovered his self-possession, and withstood firmly the many searching glances that were now turned upon him. The strong suspicion which had attached to the gipseys was even directed to another object, and so powerful was the effect produced by the blood of the murdered man, that the guilt of Walter Savage was considered as clear as the noon-day. He was seized upon the spot, and conveyed before the jury. His character weighed heavily against him, and his enmity to the unfortunate deceased, was thought to be a damning evidence of guilt. He was questioned as to where he was on the evening of the murder. He hesitated, and at length named a public-house in the neighbourhood, where he said he had passed the entire afternoon of the day in question, and did not return to his home until after ten at night. This statement, however, was distinctly and positively denied by the landlord of the inn he mentioned, who happened to be one of the persons present at the investigation. Some other questions were then asked him, to each of which he returned surlily and evasive answers. The jury consulted, and notwithstanding their former impression that the gipseys alone were guilty, Savage was forthwith committed to prison, charged by the coroner's warrant, with the wilful murder of Edward Dorkins!

The assizes came on the week following, and the day of trial having arrived, Savage was conveyed to Chesham for the purpose of answering, at the bar of Justice, for the heavy crime with which he was charged. Having been renounced by his family, in consequence of his evil doings, he had no friend to stand beside him on this awful occasion, and not a living soul came to whisper hope and consolation in his ear. The court was crowded to excess by persons of every description, who were all anxious to learn the result of a trial, occasioned by the commission of a crime, which had rarely been perpetrated in that part of the county, and the mysterious manner in which the accused had become implicated, gave an unusual interest to the scene.

The preliminary business of the court having been disposed of, the jury were sworn, and the trial commenced. Savage, when called upon in the usual way to plead to the indictment, answered, "Not guilty," in a firm collected manner. The counsel for the prosecution, having detailed the particulars of the murder, proceeded to show the grounds of suspicion against the prisoner at the bar. Witnesses were called to prove the misunderstanding which had existed between the cousins, and some hasty expressions of revenge, which were said to have been uttered by Savage, on the occasion of his defeat in the wrestling match, were also given in evidence. A knife, stained with clotted blood, (the appearance of which excited a powerful sensation in the court,) was likewise brought forward. It had been discovered under the prisoner's bed after his apprehension, and was thought to have been the weapon with which he had accomplished the fatal deed. These were the principal points of evidence against the unfortunate prisoner, and the prosecuting counsel admitted, that however strong and conclusive they might be, they were merely circumstantial. He adverted to the gipseys, and said it was true that circumstances of a suspicious nature might be advanced against them. The supposed object which Dorkins had in view when he entered the forest, on the evening of the murder, and the subsequent flight of the gang, whose route had not been traced, were points for the jury to consider, who would weigh them as opposed to the proofs advanced against the prisoner. In alluding to the singular fact of the blood of the deceased having followed the touch of the supposed murderer, he desired that the jury

should dismiss that occurrence entirely from their minds, as it might be accounted for in a natural manner, and he left them to shape their verdict according to the evidence produced, and the dictates of their own consciences. The case for the prosecution having been closed, the prisoner was called upon for his defence. He had no counsel to plead for him, and no friend to utter a kind word in his behalf. He stared vacantly around the court, but so convinced were the spectators, of his guilt, that amongst the many faces which his eye encountered on every side, he could not discover one in which hope or pity could be traced. He pressed his hands upon his forehead, closed his eyes, and dropped his head upon the bar. Being again asked if he had any thing to urge in his defence, he merely denied his guilt in general terms, admitting that he had taken to bad habits, had been a deer-stealer, and that the knife produced against him was that which he had used in the dissection of his plunder, concluding with a vehement denial of the crime with which he was charged, and his firm reliance on the justice of the judge and jury; although, having no friend in the world, he was quite careless as to what should become of him. His addresses seemed to have had no other effect upon the minds of the spectators, than to strengthen the conviction of his guilt. The judge recapitulated the evidence, dwelt at considerable length on every criminal circumstance, and left the wretched prisoner nothing to hope for. His addresses to the jury. "There is one circumstance," said he, "which the learned counsel for the prosecution has told you to dismiss from your minds when you come to decide your case; I allude to the appearance of blood, when the body of the deceased was touched by the prisoner. I am not given to superstition, gentlemen, yet I own that an occurrence so awful and supernatural has made a considerable impression on my mind; and coupled as it is with circumstantial evidence of the strongest and most convincing nature, I cannot but consider it as one of those wonderful interpositions of Divine Providence, which, in cases of this description, have not unfrequently occurred, for the purpose of fixing the crime on the head of the guilty person. Gentlemen, if you have taken a different view of the case; if you entertain any reasonable doubts as to the evidence produced this day before you, I need not tell you that the prisoner is entitled to the benefit of those doubts, and that your verdict must be found accordingly. But I entertain a strong impression of the prisoner's guilt. Indeed, I am as morally convinced of his having committed this murder, as if I myself had witnessed it."

Savage, who had never withdrawn his eyes from the judge during his long address, now fixed them on the jury, to try if in their looks he could find a spark of mercy. He saw them turn round to consult together, and hope for a moment took possession of his mind, but, when they withdrew for further consultation, his feelings, having already reached the summit of suspense, could bear no more. His head swam, and the bench, where sat his stern and inexorable judge, the dim lights in the court, and the thousand eyes that from every side seemed to glare upon him, went round and round. His knees smote each other, his throat seemed parched, and he breathed with difficulty. He would willingly have given his last slender chance of life for a drop of water and a breath of pure air; and he dropped down totally insensible. How long he had continued thus, he knew not; but the same deep and solemn voice which had asked him before, if he were "guilty or not guilty," recalled him to life and misery, by repeating "Walter Savage, what have you to say, why sentence of death and execution should not be passed upon you, according to the verdict?" He had nothing to say; he saw that he must die, not all the world could save him. He bowed his head in silent submission to his fate, and the awful sentence of the law was instantly passed upon him. One short day was all that he mercy of his earthly judge allowed him, to settle his affairs in this world, and prepare

for his removal to the next. The sentence seemed to give general satisfaction, and a buzz of approbation followed its delivery. The popular feeling had set in strongly against the unfortunate young man. His appearance was not prepossessing, he had a heavy brow and a downcast look, and, strange as it may appear, his very name was seized upon as proof presumptive of his guilt.

He was immediately removed from the dock, for the purpose of being reconducted, to his solitary dwelling, from the walls of which, in a few hours more, he was to be led forth, amid the groans and execrations of the people, to suffer an ignominious death. The trial had occupied the court ten hours, and the evening was far advanced before it was concluded. The pressure of persons, both in the interior and without the walls of the court-house, was so great, that the officers could scarcely effect a passage for the prisoner, who moved quietly along, hardly conscious of his dreadful situation. Having advanced about half-way from the court house to the prison, the officers found it impossible to proceed further. and Savage, who was closely plighted between two of them, had scarcely room to breathe. A reinforcement of constables was sent for, but before they could arrive, a tumult arose, nobody could tell how, and the officers were suddenly assaulted by a group of wild looking, dark coloured men, whose bare brawny arms brandished huge bludgeons. The crowd gave way, and Savage to an instant found himself separated from those to whose custody he had been but a moment before consigned. The effect of the trial, however, had so stupefied him, that he had scarcely sufficient power to profit by the chance which was then presented to him. His hands were plighted, but his legs were free, yet still, instead of rushing through the panic-struck crowd, and making a desperate effort to save his already forfeited life, he stood with a stupid stare, apparently the only unconcerned spectator of the riot of which he was the cause, and had it not been for the increasing darkness, and the confusion which prevailed, he would inevitably have been recaptured. But that which he himself was unable to effect, was soon undertaken by an unknown friend. He felt his wrist tightly grasped, and he was hurried onwards by a tall muscular man, muffled in a large cloak, with his face concealed by a stouched hat. Forcing a passage through the crowd, Savage and his conductor soon found themselves on the outskirts of the town. Once, and but once, they ventured to look back, and found that the utmost confusion prevailed around the court-house. A detachment of dragoons had just arrived, lights were moving to and fro, and the words "rescue!" "escape!" and "murderer!" were echoed by a thousand tongues. Savage, who till now had scarcely felt the extent of his danger, shuddered and hurried onwards, urging every sinew to keep pace with his unknown friend, who strode before him with a giant's speed. Having cleared the town, they struck into an unfrequented path, and continued their route across the country, avoiding the public roads, and pausing at intervals to listen for the sounds of pursuit. But all was silent, and the full round moon, rising from behind a ridge of dark clouds, threw a mild and gradual lustre over the surrounding scenery.

Having travelled at a rapid rate for the space of an hour, without exchanging a single word, Savage and his guide suddenly checked their speed; and the latter, lifting his hat from his eyes, and allowing the moonlight to fall full upon his features, asked Savage if he knew him. The young man thought his features were familiar to his eye; he had surely seen them before, but he was too much overpowered by his feelings to recollect where. "It is of no consequence," said his preserver, perceiving that he hesitated, "I have saved your life, and would have done so, even at the hazard of my own. They would have caused you to die a painful and a public death, for a crime of which you were not guilty; for know, Walter Savage, it was this hand that struck young Dor-

kins to the earth, and this was the weapon," he continued, drawing a large clasp-knife from his bosom, and opening the fatal blade,—"this was the weapon that let out his life's blood." Savage shuddered, and involuntarily stepped a few paces back. "You must not mistake me," continued the unknown, "I am no common murderer, I would not willingly have sought his death, but the tiger is not to be beard in his own den. He came with threats and upbraidings, I warned him away, but he was rashly bent upon his own destruction. He struck me, we grappled. He was young, active, and courageous, and a noted wrestler too, as you may perhaps remember. We struggled hard, till at last he fell beneath me. Even then I did not desire his life, but he renewed his insolent upbraidings, heaped the most odious terms of abuse upon me and my people, and treacherously springing upon me, unprepared as I was to sustain his assault, he fastened on my throat, and would probably have choked me, but that, stepping back, I seized upon my ash staff, which till now I had disdainful to use, and with one blow I dashed him to the earth, never to rise again! But time flits, you are safe now, but you will be pursued, and if taken, it may be that I cannot again effect your rescue. Go, then, consult your own safety by flight. Seek, for the present, some distant and secure retreat, or the blood hounds of the law will surely find you out. Even now, the cry is up, the scent is on the ground, and nothing but courage and decision can save you. The morning sun must find you many miles from hence. The great city lies before you, there, for the present, you will be most secure."

"And you," said Walter, overcome by strong feelings of gratitude, "where will you find a refuge, should chance discover what you have now confessed to me?"

The stranger paused for a few moments, and then replied,—"The secret lies in your breast, Walter Savage, and I rely too much upon your gratitude, to suppose you would wantonly betray me, and, if you had villainy enough to do so, you surely would not be the fool to risk your own life again, by an endeavour to implicate me, for, who would give credit to the tale of a convicted murderer? No, Walter, the price which you must pay for your rescued life is silence, and a self banishment from your native haunts. Thus we shall both be secure. The time may come, however, when you may once more return to your home, cleared from the crime of which the world now believes you guilty, — when I die, I will do you justice. But, we waste the night in talk, you are without money, I suppose, and your rifle must no longer ring through the glades of Epping Forest, to bring down the red deer. Here are five guineas," he continued, drawing a leathern purse from his bosom, and counting out that sum; "and when you sit down in safety, recalling the transactions in which you have lately been engaged, think kindly of him who now bids you an eternal farewell, — remember Young, the gipsy."

Savage took the advice of his mysterious preserver, and, having secreted himself in an obscure lodging in London, until his pursuers despaired of effecting his capture, he made his way to Portsmouth, and immediately embarked in a King's ship for the West Indies. Profiting by the errors of his early life, he applied himself with steady perseverance to his duty, and soon gained the goodwill of his companions and the officers under whom he served. He distinguished himself in several actions; and, being an uncommonly good marksman, was generally directed to go aloft with his rifle, when an enemy came to close quarters. His last action was fought in the very ship, on the deck of which the gallant Nelson received his death wound. A nine-pounder carried off his left leg; and falling from his station on the round-top, he was borne to the cockpit by two of his companions, where he underwent the amputation of his shattered stump.

He had fought for his country for ten years; and being unfit any longer for service, he was

sent to England in the first hospital ship that left the Bay of Trafalgar after that ever-memorable battle. For obvious reasons, although many opportunities had offered, he had never seen England since his first departure; and filled with recollections of the past, he had now returned to her shores with gloomy forebodings and a heavy heart. He remembered that, however innocent he was, the sentence of the law still hung over him, and that the name of convicted murderer would tarnish all his laurels. Time, to be sure, had wrought a considerable alteration in his appearance, and he had changed his name on entering the service; but there were many still living to whom his features would be familiar, and who would not be talled by the change which his person had undergone. He remembered the gipsy's words, "When I die I will do you justice;" but this chance was too uncertain and remote to excite the slightest hope.

As he lay one evening in his hammock, debating within himself on the risk which he should shortly be obliged to encounter, he took up an old newspaper, which one of his messmates had lent him, and turning over the contents, he chanced to light upon these words:—"If this should meet the eye of Walter Savage, who, about the year 1733, lived near Epping, in Essex, and who effected his escape from Chemsford, in the said county, while under sentence of death, for the commission of a crime of which, it was afterwards discovered, he was not guilty,—he is informed, that he will hear of something very much to his advantage, by applying to Mr. Franklin, solicitor, Gray's Inn, London; or, any person giving such information as may lead to the discovery of the said Walter Savage, shall be handsomely rewarded, by applying as above."

A few words will suffice to close this narrative. When Savage arrived in England, and as soon as he was sufficiently recovered to go abroad, he wanted on the solicitor to whom he was directed to apply. From him he learned, that Young, having closed his vagabond career in a wretched hovel, on the borders of the Epping Forest, acknowledged, among other crimes, that Dorkins had fallen by his hand, and that the young man who had been condemned to death as the supposed murderer, was entirely innocent of his death. "I shall take occasion," continued the solicitor, "to make the Secretary of State acquainted with your singular case, and I have no doubt but that you may soon return to your home with an undiminished character. In the mean time, I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that an uncle of yours in consideration of your early misfortunes, has left you his sole heir to a very comfortable property, in your native county, and, in presenting you with the title deed, allow me to wish you all possible happiness, and length of years to enjoy it.

G. L. A.

THE CANADIAN FAMILY HERALD.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DEC. 20, 1851.

OUR READERS.—Persons who received the first and this number, and do not return them, will be placed on the list of our Subscribers.

TO ADVERTISERS.—The Herald will be found a valuable medium for advertising. Its cheapness brings it within the reach of all. Its selections in Literature will make it always a welcome guest in the family circle; while its contributions, in Science and the Arts, will make it the companion of the Artizan and the Agriculturist; so that merchants and business men generally, will find it to their interest to announce themselves occasionally through its columns.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—This is a feature almost exclusively peculiar to a few English publications. It is found to contribute very successfully to the interest of the reader, and is the means of affording much useful information. We have made arrangements, by means of which, this branch will be carefully attended to, and all enquiries answered so far as practicable so to do.

SINCE our last issue, Winter has stolen rapidly upon us, the piercing bleak wind has played merrily around the cheerless hearth, and the numbing cold has shivered many a shrunken frame, and moistened the sunken eye as the walling of half-naked humanity has broken upon the unwilling ear. Cowper says

"If solitude make scant the means of life
Give me society;"

but how many breathe out a miserable solitude in the midst of society. Surrounded on all sides by busy active life, they pine in penury and want unheeded and uncared for. Throughout our provinces generally there is not much destitution; but there are many sources of earning a livelihood in the summer and autumn, which are completely shut up, at a time when of all others every necessary and comfort of life should be in the greatest abundance. The snow storm has called into operation the merry jingling sleigh bell and has made many a glad heart; but the cold which has accompanied it has pierced many a family, whose stock of fuel has been scant, and thus a call is made upon those who have wherewith to enjoy the luxuries of life, to be mindful of those who are destitute of the commonest means of subsistence. During the past week we have experienced a mean temperature considerably lower than has occurred in the same month for the last twelve years, and all have in so far felt its frigid effects, and are the better able to judge how much more severely the bitter wind would have pinched us, had clothing, or food, or fuel, been deficient. A responsible duty then devolves upon all, thus privileged, to endeavour to alleviate the sufferings under which many who are destitute of these blessings may be labouring, and they will have an ample reward in the satisfaction, that they have been so far useful in their generation. Ere another issue of The Family Herald, Christmas—with all its merry carols, will have passed away, and we feel confident that its remembrance will be far more endeared to the memory, if in the midst of our rejoicings an affectionate regard has been had to the welfare of those whose circumstances are such as to render them not only unable to contend with the rigours of a severe winter, but even to rejoice in the return of this merry season, save for the sympathy which they experience from the benevolent and philanthropic.

Toronto Mechanics' Institute.

The lecture on the evening of Friday, the 12th inst., was delivered by T. J. Robertson, Head Master of the Normal School,—subject—The History of Canada. The lecturer said that the history of our own country was especially de-

termining of consideration, as its advantages of position, soil, climate, and general energy and intelligence amongst its inhabitants were such, that whether it remains a Province of the British Empire, was attached to the United States, or took its station as an independent power, it possessed all the requisites for eventually assuming a high position in the scale of nations. Its extent through several degrees of latitude and longitude, from northeast to southwest, gave it the advantage of a great variety of climate, while its means of internal communication by means of the lakes and the St. Lawrence, afforded peculiar manufacturing and commercial facilities. To the spirit of adventure so successfully called forth by the many important events which characterized the commencement of the 16th century the discovery of Canada is due. John Cabot, in the year 1497, while engaged under the auspices of Henry VII., of England, in endeavouring to find out a South-west passage to India, discovered the Continent of North America, and visited various portions of its shores. With his voyage commences what may, perhaps, be called the first period of Canadian history, consisting of the details of a series of exploratory voyages, with a view chiefly to the discovery of anticipated gold mines, or the settlement of trading Colonies. Gaspar Cortereal, who was afterwards lost in the same track, conducted one of these voyages in 1500, and brought home but little information. In 1517, something of a practical value resulted from these attempts, by the establishment of the Newfoundland fishery; and in 1523, new interest was created by the voyage of Heragani, a navigator in the service of France, who visited a considerable portion of the coast of North America, and brought home one of the natives. It was not however, till the year 1534, that any clear satisfactory information was obtained regarding Canada, by the voyages of Cartier, whose expedition commences the second period of the history of Canada. He sailed up the St. Lawrence, visited Stadacona, where Quebec now stands,—reached Hochelaga, the site of the present city of Montreal, and brought home from his second voyage the most interesting accounts of the natives, whose chief, with several followers, he had also carried off. He found them dwelling in fortified villages, consisting of large wooden buildings and surrounded by corn fields. They possessed the advantages, also, of a somewhat regular government and settled mode of life. The tribes occupying the banks of the St. Lawrence at that period were the Hurons and Algonquins on the north, and Iroquois on the south. A few years after Cartier's return, the Sieur de Roberval, a French gentleman, was appointed Viceroy, and sending Cartier before him, in the year 1540, started with settlers in the following year. Cartier did not remain in Canada, and Roberval having located his settlers in a fort on the banks of the St. Lawrence, returned to France, whence he again set out in the year 1549, at the head of a well appointed expedition—but never having been heard of again, all attempts on the part of the French to plant colonies in Canada ceased for nearly 50 years. During this period several voyages to the northwest were made by the English; in one of which Newfoundland was formally taken possession of by the British Crown, in 1583. At length at the end of 16th century the Marquis de la Roche carried out settlers with the intention of proceeding to Canada.—These unfortunate men, many of whom had been taken from the prisons of France, were left on Sable Island, and after having been neglected for seven years, the twelve survivors were brought home. After these two unsuccessful attempts, however, an effort proceeding from the French people themselves, with little or no encouragement from the Crown, but directed by two skillful navigators, Pontgrave and Chanouil, assisted by a company of merchant, resulted in the establishment, in 1599, of a colony at Tadoussac, at the mouth of the river Saguenay, below Quebec. These adventurers received from the King of France a

monopoly of the Fur Trade on condition of bringing out a certain number of Colonists. The colonization of Canada was attempted throughout, since the dream of finding gold and silver had passed away, solely with a view to the establishment of the Fur Trade, and the settlers, at first without the means of self-support, were entirely dependent on the good will of the natives, and the aid of the mother country. The sagacity and energy of the Celebrated Champlain in the beginning of the next century, whose expeditions commence another era in Canadian History, finally established the French in their new settlements.

The remaining part of the History of Canada was taken up by Mr. Robertson in his Lecture last night. The audience on both evenings were very numerous, and the interesting lectures were listened to with the greatest possible attention.

Arts and Manufactures.

CONDIE'S STEAM HAMMER.

About three years ago Mr. John Condie of the Govan Iron Works, constructed a steam hammer on quite a new principle, and having patented the invention, got several hammers manufactured for him at the Abercorn Iron Works, Paisley. Since that time Mr. Condie has had his hammers made at Govan Iron Works under his own immediate superintendence. It so happened that one of these machines having been sent to Vienna about two years since, its operations were there witnessed by a member of the firm of Michiels and Co., and the result was, an order for a hammer with the latest improvements to the order of T. Michiels & Co., Eschweiler Aue, near Aix la Chapelle. The Glasgow Herald thus describes the improvements made upon the original design. This new hammer, which stands fourteen and a half feet high, with a hammer of 30 cwt., having a stroke of 3 feet 4 inches, is beautifully finished in all its parts. The castings are excellent specimens of foundry work, and the gearing and fittings are finished with as much care as are many pieces of cutlery. This hammer is constructed for forging anchor-stocks, shafts, cranks, and such heavy smith work as is required by engine, beams; and the improvements to which we have alluded above are introduced for the purpose of giving further facilities to the workmen engaged on such cumbersome and unwieldy masses of malleable iron. The first improvement is effected by having the standards cast with high Gothic openings, like doors, at both sides, through which the workmen have free access to the anvil. By these openings, and the generally altered form of the side standards, there is ample room permitted to turn long and heavy pieces of metal—to crop the end off a shaft—to apply a crest or set (the technical name for a particular tool used in forging)—and, in fact, there is free access all round the anvil, without the necessity of the hammermen having to stoop under the framing, or being exposed unnecessarily to the scorching heat which such masses of heated metal are constantly throwing off. Several minor improvements have also been introduced in the gearing and valves of the hammer, so that we believe the tool is now as near to perfection in these respects as it is possible to arrive in the present state of mechanical science. In the gear, for instance, a compound lever is added, which gives the hammer-tender such command over the instrument, that a small sharp blow may be given from a fall of an inch, or from any point of its upward motion, to a full stroke, at pleasure, and according as the work under it requires a greater or smaller force.

ROGERS'S NEW STATUE OF RUTH.

A traveller, who was largely privileged to view this statue in the artist's studio, at Rome, says, nothing can exceed the poetic beauty of the design, which is at once original and appropriate to the subject; and in gracefulness, simplicity, and ease of outline, and general harmony of expression, it is truly worthy of that beautiful passage in the Scripture upon which it is founded. Ruth has been a favorite subject with poets and artists from time immemorial, yet, like Truth itself, she ever sheds a refreshing and purifying influence upon the heart. Mr. Rogers has seized upon a most interesting point in the Scriptural narrative, when she is supposed to be rising from the field in which she has been gleaning in the presence of Boaz, who, attracted by her beauty, has approached the spot. The expression of her countenance is indescribably attractive; modest, yet full of gentle confidence; dignified, yet childlike in its innocence; breathing the saddened spirit of a pure and fervent nature which has suffered yet never repined. The hair falls in long natural masses over a neck and shoulders of exquisite form and delicacy. In one hand rests a few ears of wheat, and the other seems timidly arrested over the scattered stems, as if she had hesitated in the continuance of her task before the great Boaz. One knee is still upon the ground, and the other slanting as if in the act of rising; a loose robe falls over the left shoulder, and the folds of a cincture cover the lower portion of the figure, leaving the outline distinctly and beautifully developed. So light and graceful is the drapery, and so perfectly appropriate and natural, that the wonder seems to be how the artist ever succeeded in throwing such a flowing fabric over it at all; and still more, without concealing in any degree the exquisite beauty of the limbs and soft contour of the form. But it is impossible to convey any idea of the beauties of this fine work in a few hurried lines. It is understood to be already purchased by Mr. Dudley Selden, of New York, from whose well-known taste and liberality the public will no doubt derive the opportunity of seeing the work on its arrival in the United States.

Agriculture.

FLAX CULTURE.

The discoveries which have been recently made and are still improving, in the adaptation of spinning machinery to the manufacture of flax, have brought the consideration of its cultivation before the attention of the farmers generally, and it is not a little satisfactory to know that the subject is taken up with spirit in our own province. Whether flax may ever be brought to compete with cotton manufacture can only be determined by time; but all information that can be given concerning it is of importance to the farmer, who, from the poor return which his wheat crop affords may be induced to divert his energies into a different channel. In Belgium and in the North of France, where great attention is bestowed on the cultivation of flax, preference is given to sound, dry, deep, loam, with a clay subsoil. Light clays and alluvial soils, under proper management, will do well; but light, sandy, or gravelly soils, and strong undrained clays, are to be avoided. In fact, in all cases where a good crop of flax is expected, the land should be thoroughly drained, and subsoiled. It must also be deep as the roots of the flax will penetrate as much as two feet under the surface. The most important point to be attained in the cultivation of flax is the proper

preparation of the land, by a thorough pulverization of the soil, eradication of weeds, and complete drainage. Land intended for this crop should be ploughed deep in autumn, as soon as the crop has been removed, allowed to remain in this state all winter, and harrowed well in early spring, when all the weeds which have been brought to the surface should be carefully removed from the field. Flax requires wide rotation, as it has been judged advisable not to grow it on the same ground more than once in eight or ten years, and it should not in any case come after potatoes or other green crops, as the fibres will be coarse, and the stalks uneven in consequence of the manure not being perfectly incorporated with the soil. Liebig, by an analysis, shows that flax is composed of the following materials:

	Flax as it grows.	Hemp stem.	Leaves.
Carbon	38.72	39.91	40.50
Hydrogen	7.33	6.00	5.98
Nitrogen	0.56	1.71	1.82
Oxygen	49.39	48.72	29.70
Ashes	6.0	4.51	22.0
	100	100	100

When flax is steeped, and evaporated, the extract or residue consists of

	Flax.	Hemp.
Carbon	30.69	28.28
Hydrogen	4.24	4.16
Nitrogen	2.21	3.28
Oxygen	20.81	13.08
Ashes	42.01	49.08
	100	100

DESTROYING TURNIP CATERPILLAR.

One of the most remarkable of the agricultural incidents of the present season has been the sudden appearance of the turnip caterpillar over the whole island, and the havoc which it has made on one of our most valuable crops. It is impossible to say how far the general crop may be affected, but it is certain that the loss on particular farms has been very great. It seems that Mr. Bruce, who resides in the south of Ireland, has suffered severely, but can still look forward to a similar visitation with comparative indifference, as he intends to starve the insects out by pulling up the Swedes as soon as they make their appearance, and then sowing Purple-top Yellow in their place; but as he justly observes, this remedy will only be applicable when late sowing can be practised. He relates a curious instance of this devouring scourge eating the Purple-top turnips at the rate of 11 to 12 yards a day across the drills in a field, where they cleared the ground before them as they issued from the sile where mangold was growing. In this particular case we think that these voracious devourers might have been met on their own ground by their natural enemies with great effect. For our own part we would rather recommend turnip growers to be prepared next season with an army of very useful and apparently most efficient antagonists, than to deprive the caterpillar of the means of existence, for the first chance of a turnip crop is always the best one. We would advise a trial of the same means which were used by the late Lord Leicester in 1784, to clear his turnip field of the pest. In the second volume of the "Annals of Agriculture," Arthur Young writes, "Mr. Coker having heard that ducks had been used in small patches of turnips in gardens to eat the caterpillar, called the black canker, determined, on a field of thirty acres of turnips being attacked by that pernicious animal, to try how far they might be depended upon on a large scale. He ordered his bailiff to buy all the ducks he could get, who presently collected four hundred. On the 16th of

July they were turned into the thirty-three acres, having water at one corner of the field, and in five days they cleared the whole most completely, mowing the leaves on both sides with great care to devour every one they could see, and filling their crops several times a day. The ducks having saved above £50 worth of turnips, were sent to the poultry yards. We should imagine ducks might be allowed fifteen days for doing this work, in which case four hundred ducks would secure one hundred acres. Upon such a proportion twenty or thirty might be employed on a small farm to great effect.—*Agricultural Gazette.*

SALT FOR ANIMALS.

Prof. Simonds Veterinary Inspector of the Royal Agricultural Society, observes, in relation to the action of salt on the animal economy, that it is exceedingly beneficial in moderate quantities, but prejudicial in large ones." He thought horses might take with advantage from an ounce and a half to two ounces of salt, daily, but excess of it would render the animals weak, debilitated, and unfit for exertion. Similar facts were applicable also to oxen, who accumulated flesh faster by the judicious use of salt than without it. He cited Arthur Young and Sir John Sinclair, to show that salt, had a tendency to prevent the rot in sheep. Prof. S. added as his own opinion that salt, by its action on the liver, and the supply of soda it yielded the bile, led to a greater amount of nutriment being derived from the food. The substance, he said, was also well known as a vermifuge, destroying many kinds of worms in the intestines of animals, and conferring a healthy tone of action, which prevented their re-occurrence. Several members of the R. A. Society as Col. Challonar, and Mr. Fisher Hobbs, stated that their experience led them to agree with Prof. Simonds, in regard to the value of salt for animals. In reference to the mode of giving it, the practice of placing large lumps of rock salt in fields or yards, where it was always accessible to the stock, was mentioned with approbation. This practice is now adopted by many farmers in this country, and after several years trials is preferred to the former mode of giving salt periodically. When animals are allowed to have salt once or twice a week, it is sometimes the case that they eat too much at once, but by having it constantly in their reach, they eat such quantities as their systems require and it assists digestion, and promotes health and thrift.—*Cultivator.*

Natural History.

COCHINEAL.

How few comparatively, in the hurried pursuit of the aims of life, pause to reflect how much they are indebted to the tiny insect world for many of the comforts, enjoyments, and luxuries of life. All profess to know that to the bee we are indebted, not less for an example of industry than for that lucidous substance, which cannot be too highly prized for its medicinal qualities, and that from the silk-worm we receive material for the richest and most elegant articles of dress. But amongst the many insects that minister to our necessities, perhaps none are less known, and at the same time of more importance in a commercial point of view than the Cochineal. From the appearance which these insects present when thrown together in large quantities, has arisen the popular belief, that it is a vegetable production cultivated in tropical climates, as it has the appearance of small grain. But the Cochineal of commerce consists of the dead bodies of innumerable small insects. Cochineal is

one of the most important and universal colouring materials in use. By itself it produces a beautiful purple colour, and when united with a solution of tin and muriatic acid, a beautiful scarlet colour is formed, altogether imitable by any other process of dyeing. The Cochineal insect has been known for two or three hundred years for its valuable colouring properties. Special attention is paid to their propagation in several parts of the world, but we believe the largest proportion of the quantity brought to market comes from Mexico. The insect is raised in Georgia and Alabama, as well as in some parts of the West Indies, but the quantity produced in those parts is small, compared with the supply from Mexico. The state of Oaxaca, in Mexico, is where the breeding of Cochineal is carried on to the greatest extent. The insect feeds upon the flowers of a wild fig-tree called nopal, a species of the cactus. The plant has many stems, upon which buds appear having prickles upon their ends. These buds expand into wide thick leaves, from which the Cochineal insect extracts juice—its sustenance. The nopal is easily cultivated from cuttings, it being only necessary to plant a stem in the ground to have it take root, and grow finely. Cuttings are sufficiently grown for the insects, in eighteen months after planting. In Oaxaca there are large plantations devoted to the production of Cochineal. The nopal cuttings are planted two feet apart, and upon some of the stems little nests of cotton are placed, on the side towards the rising sun; into these nests a female insect is placed. The female, after laying about one thousand eggs in the nest, dies, her dead body becoming a covering and protection to the eggs, until hatched. Six generations of these insects are produced every season. The young, as soon as they leave their shells, work their way out and commence feeding. They are at first so minute as to be invisible, except with a microscope. In a little while more their skins harden, forming a cocoon, from which they soon emerge again into the chrysalis state, and then become perfect insects. When the proper season arrives for gathering the Cochineal which is in December, the Indian women go patiently to work, using a dull knife or brush, scraping the insects off from the plants, into their aprons and baskets. When a large quantity is collected the insects are roasted alive in an oven, which of course deprives them of life, and dries them, and thus prepares them for market.

HEARING OF ANIMALS.

Among mammalia the formation of the ear varies in very many cases, according to the habits and peculiar nature of the animal. The portion of the ear of the mole assigned for the cognizance of sounds passing in the ear, is less perfect than those, which, deeper seated, receive the impression of any sound or vibration proceeding from the earth. The beaver has the power, when diving to fold its ear backwards on its head, and the water-shrew, for the same purpose, has three distinct flaps, which close the orifice, in the same manner that many diving and burrowing animals are furnished with flaps to the nose, by which they close the entrance to all injurious bodies. The hippopotamus, which remains for lengthened periods beneath the surface of the water, is also provided with a valve-like apparatus. Hares and rabbits, which squat close on the ground, and which might be more readily discovered, were any projecting point of their bodies to be visible, fold their ears flat backward. In all, this sense is remarkably keen; and with horses it is only exceeded by that of the smell, they hear wounds, and are restless long before the rider can perceive an animal or a human being in the distance. The carrier-horses in Switzerland hear the fall of an avalanche, and warn their masters by their terror, and by refusing to advance, and even by turning in an opposite direction. The acute sensibility of this organ is somewhat obstructed by the bushy hairs which grow in the

outer sheath; and thus horse-dealers cut them out from horses they have for sale, in order that sounds, striking on the nerves with greater force, may by exciting the animals, give them a more lively appearance. The flight of the bat, like that of the owl, is perfectly noiseless; and its ear, equally acute, detects the slightest humming of an insect, at a distance of several feet, and while it catches such as are in flight, it touches some which have settled or are silent.

THE COCOA-NUT PALM TREE.

When the Cingalese villager has felled one of these trees after it has ceased bearing, (say in its seventeenth year,) with its trunk he builds his hut, and his bullock stall, which he thatches with its leaves. His bolts and bars are slips of the bark; by which he also suspends the small shell which holds his stock of home-made utensils and vessels. He fences his little plot of chillies, tobacco, and fine grain, with the leaf stalks. The infant is swung to sleep in a rude net of coconuts, made from the husk of the fruit; its meal of rice and scraped cocoa-nut is boiled over a fire of cocoa-nut shells and husks, and is eaten off a dish formed of the platted green leaves of the tree, with a spoon cut out of a nut shell. When he goes a fishing by torch light, his net is of a cocoa-nut fibre; the torch or chule is a bundle of dried cocoa-nut leaves and flower stalks; the little canoe is a trunk of the cocoa palm-tree, hollowed by his own hands. He carries home his net and his string of fish on a yoke, or pingo, formed of a cocoa-nut stalk. When he is thirsty, he drinks of the fresh juice of the young nut; when he is hungry, he eats its soft kernel. If he has a mind to be merry, he sips a glass of arrack, distilled from the fermented juice of the palm, and dances to the music of rude cocoa-nut castanets; if he be weary he quaffs toddy of the unfermented juice, and flavors his curry with vinegar made from this toddy. Should he be sick, his body will be rubbed with cocoa-nut oil; he sweetens his coffee with jaggers, or cocoa-nut sugar, and softens it with cocoa-nut milk; it is sipped by the light of a lamp, constructed from a cocoa-nut shell, and fed by cocoa-nut oil. His doors, his windows, his shelves, his chairs, the water gutter under the eaves, all are made from the wood of the tree. His spoons, his forks, his basons, his mugs, his salt-cellars, his jars, his child's money-box, are all constructed from the shell of the nut. Over his couch when born, and over his grave when buried, a bunch of cocoa nut blossoms is hung to charm away evil spirits.

Miscellaneous.

TRUE DUNCAN AND THE CAT.

Once there was a little boy named Duncan. The boys used to call him *True Duncan*, because he would never tell a lie. One day he was playing with an axe in the yard of the school, and while he was chopping a stick, the teacher's cat, Tabby, came along. Duncan let the axe fall right on poor Tabby's head, and killed her. What to do he did not know. She was a pet of the master's, and used to sit on a cushion at his side, while he was hearing the lessons. Duncan stood and looked at the dead creature. His face grew red, and the tears stood in his eyes. All the boys came running up and every one had something to say. One of them whispered to the others and said—

"Now, fellows, we shall see whether Duncan can make up a fib as well as the rest of us."

"Not he!" said Thomas Peoley, who was Duncan's friend. "Not he; I'll warrant you, Duncan will be as true as gold."

John Jones stepped up, and taking the cat by the tail, said—

"Here, boys, I'll just sling her into the alley, and we can tell Mr. Cole that the butcher's dog killed her, you know that he worried her last week."

Several of them thought this would be very well.

But Duncan looked quite angry. His face swelled and his cheeks grew redder than before.

"No!" said he; "no! Do you think I would lie for such a creature as that? It would be a lie, a lie." And each time he said the word, his voice grew louder.

Then he picked up the poor thing in his arms, and carried it into the school room; and the boys followed to see what would happen.

The master looked up and said, "What is this? My faithful mouser dead? Who could have done me such an injury?"

All were silent for a little while. As soon as Duncan could get his voice, he said—

"Mr. Cole, I am very sorry—but here is the truth. I can't lie, sir—I killed Tabby. But I am very sorry for it. I ought to have been careful, for I saw her rubbing her side against the log, I am very sorry, indeed, sir."

Every one expected to see Mr. Cole take down his long tattan. But he put on a pleasant smile and said—

"Duncan you are a brave boy! I saw and heard all that passed from my window above. I had rather lose a hundred cats than miss such an example of truth and honor in my school."

"Your best reward is what you now feel in your own conscience, but I beg you to accept this handsome penknife, as a token of my approbation."

Duncan took out his handkerchief and wiped his eyes.

The boys could no longer refrain themselves; and when Thomas Peoley cried, "three cheers for True Duncan!" all joined in a hearty hurra.

The teacher then said, "My boys, I am glad you know what is right, and that you approve of it; though I am afraid some of you could not have done it."

"Learn from this that nothing can make a falsehood necessary. Suppose Duncan had taken your evil advice, and come to me with a lie; it would have been instantly detected, for I was a witness of what passed."

"I trust he has been governed in this by a sense of right, and I exhort you to follow his example."

VOLCANOS AND EARTHQUAKES.—The *London Times* has an account of a singular experiment made before a private circle, by Professor Gorini, the professor of natural history in the University of Lodi. This gentleman melts some substances, known only to himself, in a vessel, and allows the liquid to cool. At first it presents an even surface, but a portion continues to ooze up from beneath, and gradually elevations are formed until at length ranges and chains of hills are formed, exactly corresponding in shape with those which are found on the earth. Even to the stratification, the resemblance is complete, and Mr. Gorini can produce on a small scale the phenomena of volcanoes and earthquakes. He contends, therefore, "that the inequalities on the face of the globe are the result of certain materials, first reduced by the application of heat to a liquid state, and then allowed gradually to consolidate." The Professor has also it is said, succeeded to a surprising extent, in preserving animal matter from decay, without resorting to any known process for that purpose. Specimens are shown by him of portions of the human body, which, without any alteration in their natural appearance, have been exposed to the action of the atmosphere for six or seven years; and he states that at a trifling cost, he can keep meat for any length of time in such a way that it can be eaten quite fresh.

PECULIARITIES OF THE DESERT.—It is curious to observe the prevalence of the sandy colour of the soil in the creatures that have to exist upon it. Sandy-colored eagles devour sandy-coloured vipers and lizards, which in their turn prey on grasshoppers and slugs of the same complexion; and partridges and sparrows, by means of their resemblance to the ground, avoid the prying eyes of the falcons and hawks.—*Molly's Kharlow and the Nile.*

Artists' Corner.

PAINTER'S CREAM.

This is a preparation sometimes employed by painters when they are obliged to leave work unfinished for a length of time. They cover the parts already painted with it, which preserves the freshness of their colours, and can be easily removed when they return to their work. It is made as follows:—

Take half an ounce of the best mastic, finely powdered, and dissolve it over a gentle fire, in three ounces of very clear nut-oil. Pour the mixture into a marble mortar, with two drams of powdered sugar of lead at the bottom of it. Stir this with a wooden pestle, and keep adding water in small quantities till the whole is of the appearance and thickness of cream, and refuses to admit more water, so as to mix freely.

ROTTEN STONE.

Rotten Stone is sometimes harsh and gritty; the best way of trying it is to take a little between the teeth, when the least portion of grit may be detected. Careful workmen will always wash it before they use it. This is effected by stirring the fine powder in a considerable quantity of water, then allowing it to remain at rest for a few seconds, and pouring the water into a glazed earthen vessel; the powder which then precipitates will be perfectly fine and smooth; by washing the remainder, the whole of the finer parts may be separated from the grit.

Varieties.

Let no man be too proud to work—Let no man be ashamed only of ignorance and sloth—Let no man be ashamed of poverty. Let him be ashamed of dishonesty and idleness.

Petrarch's OPINION OF MONEY.—He who expends it properly, is its master; he who lays it up, its keeper; he who loves it, a fool; he who rears it, a slave. and he who adores it, an idolator.

WHO IS A TRUE GENTLEMAN?—Whoever is frank, sincere, honest, generous, courteous, truly honorable, and candid; such a one is a true gentleman, whether learned, or rich, or a labourer.

EVERY MAN ought to regard his fellow man as his superior, and treat him accordingly. Such feeling the real gentleman always has. 'Let each esteem others better than himself,' says an Apostle. This is the very soul of good manners.

A SMOOTH SEA never made a skillful mariner. Neither do uninterrupted prosperity and success qualify a man for usefulness or happiness. The storms of adversity, like the storms of the ocean, rouse the faculties and excite the invention, prudence, skill, and fortitude of the voyager.

DIED.

In this city, on Tuesday the 16th inst., Elizabeth Runchman, the beloved wife of Mr William McDonald, deeply lamented by an affectionate husband and a bereaved family.

Advertisements.

DAVID MAITLAND,
NO. 8, YONGE STREET,

NEARLY opposite the Bank of Montreal. Has on hand a well-assorted Stock of Confectionaries (also Christmas and New Year Cakes,) made up for family use, cheaper than ever.

No Cakes made up for Raffle. Toronto, Dec. 13, 1851.

New Dry Goods Establishment.

66, King Street East,

THIRD DOOR WEST OF CHURCH STREET.

WILLIAM POLLEY

RESPECTFULLY intimates to his friends, and to the Citizens of Toronto and surrounding country, that he has opened those commodious premises in Victoria Row, lately occupied by Messrs. McKeand, Paterson & Co, with an entire

New Stock of Fresh and Fashionable

STAPLE & FANCY

DRY GOODS,

Selected in the best markets, with great care, expressly for this trade, and on the most advantageous terms: his stock is new all to hand,

CONSISTING IN PART OF

- Printed Cobourg Cloth. Wincey, Beaver, Etoffe,
- " Cashmere " & Canadian Cloths,
- " DeLaine " Cassimere, Doeskins,
- Chene Crape. Tweeds, Satinettes,
- Plain & Fig'd Cobourgs. Ycailings, Moleskins,
- " Orleans. Blankets, Horse Rugs,
- Plush Cloakings. Haise, Serges.
- Gala & Saxonia Plaid. Collar Checks & Drag-
- Black & Color. Silks. gers.
- " Velvets Scarlet, Red, Pink, Rose,
- 78, 4 & 9-8 Fancy Prints and White Flannels,
- Mourning & Furalture Printed Salisbury do.
- Prints. Quills & Counterpanes.
- Blue & White, & Blue Cotton & Woolen Table
- and Yellow Prints. Covers, Oil Cloths,
- Hungarian Cloths. Bonnet Shapes, Jeans,
- Cold' Deirys, Bengals. Last'gs, Ellicias, Lin'ngs,
- Drills, Denims. Patchwork, Umbrellas,
- Stout Stripe Shirtings. Crapes, Flowers, Lappets
- Fancy " Bonnet, Cap, Sarsnet, &
- White & Grey Cottons. Satin Ribbons,
- " Sheet'gs. Veils, Stays, Laces.
- Cotton Ticks, all widths. Etings, Muslins,
- Straw Ticks. Neis, Lace Steeres,
- Brown Linens & Osnaburgs, all widths. Cambric & Silk Pocket-
- Stout Bags & Bagging. handkerchiefs,
- Towels and Toweling. Silk and Sain Neck do.
- Downs, Cheese Cloth. Ladies' Long Woolen
- Hucabac, Canvas. Shawls.
- Window Hollands. Woollen Handkerchiefs,
- White, Brown, Blay. Woollen and Worsted
- Slate & und'r'd Hollands. Yarn.
- Irish Linens, Damasks. Gimps, Dress Buttons,
- Drapers, Lawns. Jenny Lind Braids,
- Broad Cloths. &c., &c., &c.

A Full Assortment of Woollen Goods in Hosiery, } in every va- Boas.
Gloves, } rieties. Pelerines.
Polkas, Athens Coats. Ear Caps. Bar Caps.
Lapland Coats, Hoods. Cuffs, Sleeves. Gaiters & Bootskins.
Woollen Cravats. Gaiters & Bootskins.

Overstockings, Glengarry, and Scaletto Caps, Buck Mitts, &c., &c.
W. P. would also intimate that as his Stock is ENTIRELY NEW, with every article in the line, he is enabled to offer a large and splendid assortment of Dry Goods, which, for QUALITY, CHEAPNESS and VARIETY, cannot be surpassed by any house in the trade.

Superior Cotton Warp, all Nos.; a prime article of Dalling; Black and White Wadding, &c., &c. TERMS CASH. No abatement from the price asked. WM. POLLEY.

Chequers Store, Victoria Row, Three Doors West of Church Street, Toronto, Dec. 20th, 1851. 2-1/2.

WANTED

A PERSON competent to canvass for this Paper in the City and Country.—Apply at this Office. Toronto, Dec. 13, 1851.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CAKES.

THE SUBSCRIBER would respectfully return thanks to the Ladies and Gentlemen of Toronto and vicinity, for the liberal patronage he has hitherto received. He is determined to use every exertion to increase his business, and assure the public, that, all articles in his establishment shall be of the best quality and at the LOWEST RATES.

Amongst his assortment will be found the following, viz:—Jellies, Blane Monges, Ice Creams, Italian Creams, Trifles, Fancy Baskets, and Pyramids.

The subscriber will also have for Christmas and New Year, a large assortment of

FANCY CONFECTIONERY, for presents to children, also the usual supply of **CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CAKES,** Plain and Ornamented.

Wedding Breakfasts, Luncheons, Dinners, Balls, &c., furnished on the shortest notice

SHELL OYSTERS, Oranges, Lemons, Malaga, Grapes, Figs, &c., &c. Also, 100 doz. eggs, warranted fresh, for sale by

THOMAS MCKONKEY,
19, King Street East.
Toronto, Dec. 20, 1851. 3-1/2.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

30,000 PAIRS!

BROWN & CHILDS,

At No. 68, KING STREET EAST,

ARE selling the above STOCK, consisting of the following kinds and prices.

- 5000 pairs superior thick Boots, 11s. 3d.
- 3000 " " Kip " 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d.
- 2000 " " Calf " 15s. 0d. to 17s. 6d.
- 3000 " " Boys' " 6s. 7d. to 10s. 0d.
- 10,000 " Gents', Youths', & Boys', Brogan, 3s. to 10s.
- 6000 " Ladies' Cloth & Prunella Boots, 6s. 3d. to 10s.
- 2000 " Children's, of every variety and Style.

B. & C. manufacture their own—the Manufactory producing from 500 to 1000 pairs daily.

A liberal discount to the purchaser of more than £25.

Any unreasonable failure repaired without charge.

N B—No 68, Painted Boot, nearly opposite the English Cathedral, is the place.

3000 Sides Best Spanish Leather for Sale.

FOR SALE 100 BARRELS OF COD OIL.

Cash Paid for all kind of Leather.

Toronto, Dec., 1851. 3-1-1.

GROCERIES.

ALEXANDER MALCOLM

BEGETS to inform his friends and customers that he has removed from his Old Stand to the New Brick Building North Corner of Yonge and Adelaide streets where he has on hand a large and well-selected Stock of

GROCERIES, WINES, LIQUORS, PROVISIONS, & C.

All of which he will sell at his usually low price.

Toronto, Dec. 13th 1851. 2-1/2.

TO LET, BY PUBLIC TENDER.

TENDERS will be received at this Office until MONDAY, the 23rd instant, at noon, from persons desirous of Renting the whole or a portion of the Frame Building formerly used as St. Patrick's Market, in the rear of the new St. Patrick's Market, for Storage Purpose. Possession given as early after the 1st prox as possible.

Tenders to state the price per annum parties are willing to give, Rent to be paid quarterly.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the highest Tender, unless otherwise satisfactory.

(By order of the Market Committee.)

CHARLES DALY.

Clerk's Office,
Toronto, Dec. 15, 1851.

1-2in.

A SALE.

J. CARMICHAEL.

BEING about to make extensive alterations in his premises, will sell after this date, the whole of his Winter Stock of

Staple and Fancy

DRY GOODS AND MILLINERY.

at such reduced prices as will ensure a speedy sale. Parties about to buy their winter clothing have now an opportunity of doing so at prices far below their value. Those calling first will have the best choice.

Remember No. 68, King Street, 2 doors West of Church Street.

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851.

1-3m.

NEW DRY GOODS STORE JUST OPENED!

J. D. MERRICK

BEGS to inform his friends and the public that he has just opened, immediately opposite the St. Lawrence Hall, with a large and varied assortment of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, suitable for the fall and winter trade.

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851.

1-1m.

CITY ELECTIONS.

THE Lists of Persons entitled to Vote in the various Wards of the City of Toronto, at Municipal Elections, during the year 1852, are now hanging in the City Hall. Persons interested are required to see that the Lists are correct, as no alterations (of any names misspelt, omitted, or improperly inserted) can be made in the said Lists, unless at least four days notice in writing are given to the Clerk of the Common Council, of any desire to have the said Lists altered.

CHARLES DALY.

Clerk's Office,
Toronto, Dec. 13th, 1851.

O. C. C.
2-1d.

Tenders for Market Fees.

TENDERS will be received at this Office until Noon, on MONDAY, the 23rd inst., from Persons willing to contract for the Market Fees, collectable under the City Laws, at all the Public Markets in the City of Toronto, including the Fees upon Waggon or Carts, attending the enclosed space below the St. Lawrence Market.

Such Fees to be collected in the Markets only, and in no other parts of the City.

Copies of the City Law and further particulars may be obtained on application, during office hours.

The Committee will not bind themselves to accept the highest Tender.

By order of the Market Committee,
CHARLES DALY.

Clerk's Office,
Toronto, Dec. 3rd, 1851.

O. C. C.

NO FICTION.

GROCERY AND PROVISION STORE, QUEEN STREET WEST.

THE SUBSCRIBER begs to invite the attention of his friends and the public to his Extensive Assortment of

Groceries, Liquors, Provisions, &c.,

Which he has lately received, constituting the largest Stock ever offered in this City West of Yonge Street, and which he will supply to his Customers at the very lowest remunerating Prices for Cash, pledging himself not to be undersold by any other house in the same line in Toronto.

His Stock in part consists of—

- 15 hhds Muscovada Sugar,
- 20 barrels Crushed do
- 6 " " " do
- 20 dozen Loaves Sugar,
- 20 Chests Young Hyson Tea,
- 10 " " " do
- 20 cwt fine Black Tea, Gunpowder and Imperial,
- 10 chests Twankay,
- 60 boxes Fresh Raisins,
- 25 half-boxes do
- 60 qt-boxes do
- 10 barrels Rice,
- 4 casks Vinegar,
- 5 barrels Pot Barley,
- 20 " " Oatmeal,
- 6 " " Indian Meal,
- 6 " " Buckwheat,
- 13 boxes Tobacco,
- 20 barrels No. 1 Herrings,
- 50 " " No. 2 & 3 Mackerel,
- 50 " " Lake Ontario White Fish,
- 5 " " Salt Water Salmon,
- 50 boxes Digby Herrings,
- 33 " " Yarmouth Bloaters,
- 5 casks fine Sherry,
- 5 pipes fine Port,
- 3 hhds pale Brandy,
- 4 hhds dark do
- 5 hhds Hamburg Gin (very fine)
- 25 hhds Morton's (Kingston) proof Whiskey,
- 15 " " Wallace's Toddy Whiskey,
- 10 " " Hespeler's do do with about 30 barrels of other Canadian brands,
- 2 " " Scotch Whiskey,
- 10 boxes Schiedam,
- 10 barrels Champagne,
- 7 cwt fine Cocoa,
- 10 boxes American and English Sperm Candles
- 15 boxes Starch,

And a supply of other articles usually sold in the trade, too extensive for enumeration.

In the Provision Line, will also be found a Large and well selected Stock of Hams, Bacon, Fresh and Pickled Pork, Butter, Potatoes, Cabbages, Turnips, Carrots, Onions, Beet Root, &c., &c.

A large Assortment of Pickles, Fish and other sauces

No Charge for Inspection!

D. HURLEY,

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851. Queen Street West.

A O A R D.

DANIEL McNICOL

BEG to inform the Merchants of this city and surrounding country, that he has opened out on Yonge Street, opposite the Bank of British North America, a general assortment of Broad Cloths, Fancy Doeskins, Cassimeres, Shirts, Bonnets, Caps, plain and fancy Molekins, Corduroys, Shirtings, Ready-Made Clothing, Hosiery, &c., &c., all of which he offers to the Public at the lowest wholesale prices.

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851.

1-1f.

Stoves! Stoves! Stoves!

AT

MR. JOHN MCGEE'S,

43, Yonge Street, three doors from King,

THE Subscriber has now on hand a splendid assortment of Stoves, including every variety of pattern, among which are the celebrated "Lion," "Hang-up," and "New Improved Premium" Cooking Stoves, Parlor, Box, and Air Tight Stoves.

— ALSO —

An assortment of Double Folding Door Cook Stoves, which for beauty of design are unequalled in Canada.

Dumb Stoves, Stove Pipes, and Tin Ware at Lower Prices than any other house in this City, Stove Pipes fitted up, and Job Work done with punctuality and despatch.

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851.

1-1m.

D. MATHIESON'S

CLOTHING, TAILORING,

GENERAL Outfitting, and Dry Goods Warehouse; Wholesale and Retail, No. 42, King Street East.

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851.

1-1f.

W. H. DOEL,

Wholesale and Retail

DRUGGIST & APOTHECARY,

IMPORTER of English, French, Mediterranean and American Drugs, and Chemicals, Perfumery, Fancy Goods, Patent Medicines, Dye Stuffs, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Brushes, Artists' Colours, Tools, Trusses, &c., &c.,

5, King Street East.

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851.

1-1f.

DRY GOODS.

No. 8, KING STREET EAST.

ALEXANDER RENNIE, JR.,

BEGS to inform the citizens of Toronto and the surrounding Country, that he has on hand, a Large and well selected Stock of

FANCY & STAPLE

DRY GOODS,

suited for the Fall and Winter trade. His Stock having been purchased on the most reasonable terms, he is confident that it cannot be surpassed for cheapness or quality by any house in the trade. An early inspection is respectfully requested.

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851.

1-1f.

General Printing Establishment.

JAMES STEPHENS,

BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,

6, CITY BUILDINGS, KING ST. EAST.

EMBRACES the present opportunity of returning thanks to the Citizens of Toronto, and to the Inhabitants of the surrounding Neighbourhood, for the very liberal support received from them during the few years he has been in business, (especially since his removal to his present stand,) and begs to assure them that he will endeavour to execute all their future orders in the same neat style, as heretofore, with the utmost promptitude, and on the most liberal terms.

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1851.

PRINTED FOR D. McDougall, Every Saturday Morning, by James Stephens, Printer, No. 6, City Buildings, King Street East, Toronto.