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THE WEEKLY EXPOSITOR,



AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM.

OR REFORMER OF PUBLIC ABUSES, AND RAILWAY AND MINING INTELLIGENCE.

Vol. 1.]

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1846.

[No. 19.]

LITERATURE.

EIGHT YEARS IN CANADA, &c.

EMBRACING A REVIEW OF THE SEVERAL ADMINISTRATIONS OF LORDS DURHAM AND SYDENHAM, SIR CHARLES BAGOT, AND LORD METCALFE;

And Dedicated to the Memorials of
THE FIRST AND LAST OF THESE DISTINGUISHED DEAD

BY THE AUTHOR OF "ECARTE," &c.:

DE ONNIBUS REBUS ET QUIBUSDAM ALIIS.

A difficulty of arrangement having occurred with the only two London publishers to whom the following pages have been submitted, the Author has decided on reversing the usual practice, and publishing in Canada first; thus affording that means of direct communication with other metropolitan publishers, which his absence from London renders a matter of much inconvenience. It will be borne in mind, therefore, by the Canadian reader, that what is now offered to his perusal, was intended for an English public.]

{ Deposited at the Office of the Registrar of the Province. }

(CHAPTER XI. CONTINUED.)

of "kitchen stuffs," and had Lodge suddenly tumbled from a balloon upon this spot, he would have found some difficulty in comprehending the vile distortion to which his favourite art had been subjected.

My first work was to cause the removal of the huge barn, to which I have already alluded as overhanging the prettiest part of what was eventually intended for a fish-pond. This was taken to pieces, and razed into a stable of more moderate dimensions, which I caused to be built on the surface of a broad and almost imperceptibly sloping rock, about two hundred yards in rear of the house, and in a line with the outer edge of the field just described. This finished, the oats and peas which proved more useful than I had anticipated, were cut and housed, and the ponies thus supplied with hard food nearly sufficient for their winter consumption.

Nor were other accessories of a farm wanting. A milch cow—pigs—ducks—fowls—rabbits—a plough, harrow, waggon, and all the lesser adjuncts of a miniature farm were procured, to which was added a handsome pleasure boat, the stern of which, in remembrance of her whose successful debut at the Italian Opera I had first witnessed, bore the name of "Fanny Elslar."

As the ice could be obtained within a few feet of my own door, and as the summer was even then so hot as to render it desirable, I now resolved to build an ice-house, and for that purpose selected a spot shaded by a cluster of pines, which grew near the edge of what I have previously described as Sandy Bay, and within fifty yards of the house, on a line parallel with the river. This was of the most simple construction in the world, and did not cost me, including labor, more than ten dollars. The man who undertook the job first dug an excavation some six feet in depth, built his frame work of pine trees, taken from an overhanging ridge beyond the field, where they could be best spared, filled the interstices between the layers of logs fastened together by notches at the end with slips of timber, and then placing tan bark and brush wood, covered the whole with earth and sod, so as to render it impervious to the outward atmosphere. The door was then added, and this facing the north, was sufficiently exposed, when necessary, to the action of a cold temperature, without admitting the warmth produced by the rays of the sun. This ice-house, the most rude and simple in its construction that can be conceived, answered all the purposes required of it. During the two following summers, it was closely packed with huge blocks of ice taken from the water below, not twenty yards off, and drawn up by the ponies on a flat sledge, and lasted so well that, throughout the season, we were never without the luxury of ice. Upon each layer had been thrown water which, freezing as it fell, and filling up the interstices, formed a compact and solid mass, which the axe alone, and that not without some trouble, could break up.

My position soon became nearly as critical as that of the Creator of Frankenstein. I had formed an image which carried terror to

my own soul, and I felt a utter hopelessness of freeing myself from the new ties which bound me to the spot. It seemed to me as if all power had been taken from me to overleap the narrow circle I had drawn around my future fortunes, and I experienced all that painful serrement de cœur which the certainty of coming evil invariably produces. There were moments when the idea of being buried alive, as it were, in this spot, without a possibility perhaps of ever again seeing the beautiful fields and magnificent cities, and mixing in the polished circles of Europe, and of matchless England in particular, came like a blighting cloud upon my thoughts, and filled me with a despondency no effort of my own could shake off. It did not once occur to me that I could, by disposing of the property, again shake off the incubus which weighed me down even from the very onset, and once more obtain that liberty of which I was sensible I had been deprived through my own consummate folly alone.

And the greatest act of folly in that series of absurdity was the disposal of my commission in the Service. But so confident did I feel that Lord Durham had, in compliance with the principle he had so energetically avowed to me, and on which he appeared so much to pride himself, named me to his successor, Mr. Poulett Thompson, as one who had strong claims on the Government, and had received his promise to be provided for, that I had conceived that the retention of my half-pay would in a great degree debar me from the enjoyment of the reward to which I had confidently looked forward. Under this impression I had written to Lord Fitzroy Somerset, requesting to be re-appointed to some regiment, and suffered to sell out from full pay. His Lordship promptly complied with my wishes, and soon after my arrival at Brockville, (for I had made the application while in the West) I saw the Gazette, which announced my appointment to the 44th Regiment and retirement from the same corps, by the sale of my commission. Here, then, was my all at stake, and doubtless it was this conviction that tended so strongly to confirm me in the lowliness of spirits from which I was never thoroughly exempt while a resident on my new acquisition.

The necessity for self exertion, however, was obvious, and as I had neither the habits, taste, nor aptitude to become any thing that had not some connexion, more or less, with literature, I suffered myself to be influenced by the strong persuasions of several friends who expressed themselves perfectly confident that if I would undertake the publication of a newspaper, I should secure at least a couple of thousand subscribers, and determined on editing a publication in support of responsible Government, yet rather literary than political.

The mode of conducting a newspaper in Canada is very different from that at home. There an editor, as we all know, invariably enjoys a fixed salary for the management of a journal in which he has no immediate interest as a proprietor, but in Canada with perhaps not more than three or four exceptions out of upwards of sixty newspapers, the Editors are the sole proprietors of their papers, and of the mechanical mysteries of the craft necessary to produce them. Many editors even set up their own type, some of these, and the present proprietor of the "Kingston News"—one of the largest and best conducted papers in the Province, can with ease put up fifteen thousand ems a day. It is true he served an apprenticeship to the practical part of the business while a mere youth, and until his persevering industry, and capability placed him in the position he now occupies, but I very much question whether any other man in Canada, or indeed in England, can be found to exceed his rapidity of execution.

How true it is that what we are compelled to do, we ever perform with reluctance and distaste; and never was this fact more obvious than in the very art to which I am now alluding. The best of compositors—those who work with the greatest ease to themselves—have as inveterate a dislike to "setting up," as a man who has been any time in the West Indies, has for pine-apples, and turtle cooked in all its varieties. He goes to his work with the same sort of feeling with which a hired wood-chopper sets about his daily toil, and leaves it, when the time comes for the cessation from his labors, with quite as much delight and absence of care for the work on which he has been engaged. No matter how interesting the subject, he looks merely mechanically at the letters composing the words, seldom at the words as a whole, and never at a consecutive sentence. And yet this man is endowed with an education, an intelligence, which the wood cutter has not!

CHAPTER XII.

It being necessary to obtain, from New York, what was indispensable for duly installing me in my meditated character of "Editor and proprietor of a newspaper," and as every man in Canada who has important business to transact, must depend, not upon others, but upon himself, I determined on setting out immediately, although the advanced state of the season, it being late in November, promised any other than an agreeable journey. Crossing to Morristown in the Fanny Elster, I took the stage for Utica, intending thence to go by railroad to Albany, and to take my chance of the manner of accomplishing the remainder of my route to New York, as the state of the river might permit.

A heavy fall of snow, the first of the season, having covered the ground during the night of my transit to Morristown, we were fortunately enabled to proceed in a sleigh; and this mode of conveyance I found much more agreeable when, on gaining a chain of mountains, forming a spur of the Alleghenies, we repeatedly dashed into short and steep hollows, where the wheels of a coach or waggon would have acquired a dangerous velocity, which even the abrupt elevation of the opposite face might have proved almost insufficient to check. A smooth ice-road might, it is true, have been attended by the same disadvantages, but an upset from this would not have entailed the same danger of broken bones, or impalement on the sharp rocks around, besides the snow was sufficiently deep to act as a check upon the runners, which, even as it was, went rapidly enough to keep the spirited horses on their mettle.

Apart from the pumping and jerking consequent on our passing over these abrupt and interminable undulations, there was a wild and romantic character about the scenery that forcibly impressed the imagination. The various description of the pine, the cypress, and the hemlock, wore, amid the snows that fringed their boughs as with trellis work, an appearance of loneliness and sternness, leading one to expect, at every moment, the appearance of some savage beast of prey, that, emboldened by the solitude which reigned around, should feel disposed to avenge the violation of its privacy by a bold and reckless attack upon the intruder. Never were the characters in Cooper's "Leather Stocking" and the "Pathfinder" more vividly brought before my recollection. This was the sort of scene in which he loved to introduce them, and, I know not how it was, but with that dreamy state of half-consciousness which a solitary traveller awakened early from his slumbers, feels in a situation of this kind, when the fancy is fully at work, I looked, at each moment expecting to see a deer or a wild turkey arrested by the crack of a rifle, and a hunter, equipped as the charming Indian novelist has painted him, issuing in pursuit of his game. And, singular enough to remark, we had not proceeded many miles after this idea had entered my head, when the crack of a rifle *did* resound near us, and a wild turkey was seen to plunge and flutter in its last agony. A moment afterwards, and a tall hunter, dressed a good deal in the Indian fashion, was seen wending his way, through the open trees, towards the bird, and the driver, at a signal from him, reined in his horses. The hunter, lifting his prize into the sleigh, stepped in afterwards on his way to the village at which we were to change horses, and which lay at the extremity of the Adirondacks we were then traversing. Entering into conversation with the hunter, I found he had been absent two days in quest of deer, which was to constitute the chief luxury of his Christmas dinner. He was a fine-looking fellow, well made, active, and just the style of man I should have conceived to be the best suited to the fatiguing mountain chase, from which he was just unsuccessfully returning. About an hour afterwards we reached the termination of the chain, the descent from which was rather abrupt, and seemed to require all the dexterity of the driver to pass over without accident. At the base lies the village of Hunnond, where we breakfasted and changed horses. Passing through numerous villages, distributed along the road, we came finally to the brow of a lofty hill from which is commanded a most extensive view of the vast plain in which Utica is situated, and through which the picturesque little river of the Mohawk runs. Utica is a flourishing commercial town, its houses principally built of brick, and its streets exceedingly wide. It has, besides being the centre of the great western rail route, many roads branching off to other parts of the country. If they are all like that by which I proceeded to Syracuse a few years before, they are highly capable of improvement. There is an excellent hotel—the Eagle—at which the stages usually stop; and here the traveller is certain of meeting with a comfort and civility which are not, any where, surpassed throughout the State.

From Utica to Albany, the railroad travelling is all that can be desired. The only nuisance being the change of cars, which occurs once along this road before reaching the latter place. During the last day's journey, previous to arriving at Utica, I had been joined by an American gentleman and his wife, who were then returning to New York from a visit they had been making to some friends on the banks of the St. Lawrence. Both appeared to me to be possessed of very superior manners and address,

and a few hours passed in the discussion of various topics with which the majority of people whom one encounters in a public stage-coach are but little familiar, soon satisfied me that I had met with those whose acquirements, not less than their *savoir faire*, would have done honor to the best European society. We soon fell into that sort of intimacy which a communion of the pleasures, not more than of the annoyances, of travelling, so often induces between people of kindred minds, and by the time we had reached Albany, which we did in the same car, our sentiments of preference for each other's society seemed to have been confirmed.

After crossing the river on foot and on the ice, to a small village on the east side of the Hudson, opposite Albany, we had continued to rise gradually above the river until, eventually, we found ourselves many hundred feet above its level, and then having traversed twenty-seven miles, passing through the village of Kinderhook, descended, by a similar inclination, to the picturesque city of Hudson, where it was expected we should find the river sufficiently open to admit of steam navigation. In this, however, we were disappointed, and after having recruited ourselves with a substantial dinner, once more resumed our journey, intending to stop at Rhinebeck, where, we were informed, a steamer was momentarily expected.

On leaving the city of Hudson we ascended nearly two hundred feet, and pursued our way along the high road to Rhinebeck, seventy-one miles distant from Albany, and in a rich and productive flat bordering on the river. Here we were assured a boat would arrive in the course of the night, at the landing about two miles below the town, and accordingly prepared ourselves to pass the intervening hours in the not-very-comfortable hotel in which we had supped. Hour after hour passed in this manner; fatigue weighed down our eyelids, and yet no one ventured to retire to bed, for every one seemed to know that the act of embarkation and starting would so immediately follow the announcement of the arrival of the boat, that to go to bed would, in all probability, be to lose the passage for the next eight and forty hours at least. We were nearly all in one room—the only room in the house that could be spared to the passengers—and after sitting up as long as exhausted nature would permit, each dropped on the carpeted floor with a cloak, or portmanteau, or carpet bag for a pillow, as suited the means at command of each. Mrs. Newbold, who had as much of the power to reconcile herself uncomplainingly and good-humouredly, to circumstances, as she had of the manner and appearance of a sensible Englishwoman, threw herself upon a cloak near her husband, and sustained herself to the last, endeavoring to make herself amused, and kept awake by the facetiousness of an acute Yankee, who had entered into a discursive conversation with a young lawyer of New York, one of our immediate coach companions, and who kept his companions alive with the roars of laughter his dry remarks and drolleries elicited. Insensibly, however, the influence of the drowsy god made itself felt, and gradually, one after another, the voices were hushed, and powerful indications attested that more than one of us slept as profoundly as if there was no anticipated interruption to his slumber. About an hour before the dawn of day the door was opened, and the announcement of the arrival of the steamer, and the readiness of the coaches to take us to the landing, soon drew all to their feet—the snorers included—and, before the day had well broken, we found ourselves on the deck of a small steamer very unlike in appearance and accommodation what is usually found on the noble Hudson; but selected at this particular season of the year, as being less likely to sustain injury from the floating ice through which she was compelled to force her way to the Rhinebeck landing.

We passed successively on our route down, Poughkeepsie, West Point, and Sing-Sing, near which village the celebrated penitentiary of that name is situated, forming an imposing feature, though not by any means elevated in the view from the water. The former place, which has in it about one thousand dwellings, and from five to six thousand inhabitants, is celebrated in American history, from the fact of the convention of 1788 having met in it for the adoption of their constitution. Although having so small a number of inhabitants, Poughkeepsie appears to be divided into every stage of sectarianism, for of thirteen churches, there are not less than ten distinctions in the mode of worship practised in them, as for example, one Presbyterian, one Congregational, two Episcopalian, one Baptist, two Friends, two Methodist, one Dutch Reformed, one Universalist, one Roman Catholic, and one African. The soil around is a mixture of sand, clay, and loam, forming a super-stratum over a bed of limestone.

Sing-Sing, besides its penitentiary, the main building of which is eighty-four feet long and forty-four feet wide, containing five stories, in which are a thousand cells, has a fine marble academy for boys, and a seminary for girls. Both of these buildings are pleasantly situated. Above the village is the great Croton Aqueduct Bridge, an especial object of attraction to the eye of the passenger from the water. The penitentiary, which is conducted on the silent system adopted in Auburn, is however admitted to be less perfect.

So many writers have described the Academy at West Point, that it is almost a work of supererogation to introduce any remarks of an extended nature upon it here. Be it sufficient, therefore, merely to observe that the buildings composing the barracks are two in number and of stone, the one three stories in height, the other a story higher, the whole of the grounds appertaining thereto being not less than two hundred and fifty acres in extent. There is, independently of the barracks, above named, a large stone building for military exercises in winter, and for the reception of the different models, &c., and another built in the Gothic style, with three towers, for the reception of astronomical apparatus, the middle tower being a revolving one. There is, moreover, a chapel, an hospital, a mess-room, two cavalry stables, a magazine, a laboratory, soldiers' barracks, a store, and numerous dwelling-houses, some of them for the officers connected with the institution, others for more private families connected therewith.

The whole of the ground attached to the academy, and exclusive of the sites of the different extensive buildings, was ceded to the General Government by the State of New York. For those who love to roam in this neighborhood, or to pass their time in examining at their leisure the several component parts of this excellent establishment, in which the number of cadets is limited to one for every acre of ground, may obtain good accommodation in a spacious hotel overlooking the landing.

We reached New York about two o'clock in the afternoon, and at the recommendation of my new formed American acquaintances, desired the driver of the hack in which my luggage had been placed, to proceed to the Globe Hotel in the Broadway, and not far from the Battery, one of the most fashionable promenades in New York. The Globe is kept wholly in the French style, the lodgers dining at small tables, and *a la carte*, but this system of dining is, in New York, far more expensive than it is in Paris, while the price for rooms is most exorbitant. I had only a bed room (not a very large one either) on the second or third floor, and yet for this I paid as much as one would for a suite of rooms in London. Namely ten dollars a week, and this exclusive of fires which were charged at a good rate, as extras. There are, however, comfortable baths both hot and cold belonging to the establishment, and the former I found on landing from the steamer a very great luxury, as I had only to go from my room, in my dressing gown and slippers, in order to reach it. A very pretty girl superintended these baths, thus completing the resemblance of the style of them to a similar establishment in the fascinating French capital.

During my stay here, which was about a fortnight, and indeed only a few days after my arrival the young American lawyer, to whom I have alluded as being one of my *compagnons de voyage*, on the route from Albany, left his card with a note inviting me to dine with him on the following day. This was a piece of politeness I was not prepared to expect, but the mere invitation to dinner was not the only mark of attention I received. We were to dine at seven o'clock at some Italian restaurateur's whose name I do not now recollect, but my provident host came to me by appointment, as early as three, in a handsome carriage in which he proposed we should visit, before dinner, the most fashionable and remarkable streets at the west end of the town. Everything worth seeing was pointed out to me, during our drive through streets and squares that would do no discredit to the west end of London. But the object which particularly attracted my attention was the vast reservoir then in a train of completion for the reception of the waters of the Croton—a river whose course has been, by the aid of numerous aqueducts, turned into New York, supplying the whole of the city with this necessary of life.

The Croton waters are among the wonders of the world. The undertaking is one of great magnitude and utility, and reflects the utmost credit on the public and enterprising spirit of those who first planned the introduction of this mighty mass of water into the city. The tunnel is of solid mason work, seven and a half feet wide, nine feet high, and not less than forty miles in length. The dam across the river is placed at its point of entrance, and after having meandered through a more level country, between two hills. One of these hills—that on the south side—is of solid rock, the other offering excellent earth for the construction of the dam. This last is not of any great length, but is ingeniously made of the most substantial masonry. Its greatest elevation exceeds fifty feet above the natural bed of the Croton, while the water thus thrown back, forms a lake of nearly four hundred acres in extent, three feet in depth, and containing on an average 100,000,000 gallons for each foot in depth from the surface. The water is conveyed into the aqueduct by means of a tunnel cut into the rock, forming the south side of the hill. At the distance of every mile, there is erected over the aqueduct, for the purpose of ventilation, a hollow tower of white marble the effect of which, when seen from the river, is highly picturesque. There are, moreover, at intervals of three miles, means constructed for turning off the water whenever any necessary repairs may render such a course desirable, but the most magnificent part of this stupendous structure is, as I have elsewhere observed, the great arch at Sing Sing which, traversing a deep ravine, has a span of not less than eighty-eight feet. The quantity of land purchased for the erection of these works is nine hundred acres, at an average cost of five hundred pounds

an acre. The water is conducted over the Haerlem river which separates the island of New York from the mainland, by means of a bridge 1,420 feet in length, and having sixteen stone piers, six of which have their foundations laid in the bed of the river. The main reservoir is situated near Bloomingdale, a beautiful spot a few miles north of the city. This covers thirty-five acres of ground, and is divided into two sections—the north having twenty feet of water when full, and the south twenty-five feet—both containing more than 160,000,000 gallons. From this vast reservoir the water is conveyed through what is called the fifth avenue to the distributing basin at Murray Hill, covering about five acres of ground and containing 20,000,000 gallons. From this point, the various dwellings are supplied, by means of iron pipes. The descent from the dam of the Croton is very gradual, and averages not fifteen inches to the mile. The whole cost of this gigantic and most useful undertaking, was originally estimated at 10,000,000 of dollars, but even this large sum was insufficient for the magnitude of the works, and \$4,000,000 more was required.

At the time I was in New York the works had not yet been completed, but in the course of the following year the basin at Murray Hill, at which numerous hands were employed, was finished, and the aqueduct opened with great ceremony, and in the presence of a vast assemblage of persons. It required some time to convince the inhabitants, generally, of the great benefit which had been conferred upon the city by this magnificent and stupendous design, but its usefulness is now everywhere acknowledged, and there are few houses in New York that are not supplied with the clear pure water which they may well feel proud to see forced from its native bed into their cisterns, and from a distance so great.

A day or two after dining with the young lawyer, my earlier acquaintance, Mr. Newbold, came by appointment, and taking myself and portmanteau into his carriage, drove me to his handsome and picturesque residence at Westchester, a few miles out of the city. Here I remained three days. The weather was bleak and damp, and I had not the advantage of seeing the extensive grounds in that state of perfection which, from the beautiful view they commanded of the Hudson and East rivers, it was clear was their attribute in the season of foliage. The whole of the rich loamy valley in which the house was built was hermetically closed, and a garden tastefully laid out extended from the house to the pebbly shore; but although there was scarcely any evidence of vegetable life along the serpentine walks, the eye and scent were gratefully regaled on entering the spacious hot-house, where almost every description of plant and flower were gathered in a profusion rarely to be met with in a private gentleman's conservatory, and were then being subjected to the inspection and pruning hand of their elegant-minded mistress, who having no other family to attend to, invariably devoted an hour or two of each morning to the nursing of her sweet-smelling favorites.

If I found Mr. and Mrs. Newbold amiable in their character of travelling companions, and courteous to one whom they knew only as a stranger in the country, and who they were consequently desirous of setting at his ease; much more strongly was this amiable feeling developed now that, a guest under their roof, they felt called upon to render to me every rite of hospitality. Nothing could exceed their delicate care and attention. My bedroom had been fitted up in the most elegant, nay, luxurious style. The bed was soft and deliciously inviting to repose, and before retiring to this, I always found a foot-bath, with napkins white as the pure sheets which nightly received my willing limbs. Then there was always a cheerful fire blazing in the shielded grate, without which it was impossible at this chilly season of the year, to have appreciated half the comforts by which I was surrounded; and on this fire bubbled the pure liquid contained in a neat and polished brass kettle, the very appearance of which induced a desire to "brew something hot" before getting into bed. And thus it evidently was intended I should do if so inclined, for, on a small round table near the luxurious arm-chair which fronted the fire, and on a silver tray, stood decanters containing both wine and spirit, with sugar, lemon, and all the necessary appliances.

With all these temptations to sit late, it might be inferred that my hour of rising was not particularly early, but such was not the fact. The Americans generally are fond of early breakfasts, and at eight o'clock every morning—the servant having always entered my room soon after daylight, stealthily and with as little noise as possible, for the purpose of renewing my fire, which was never wholly extinguished—I found myself seated at the breakfast table, and sipping the delicious coffee made by the hands of the fair mistress of the mansion herself. And what a profusion of good things crowded the breakfast table! Ham, eggs, rump-steaks, mutton-chops, roasted clams (these latter being a description of oyster, though much inferior in flavor), hot rolls, toast, corn bread, buckwheat cakes, the richest and most highly flavoured dried venison, and preserves of the rarest kind—all these, with delicious tea added to the coffee, formed such a tempting assemblage, displayed as they were on the snow-white breakfast cloth, that it really was a matter of some difficulty to choose from them.

Nor were the dinners less *recherchés*, even while they were served up with all absence of ostentation. Every delicacy of the season, and the choicest wines, were absolutely given here in a profusion scarcely to be exceeded by the entertainments of the sergeants of a British marching regiment of the present day. Fishes of the most delicate kind, made dishes after every manner of Parisian cookery, the canvass-back duck, and game of all descriptions, were in daily profusion, while the port and madeira which I sipped like dew from Heaven, each day after dinner, had been forty years in bottle, and was reserved for those whom my excellent host delighted most to honor. The port was a little tawny and somewhat thinned with age, but the flavor was notwithstanding delicious, while the Madeira was such as Gangmedo might have hauded to Jupiter when returned from the battle of the Gods.

Tea was the only meal which succeeded this, but this again was marked by that profusion which is so usually to be found on an American table at every repast, and which on that of an American gentleman embraces every delicacy. It was the absence of supper, which they presume an Englishman cannot dispense with, that in all probability led to the forethought of supplying me with the means of brewing a "night-cap," while luxuriating in my easy chair before the fire in my bedroom.

One wet day I passed entirely in the house, yet not without amusement. Mr. Newbold's armory was a complete museum of curiosities. Here were guns, double and single barrelled, rifles long and short, duck guns, pistols, flasks, moulds of all descriptions, rods, lines, flies, fish, gimp, hooks, landing and minnow nets, and in fact all the minutæ of the piscatory art. Then there were carpenter's tools, and blacksmith's tools, sticks, hats, umbrellas, whips of every variety of fashion, and in short the room was so completely filled with every imaginable and unimaginable thing that it would have taken a whole day to have enumerated them all. In this room I passed an hour examining the guns and fishing tackle of my host, which were all orthodox of their kind; but Mrs. Newbold having promised me a greater treat in the library, I was curious to know what she had in reserve for me, and promised to join her as desired.

And it certainly was a treat of no common kind that awaited me—no other than the splendid volumes of Audubon's birds, which, for the first time, I glanced into beneath a roof, the elegance of the distribution of which was in perfect keeping with the intellectual habits of the amiable owners. The refined taste of Mr. Newbold, in securing to himself so interesting and valuable a work, may be inferred from the fact, that a single copy cost the large, but not overrated, sum of two hundred and fifty pounds Halifax currency. I had the pleasure of meeting and being introduced to the venerable ornithologist in the course of the following year, during the session of Parliament in Kingston, when he appeared for the purpose of applying to have a copy of his work taken by each House of the Legislature, and I am aware that two hundred and fifty pounds a copy were voted by each branch. Thus, Mr. Newbold, as a private individual, paid for a work embodying vast talent, and close and patient research into the habits of the animal kingdom, the same amount that had been voted by an united people, and which, no doubt, was by many conceived to be a heavy tax for unnecessary information.

The volumes being too ponderous to inspect in the ordinary manner, a strong but light and neat mahogany frame had been made expressly for the purpose, and supported the huge tomes, as seated before the open fire-place, above which appeared to frown upon me a portrait of the dark-featured and intellectual Webster—a near relation of Mr. Newbold, I opened in succession the interesting and splendidly executed representations of the feathered world of America. What a life of unadulterated simplicity must be that of the venerable Audubon, whose hair has been whitened in revealing to the world the wondrous art of the Creator, as manifested in this most gorgeous portion of his works, and the benevolent expression of whose countenance denotes an almost utter exemption from the vainer pursuits of that worldly life, with which a contemplative mind like his own can have no sympathy. Never did I experience more profound sentiments of love for the works of the Creator, than while gazing on the faithful representations of the surpassing beauty with which He has clothed so many of the birds Audubon has sketched, and of which it may be observed, as of the lilies of the field, that "Solomon in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these."

My three day's visit to Westchester having terminated, and being anxious to complete the business which had brought me to New York, I was even compelled to tear myself from the luxurious ease with which I was surrounded, and prepare for my return to the city, prior to setting out again for Canada. My kind host finding me firm in my intention of departing, ordered his carriage again to the door on the morning of the fourth day, and drove me up to town himself. Never did a comparative stranger meet with more marked—not merely attention—but kindness than was displayed towards me, during the whole of the period I had the pleasure of enjoying the society of this amiable couple, both of whom added to an intellect of a higher order, manners that would have reflected no discredit on the most aristocratic Europeans. Yet with all their frank and open

hospitality, there was no straining after effect—no ostentatious exhibition, tending painfully to impress a guest of any discernment with the conviction that the rites of hospitality were tendered, not so much from regard for the recipient, as through a love of display of the donor.

Subsequently I experienced much renewed attention from my young friend, Mr. Howe. He took me to see all the lions of New York, and as I had expressed a curiosity to taste the oysters which are to be found there in great variety and abundance, afforded me ample opportunity to dive into the depths of the most noted professors of the art of cooking them. Here they were certainly to be found in perfection; and stewed, broiled, plain, and roasted were successively placed each night, upon a small table covered with a cloth of purest whiteness, and provided with rolls of delicious bread. On these occasions my companion made it a particular point to enjoin upon the several cooks to out-do themselves, as a stranger was present whom it was necessary to impress favorably with the mode in which the mysterious delicacies of the oyster tribe were revealed by them to the public. The darkies—for they were generally such, and seemingly fattened with their own fat oysters—grinned assent, showing their white teeth in the act, and promising their utmost efforts to please the "gentleman," soon re-appeared with dish after dish of their several preparations. The most luscious of them was a large fat oyster nearly equal in circumference to a common breakfast plate which fried and browned in bread crumbs, something like an English sole, constituted a dish worthy of the most Epicurean palate. A glass of warm brandy and water, as indispensable to the digestion of this oyster feast, invariably followed, and this accompanied by the fumes of one the best cigars the city could afford, generally soon induced a desire for repose, which rendered these suppers as indispensable for the comfort as they were grateful to the appetite. Of course they were eaten late at night, often towards the morning, and always after we had returned from some previous evening engagement.

A few days after my return from Westchester, and on going to my room to dress for dinner, my glance fell on a neatly embossed note evidently addressed by a lady. This, on opening it, I found to contain an invitation to a ball to be given that evening at a private residence on the western extremity of the Broadway. Being a stranger to the parties, I could not divine how they had found me out, and thus honored me, unless it was that my indefatigable friend, Mr. Howe,—indefatigable in his most kind endeavors to render my brief sojourn in New York one of amusement and gratification,—had been the means of procuring me the unexpected invitation. I made it a point to see him, when, on my questioning him, he admitted that conceiving I might like to have an opportunity of seeing a fashionable party on a large scale in New York, he had mentioned the fact of my being in town to the gentleman giving the entertainment, who was to have called and left his card with an invitation. He added he regretted extremely he could not go himself, as he had an engagement elsewhere, but that a friend of his would either call for and take me with him, or failing in that, would meet me at the door of the house to which we were going, and introduce me to the host. He however thought the former.

Ten o'clock came, but no one appeared, and I finally gave up all idea of seeing my friend's friend. I confess I did not quite reconcile to myself the idea of entering a house, to the proprietor of which I was an utter stranger, however as I had taken wine enough after dinner to give me the requisite "Dutch courage." I resolved at all hazards to venture, and trust to the promised rencontre, for an introduction to my host. I therefore ordered coffee and a cab, and while I sipped the one in the smaller and more private room of the restaurant of the Globe, the other was brought to the door. I threw on my cloak and cap, gave the driver the number which he seemed perfectly to know, and soon arrived at the residence which was strikingly indicated by the profusion of light thrown upon the broad street from almost every window.

I looked, while unclanking, for my medium of introduction, who, I presumed, would know and address me, even although I could not recognize him, but no one seemed to notice me with sufficient interest to induce the inference that he was the man I sought. I waited a few moments in the dressing room, and then sent a card up by a servant to the gentleman of the house himself. The latter quickly made his appearance, received me with a great deal of cordiality, expressed himself delighted with the honor I had done him in accepting his invitation at so unavoidably short a notice, and requested me to precede him to the ball-room, at the entrance of which stood his wife and daughter, who were evidently awaiting my approach, and to whom he now presented me.

There was a very large and brilliantly dressed party assembled, consisting of nearly three hundred persons, among whom were several exceedingly beautiful women. Most of these, with the loveliest faces that can be imagined, and of pure soft delicate complexions, were yet sadly wanting in that fulness of contour of person—that seductive *embonpoint* which gives to woman a charm far surpassing that of mere beauty of feature, and awakens emotion, where the other only commands the admiration, and yet there were two or three exceptions to this too general deficiency in the American style of beauty. These were in the full meridian

[TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE BRITISH FLAG.—We have received a *surrago* of nonsense, the dull emanation from the watery brain of some witless fool, bearing the signature of a "FRIEND TO NO ANGST." We cannot positively tell whence it comes, but have reason to believe that it proceeds either from the Crown Lands Office or from Government House—certainly from one or the other. No doubt this effusion of supposed wit has been considered much too piquant by the writer to be kept to himself; therefore his friends will judge of his spirit by the course he pursues, when we calmly, deliberately, and premeditatedly hurl the foul lie back into his throat for daring to insinuate a doubt of our attachment to the BRITISH FLAG—not such a rag as floats over Government House, a monument of disgrace to the country, and which is the laughing stock, not only of every American visitor, but of the people of Montreal themselves—but one worthy of the Empire, and at which one of the subjects of that Empire need not blush. We tell this abject reptile—this fawning toady, whoever he be—that we have fought and bled under the British Flag, when he was a thing our very dog would not have presumed to associate with, under pain of incurring our displeasure, and being spurned from our presence. Will this draw the fellow out?

J. CAMERON, Esq., TORONTO, has returned to us, through the Post Office, the 17th number of the WEEKLY EXPOSITOR, and that we presume in consequence of our having stated that we should publish the names of those parties who, in failing to pay their subscriptions, inflict a wrong not only upon the paper, but upon those who have, in a proper spirit, complied with its terms. The idea of returning the 17th number of a paper (all previous numbers having been kept) when asked to pay for it is rich indeed. We really do not know which most to admire, the coolness of the thing, or its utter absence of all conventional decency. We believe we form no exception in the cavalier manner in which the press generally is treated in this country, but we will at least form an exception in the manner in which we shall resent such contemptible conduct in men who affect to call themselves gentlemen. We need scarcely observe that the Mr. Cameron, to whom we allude, is not the Solicitor-General. While on this subject, by the way, we may as well remind the highest legal official in the country, who has been written some half dozen times without an answer being elicited from him, that he has been indebted these two years past on a former account in the sum of ten dollars, which will be highly acceptable. The Bank of the EXPOSITOR cannot stand weekly disbursements of from five to seven pounds without corresponding deposits.

NOTICE.

All parties subscribing to this paper may be supplied with the whole of the numbers from the commencement, including the Eight Years in Canada.

THE
WEEKLY EXPOSITOR.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, DEC. 24, 1846.

MR. CROFTON'S APPOINTMENT.

The *Cobourg Star*, in commenting on our recent strictures on this gentleman's appointment to office by Mr. Draper, distorts—either intentionally to suit his purposes, or from a misapprehension of our true meaning—the spirit in which these strictures were couched. We were far from expressing—for we certainly did not feel—regret at the nomination to office of Mr. Crofton, as far as regards himself; but we do unequivocally

denounce, as most immoral, most profligate, most wanton, and most wicked, the conduct of the leader of a Government who could so long neglect a public servant, such as the editor of the *Star* describes Mr. Crofton to be—such as that leader must have known him to have been, for the last sixteen years—yet suddenly discover, and only when the envenomed shaft is directed against himself, that his talents and his services ought to be rewarded.

Nothing, we repeat, can surpass the Tartuffean infamy—the ignoble and dishonouring shuffling at the Head of an Administration—assumedly the chief guardians of public virtue—who, in his eagerness to ward off these blows which he is not sufficiently mailed in right and in honesty to sustain unshaken, dares to insult the public by tampering with principle, and setting an example fraught with injury, and tending to bring all government into contempt. Let the *Cobourg Star* pretend to tell us—for we will never believe, the public will never believe—that had Mr. Crofton continued sixteen years longer advocating Conservative politics, such advocacy would have brought him one step nearer to office? No, Mr. Crofton knew this well, but he had sagacity enough to perceive that while the domineering and self-satisfied Provincial statesman would continue thanklessly to avail himself of his honest support, the artful but excessively thin-skinned "dodger," as he has been happily termed, might be induced to accord to the biting lash of personal irony and scorn, when applied by a judicious hand, that which better motives never would have commanded. Had not Mr. Crofton stung to the quick the vain spirit of the man whose practice it is to blow hot and cold in the same breath—nay, stung him in a way to make him feel that a greater sting would follow the lesser, he might have continued to write for the *Cobourg Star* even to this hour: but writhing under the well-applied, the well-merited lash, Mr. Draper could endure no longer the torture that was inflicted. Moreover, he wanted a Judgeship (Heaven, preserve us from ever being tried for life under such a judge!), and it was not politic that the people of Canada should have an opportunity of seeing in all their naked deformity, the public vices that so wholly unfitted him for the bench. Hence the panacea,—hence Mr. Crofton's bribe.

We are told by the *Star*, that the letters in question were written long before Mr. Crofton left Cobourg, and that we are wrong in stating them to have been the productions of a 'clerk in a public office at Kingston.' We know that many of them were written long before any appointment took place, but will the *Cobourg Star* affirm that the later communications, signed Uncle Ben, were not written after Mr. Crofton had been employed in a public office, (the Customs,) in Kingston? If we are not greatly mistaken, this was the case. But the situation not being worth having, Uncle Ben cunningly went to work again—when,—open Sessame!—and a good fat berth

spread wide its capacious jaws, and in he jumped, and with far more adroitness than Sam Patch evinced when he took his last leap.

And so Mr. Crofton's forte is not politics, but statistics! Wonderful indeed that this should never have been found out before—only think, men of Canada, of a man writing politics for the Upper Province for the space of sixteen years, while his capabilities lay not in that way, but in a totally distinct line—only recently discovered. What a waste of time; and how curious a thing, in this best possible world of ours, is coincidence—nay, this is not an affair of mere coincidence—it is one of fate. Had it not been that Mr. Crofton had been appointed a clerk in the Customs of Kingston, he never would, according to the *Star*, have had an opportunity of developing that peculiar aptitude for statistics which, after sixteen years devoted to another pursuit, has been so opportunely brought to light. How fortunate for the country—statistics will now be as much the rage as Executive dabbling in mining speculations. It is quite a new office the *Star* states, and how singular in all this chain of singular circumstances, that Mr. Cayley should have chanced to have hit, for the first time—to have been the inventor—the framer of a new office—just at the critical moment too when Mr. Draper, having no good excuse for turning any body else out of office at the present moment, required one made expressly to his hands. All this is rich, rich exquisitely rich; but seriously we really should like to know whether it is a disease peculiar to members of an administration and their supporters, to believe that all other men, not in that administration or among their supporters, are fools?

By the way, as the whole bent of his (Mr. Crofton's) mind leads him to seek for data, perhaps he will be good enough to furnish us with the precise epoch when the *Cobourg Star* veered its course, and from being a far more determined opponent of Mr. Draper's administration than we are, commenced its defence. But stay, we are interrupted by the *Official Gazette* just placed in our hands.—Ha! what is this? We are fully answered, and shall not trouble Mr. Crofton for his data, so precious to the Inspector General. Thus reads the *Gazette*—His Excellency (that is to say Mr. Draper) is pleased to make the following appointment:—

Richard D. Chatterton of Cobourg, Esquire, [late Editor of the *Cobourg Star*,] to be Clerk of the District Court of the Newcastle District, in the place of Henry Covert, Esquire, resigned.

We now can perfectly account for the shock we must have given to our sensitive contemporary, when, in censuring the appointment of Mr. Crofton his *confrere*, we indirectly and unconsciously condemned his own.

Before we close this article, we will advise Mr. Crofton to endeavor to get one more likely to benefit him than this new creation. What right has Mr. Cayley to create an office in his Department, without the consent of the Legislature? Does he suppose the Parliament will not see through the whole trickery of the thing, and refuse to lend their sanction

to a job manifestly entered into to shield Mr. Draper? And what care three-fourths of the House for Mr. Draper, that they should lend themselves to any arrangement of the kind? Mr. Crofton will do well to look to this, if he studies his own interest; else, Mr. Draper having gained his end—that of lulling the storm until he is placed beyond its reach,—will be enabled to laugh in his sleeve at the successful result of another of his heartless instances of machiavelian manœuvring and duplicity:—

"UNCLE BEN."

"In the Montreal *Expositor* of 3rd inst., we find a most virulent attack upon the present Administration, in which the editor of that journal makes use of very *very* strong language indeed, wherewith to evince his deep contempt, both of the Government and its policy, professedly with a view of enlightening His Excellency Lord Elgin on the subject of colonial corruption. 'An Administration corrupt and rotten to the core—stinking to the nostrils, and outraging every principle of public honesty and morality.'—Hard words these to use at the outset, and from their import we were led to suppose that the editor had some disclosure to make,—some most foul job to bring to light,—some hitherto unseen and unsmelt heap of filth just discovered in a dark corner of that horrid old-fashioned place 'yclept 'the Augean Stable'; in short, some most unheard-of piece of moral turpitude, of which the said Administration was found by him the said *Expositor*, to have been guilty, when, lo and behold! the monstrous offence merely consists in the promotion of a member of the public press, or 'one too who has 'done the state some service,' to an office of trust under Government! In some countries, such an occurrence would be considered matter of rejoicement to the members of the 'fourth estate'; but in Canada if a public writer have any favour shewn him, his compeers immediately raise the cry of corruption. This is not right, and evinces a low tone of moral feeling in those who pursue such a course, and the public cannot but come to the conclusion that those who raise such cry would not be slow to avail themselves of government patronage, even at a sacrifice of principle, which they would endeavour to make appear to be the only means of securing that patronage. So long as this spirit exists there never can be a respectable press in Canada.

"The *Expositor* further enlightens his readers by telling them that 'there are few men in Canada who have not heard of the letters of Uncle Ben'; we believe him, and may add, that some have *felt* them too; he is, however, mistaken, when he says they were written in Kingston by a 'clerk in a public office.' The celebrated series addressed to Mr. Draper were written in Cobourg, not by a 'clerk in a public office,' but by Mr. Crofton, a gentleman for nearly sixteen years connected with the press of the Province, and for no inconsiderable portion of that time a most able contributor to the columns of this paper, and at all times a most untiring and unflinching supporter of conservative principles, and as evinced in all his writings, a powerful advocate of British institutions and British connexion, nor was it until he saw that these institutions and that connexion were endangered by the tortuous policy of a leading member of the government, that he gave vent to his feelings, however reluctantly, and in so doing but simply presented to the public a reflex of the thoughts and opinions of the conservatives of Upper Canada.

"Long after the series of letters to Mr. Draper were written, Mr. Crofton was appointed to a trifling office in the Customs at Kingston, to the duties of which he gave his undivided attention, and showed such an aptitude for business in that department, particularly in the statistical branch, that he could not fail in attracting the notice of the Inspector General.

"Although a political writer of no mean powers, we are constrained to say that we do not consider politics Mr. Crofton's forte; he is too honest, too straightforward in his views to be, at least in Canada, a successful politician. His forte lies in that branch of the science of political economy termed *statistics*; the whole bent of his mind leads him to seek for *data*, and Mr. Cayley did well in securing the services of one so fully competent to the performance of the important duty of collecting and reducing to form the statistics of the Province. Such an officer was much needed, the office was created, and he was made its first incumbent. No one was displaced to make way for him. The duty is laborious, but strictly non-political. Nor has Mr. C. any connexion with the Montreal press, neither is it likely he ever will, so that its members need not so greatly dread the 'altered style of the articles of that journal,' the *Expositor* does not say which he means."

EXECUTIVE TRICKERY.

The disgraceful means which have been resorted to by the Administration to bolster up their power, at the expense of all common decency, and the extraordinary conduct of the Earl Cathcart, in ratifying appointments on the eve of his secession from an office he was never designed to fill, thereby depriving the true Governor General of the country of what little patronage was left to him, cannot be more severely reprobated than it is in a speech, in reference to the same subject, which was delivered by Lord Elgin himself, (then the Hon. Mr. Bruce) in 1841, on seconding a vote of want of confidence in the Melbourne Administration. This speech is so completely a condemnation of the conduct which is now being pursued, although on a smaller scale, that we shall take an early opportunity of giving it to our readers. There Mr. Draper will read his own condemnation.

"THE EMIGRANT."

In conformity with our promise of last week, we give the letter referred to by Sir Francis Head, as having been addressed to us by Lord Durham, on the subject of the Union of the Provinces, as well as the remarks which drew from us the publication.

FROM THE "CANADIAN LOYALIST."

In the Quebec Gazette of the 1st of September, the following paragraph occurs, in reference to the work recently published on Lord Sydenham's administration:

"Lord Sydenham came to Canada disgusted with his situation in the Whig administration in England, for the express purpose of effecting the Union of the Provinces; an old project of a party in the colony, dating as far back as thirty years, which was adopted by Lord Durham as a *pis aller*, on the failure of the other old project of a Federal Union of all the British North American Provinces."

Now, with all due deference to the confessed ability, knowledge, and general correctness of the Honorable Editor of the Quebec Gazette, we cannot suffer this charge against Lord Durham

of a *pis aller* policy to remain uncontradicted. Lord Durham never was in favor of a Union of Upper and Lower Canada, for he had sagacity enough to foresee the blow to the ascendancy of British interests such a Union must effect, and was therefore a most decided opponent of the measure. We speak confidently of Lord Durham's opinions, for we believe there was no portion of his Lordship's contemplated plans for the government of Canada—and these invariably had for their basis the ascendancy of the British party—which have not been confided to us by his Lordship himself. It has been the fashion in Canada to ridicule this grand measure of Lord Durham as extravagant, and ill suited to the condition of the country; but we assure that, at no distant day, the people of Western Canada, who have chained themselves to a majority which they already feel to be an incubus around their necks, will bitterly regret that Lord Durham's plan had not prevailed, rather than that accomplished, only with great effort, by his successor. When the proper season arrives, we trust to be able to give to the public a complete justification of the assailed administration of Lord Durham. Meanwhile, that there may be no doubt as to his views on this highly important point, we transcribe the following commentary addressed to us privately, soon after the grand meeting on the subject, held in Montreal, not five weeks before his departure from the country. The language may be considered strong, but his Lordship's annoyance at being factiously, as he had reason to believe, thwarted in his comprehensive plans, was not less so:—

"QUEBEC, October 2nd, 1838.

"DEAR SIR,—I thank you kindly for your account of the meeting, which was the first I received. I fully expected the 'outbreak' about the Union of the two Provinces: it is a pet Montreal project, beginning and ending in Montreal selfishness.

"With reference to your former letter, I beg you to be assured that I shall always avail myself of every opportunity that presents itself to me of advancing your interests.

"Yours truly,

"DURHAM.

"— — —, &c. &c. &c."

SUICIDE OF MR. ALSAGER.

The following account appears in the *London Daily News*. Mr. Alsager, whom we knew well, was the gentleman to whom is addressed the letter which appears in the "Eight Years in Canada," on the subject of our rupture with the *Times*, in consequence of the support rendered by us to Lord Durham's Administration.

"We have to announce the demise of the above gentleman, who expired at an early hour yesterday morning, at his residence in Queen Square, Broomsbury, from the effect of injuries inflicted by his own hand on the morning of Friday, the 6th instant. Mr. Alsager's official position and high standing in the commercial world, as city correspondent of the *Times* newspaper, was such as to occasion extreme surprise when the painful fact first became known, ten days ago.

Mr. Alsager retired to rest at his usual hour on the evening of Thursday, the 5th instant. On Friday morning he was called at 8 o'clock by one of his domestics, whom he answered in a collected manner, and was shortly afterward heard to leave his bed. Half an hour elapsed and her master not coming down stairs, the servant again knocked at his bed-room door. On this occasion Mr. Alsager called to her in a tremulous voice to "come in," and upon opening the door the girl observed her master resting against the

side of the bed, with blood flowing from an extensive wound in the throat, and a similar stream issuing from his left arm, one of the veins in which had been divided.

The young woman instantly gave the alarm, and medical assistance having been sent for, the unfortunate gentleman was placed in bed, and the best means at hand used to staunch the wounds. On the arrival of the medical men, the usual appliances in such cases were adopted, and he continued to go on favorably for some days.

On Friday unfavorable symptoms first appeared; inflammation first presenting itself around the principal wound. Every effort was made to arrest its progress, unhappily in vain; Mr. Alsager breathed his last at two o'clock yesterday morning.

It appears that he was a gentleman of wealth, but that he had recently lost his wife, and this bereavement preying upon his mind, prevented his articles being as copious of information, and accurate as formerly. The *Times*, ever kind to contributors, generously remonstrated, and suggested a brief abeyance from toil, so that the calm, cool intellect of their financial agent should resume its splendid sovereignty. This generous proposition was met rudely, for Mr. Alsager immediately sent in his resignation. It was accepted, and the unhappy gentleman, within a short period, shut himself in his room, and with a razor, inflicted three severe wounds on his throat."

MINING SPECULATIONS.

When we alluded, some time ago, to the most extraordinary course pursued by the Executive in giving a license to Mr. Hopkirk, the Under Secretary to whom Lord Metcalfe had very properly refused it, we were not aware of one even more extraordinary fact which has since come to our knowledge, and which, at a fitting moment, we shall touch upon. Yet this is the man whom the Earl Cathcart has thought proper, after giving him a particular license, which the noble-minded Lord Metcalfe had refused, to nominate to the only situation of any importance left vacant for the disposal of the Governor General of Canada. What Lord Elgin will think of this,—even should he say nothing,—it will not be very difficult to decide.

THE HISSING H.

Some viper, who has been nursed in the kitchen of the late Superintendent of Indian Affairs,—Colonel Jarvis,—has been spitting forth his venom in consecutive numbers of a print whose editor loves to feed on garbage. Were the traitor to doff his mask, we should see beneath the false H. a falser V., embracing the alliteration of—vile, venomous, villanous V——n.

The following paragraph is taken from the *Jamaica Times*. The Hon. Col. Bruce has arrived at Montreal, and was present at the Canadian fête on Thursday evening, "the observed of all observers." He has, we believe, taken possession of Monklands. The Earl of Elgin will not, in all probability, leave England before the 1st of January:—

"The intelligence brought by the packet of the Earl of Elgin's appointment to Canada, has been received with extreme regret, as far as local consideration are concerned. It is some consolation, however, to think that his Lordship's mode of government has been so much appreciated by our present rulers, that they have

conferred upon him an office of so onerous a nature as that of the Canadian Governor General; from which we hope we may be justified in expecting that his Lordship's successor will be induced to follow in his steps. In the meantime it is considered not unlikely that the Lieutenant Governor will be instructed to open the Assembly, which is usually called together about the third Tuesday in October, and which we certainly hope will not be delayed beyond that period, in consequence of the inconvenience arising from detaining members at their duties in Spanish Town over the Christmas holidays. The removal of the Earl of Elgin necessarily leads to the departure of the Hon. Col. Bruce, his Excellency's brother and Secretary; and we are certain we speak the sentiments of every one in the island, whom business or society has brought in communication with the gallant Secretary, that a more urbane public officer or affable gentleman never landed on the shores of Jamaica, or will leave it more endeared to our recollections by every sentiment of affection and respect."—*Toronto Globe*.

ATLANTIC AND ST. LAWRENCE RAILWAYS.—This work, the construction of a railway from Montreal to Portland, Maine, is progressing rapidly. We learn from the *New York Herald* that the firm of Norris Brothers, Philadelphia, has concluded a contract with the Company constructing the road, for the supply of all the locomotives, cars, castings, and other machinery required for the full equipment of their road—the amount of contract not less than 750,000 dollars. The road is expected to be in successful operation through to Montreal by January 1, 1849.—*London Railway Record*.

STARKE'S POCKET ALMANAC.—We have to acknowledge the receipt of two copies for 1847, of this interesting publication, which is indispensable, not only to every office public or private, but to every private house. One of these copies is very neatly got up indeed, with gilt edges. The price is not stated, but the unbound one is only sevenpence-halfpenny. We really cannot understand how such a work can be got up for so very a trifle.

PROPOSED RAILWAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING COURIER.

SIR,—It was with great pleasure that I read, in your paper of the 15th instant, a circular letter on the subject of a great national railroad from Montreal to the western frontier of Canada West—and being, like the writer of that letter, deeply impressed with the necessity of such a work, and anxious to promote the welfare of the colony, I am induced to trouble you with a few remarks on the subject.

The idea is not altogether a new one; I, myself, have seen the necessity for such an undertaking for years past, and have mentioned it in private company; but the writer of the letter in question is entitled to the thanks of the community for putting the scheme into a tangible shape, and bringing it before the public, and I trust it will not be heedlessly passed over, but that its merits will be discussed until its practicability, and the necessity of it for the well being of the colony shall be made manifest, and the attention of the Legislatures of this and the mother country aroused to feel the propriety of its adoption.

When I first came to the country I was forcibly struck on reading from time to time that out of the immense emigration from the mother country 8-10ths went to the United States, and the small remainder only came to Canada, and many of those did not remain, for the poor could not find employment, nor the capitalist the means of investing his money with advantage, and numbers of both classes passed over to enrich, with their labour and property, the country of our neighbours, whilst prodigious tracts of the

most fertile land remain uncultivated and without inhabitants; and forests of the most valuable timber are rankling to decay or wastefully destroyed for the most trivial purposes. Valuable fisheries too are neglected, and a host of other evils follows in the train too numerous for me to notice on this occasion.

What is the cause of this I asked myself—a visit to the United States, and a view of the map of this country supplied the answer. The States abound with facilities of communication and transport, and whilst this country from its geographical position requires them much more than that of our neighbours, it is to a lamentable extent deficient of them. There are many persons who, perhaps, will exclaim, but we have our river with its communications with the lakes! I may freely admit this, and even add that great and extensive improvements have of late years been made and are making in the navigation of the river and lakes, without yielding a jot of the argument, the gist of which is that the water communication is too circuitous, too tedious and too expensive. In fact like the Egyptians of old we have trusted too much to our river. Let facts speak for themselves, if our river is every thing to us, why do the merchants of New York at this present moment do all the carrying trade of the Western portion of this country? It is the want of a great, continuous, expeditious and cheap medium of communication and transport through the heart of the country, from the shores of Lake Huron and the whole Western frontier to the point of communication with the Atlantic. Such a means of communication is absolutely required, not only for the purpose (to use an expressive term) of opening up the country, but to prevent it from retrograding, whilst our more enterprising neighbours will take advantage of our supineness (as they have already done) and laugh at our folly. Let any one look at the advance of the two countries within the last 10 or 12 years, and they will find that whilst the Western part of the Upper Province has been creeping on at snail's pace, our neighbours have passed on with gigantic strides. Michigan in my memory has been raised from a Territory into a State. The settlement of Wisconsin commenced and since raised to the same rank; and Iowa entirely commenced and now nearly ready to take the same position, and thus the produce of lands which but a few short years ago were as trackless and uncultivated as a great portion of the western part of the Upper Province now is, and which they have left behind about 1000 miles, is now selling in the markets of London. All this arises from want of internal communication, and people here will be startled at the fact, that the inhabitant of the western part of the Upper Province, although not distant from Toronto more than 200 miles, is obliged to make a circuit, particularly if he has anything to bring with him, of about 500 miles or upwards to reach that city, and generally finds it more convenient to travel in the conveyances of our neighbours. The advantages of the scheme projected by your correspondent's circular are so well set forth in that document that it would be needless for me to mention them. Every one who reads that letter must, I think, concur in the propriety of his remarks, and I feel with him that if the scheme were carried out the tables would be completely turned—the carrying trade would be ours—Canada would become populous—the consumption of British goods, brought in British ships, increased. Forests of valuable timber would find their way into the markets of London, and the land on which they grow in rank and luxuriance would be turned into "fertile fields and flowery dales." That all this and more would happen, I have no doubt, the only point remaining in the practicability of the scheme. Let it be discussed. The question is now fairly broached—let the press do its part in awakening the public attention to it, it is undoubtably of more than ordinary importance.

ROAD CONTRACTS.

TENDERS will be received at the Office of the TRUSTEES of the MONTREAL TURNPIKE ROADS, until SATURDAY, the TWENTY SIXTH instant, for the undermentioned Contracts:—

1st.—For Seven Hundred Tons of ROUGH STONE, suitable for macadamizing, to be taken from the bank of the Lachine Canal, and delivered on the Lower Lachine Road, commencing at the Pavilion Tavern, and continuing to the Lower Lachine Mills; to be delivered (at such spots as shall be pointed out by the Director of the Roads) before the FIRST day of APRIL, next, specifying the rate per Ton. No Tender will be received for a less quantity than One Hundred Tons.

2nd.—For breaking Seven Hundred Tons of Rough Stone from the Canal, on the Lower Lachine Road, during the Present Winter, and ensuing Spring, specifying the rate per Ton. The Stone to be broken so as to pass through a ring two inches in diameter. No Tender will be received for a less quantity than One Hundred Tons.

3rd.—For furnishing on the Lower Lachine Road, in the course of the ensuing spring and summer, as may be required, Ten Thousand Loads of well-broken Stone, (to be obtained on the bank of the Canal) to be broken so as to pass through a ring two inches in diameter; specifying the rate per Load, of Fifteen Cubic feet. No Tender will be received for a less quantity than One Thousand Loads.

4th.—For grading and forming the Lower Lachine Road, from the Pavilion Tavern to the Lower Lachine Mills, at the rate, per perch of sixteen and a half feet, English measure; work to commence on or after the first day of May ensuing. No Tender will be received for less than one half of a mile.

5th.—For completing the Lower Lachine Road, from the Pavilion Tavern to the Lower Lachine Mills, by the first day of September next, the breadth of metal to be fourteen feet, and average depth seven inches, English measure. Two or more responsible persons, to be approved by the Trustees, will be required as sureties for the fulfilment of this Contract, and Specifications of the work will be ready by the 21st instant, as also printed forms of Tender; and no Tender will be noticed that is not on a printed form.

6th.—For thirteen hundred Tons of Rough Stone, suitable for macadamizing, to be delivered by the first day of April next, on the Plank Road leading to Bout de l'Isle, commencing at the Ruisseau des Seurs and continuing downwards for seven miles, specifying the rate per Ton. No Tender will be received for a less quantity than one hundred Tons.

7th.—For breaking Twenty-one Thousand Loads of Stone, (to be broken so as to pass through a ring of two inches in diameter), on the Plank Road extending from the Ruisseau des Seurs downwards seven miles, specifying the rate per load of fifteen cubic feet, and deliverable in the course of the ensuing Spring and Summer as may be required. No Tender will be received for a less quantity than One Thousand Loads.

JAMES HOLMES, Secretary of the Turnpike Trustees.

Office of the Montreal Turnpike Trustees, Montreal, Dec. 16, 1846.



VALUABLE MILL SEAT.

NOTICE is hereby given that the LEASE of a VALUABLE MILL SEAT, situated on the South side of the Basin of the LACHINE CANAL, above the Windmill Point and marked on the Plan as Lot No. 12, will be disposed of by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the OFFICE of PUBLIC WORKS, on TUESDAY, the TWELFTH day of JANUARY next, at NOON, the upset price to be £107 10s. cy. per annum payable half-yearly.

The plan of the Ground, and plans and specifications relative to the manner of taking the water, &c., may be seen at this Office, where any information as to terms of purchase, &c., may be obtained.

By order, THOMAS A. BEGLY, Secretary.

Department of Public Works, Montreal, Dec. 15, 1846.

NOTICE.

WE the Undersigned hereby give notice, that application will be made by us at the next meeting of the Legislature to obtain a CHARTER for the purpose of CONSTRUCTING A BRIDGE ACROSS THE ST. LAWRENCE; say from the South side of said River to a point on St. Paul's Island (Ile St. Paul), and from said Island to the North bank with right of way across the said Island, and from the North bank of the River to a convenient terminus on the Canal.

- H. STEPHENS, HUGH ALLAN, JASON C. PIERCE, D. DAVIDSON, WILLIAM DOW, JOHN LEXMING, WM. FUNN, J. B. SMILE, J. FROTHINGHAM, JNO. YOUNG, JOHN E. MILLS, D. H. HOLTON, T. H. MACDOUGALL, BENJ. LYMAN, R. COREE, DAVID TORRANCE, ANDREW SHAW, JAMES GILMOR, WM. EDMONSTONE, MOSES HAYS, JOSEPH MASSON, ROBERT MACKAY, O. BERTHELET, H. JUDAH, A. LAROCQUE, B. HART, JOSEPH BOUQUET, A. M. DELSIZ, W. EMATINSER, W. C. MEREDITH, JOHN J. DAY, GEO. ELDER, JUNR.

Montreal, September 14, 1846.

REQU LE

25 JUN 1975

BIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE DU QUÉBEC

St. Lawrence & Atlantic Rail-Road.

NOTICE TO TIMBER CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS will be received at the Office of the ST. LAWRENCE AND ATLANTIC RAILROAD COMPANY, till the 31st day of JANUARY next, for the following description of TIMBER, for the superstructure of the Road from the St. Lawrence River to a point in the Township of Acton,—a distance of about 45 miles; to be delivered before the 1st August, 1847, on the line of the Road, at such points as the Engineer shall designate, namely:—

LOTTING NO. 1. Sills, Sawed, 8 by 12 inches square, in lengths of 18, 27, and 36 feet, to consist of best quality merchantable Pine or Tamarac Timber. Also, Oak or Tamarac Plank for Cross-Ties 2 1/2 inches thick, 6 inches wide, and 8 feet long. The whole to be good sound merchantable Timber, and Plank, free from black knots, shakes, and wanes, and in no case to be Sapling Timber.

The TIMBER to be delivered at Points not exceeding one-fourth of a mile apart, on the following Division of the Road, viz.:

FIRST DIVISION, extending from the St. Lawrence River to the Richelieu, at Island.

SECOND DIVISION, extending from the Richelieu River to the Village of St. Hyacinthe.

THIRD DIVISION, from St. Hyacinthe to the Point above mentioned in the Township of Acton.

Persons Proposing will state—1st, The amount and kind of Timber they will furnish; 2nd, Upon which of the above Divisions they will deliver it; 3rd, The price per running foot of Sills of each kind of Timber; 4th, The price of each Cross-Tie of Oak or Tamarac.

Persons offering to contract for Timber or Ties who are unknown to the Engineer or to the Directors, will be required to accompany their proposals with references as to character and ability; and in all cases where any proposal shall be accepted and a Contract entered into, the Contractor will be required to give the names of responsible persons as sureties for the faithful performance of the Contract according to the terms aforesaid.

For further information, apply at the Company's Office, No. 18, Little St. James Street.

THOMAS STEERS,

COMPANY'S OFFICE, 4th December, 1846. SECRETARY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made by the COMPANY of PROPRIETORS of the CHAMPLAIN and ST. LAWRENCE RAILROAD, at the next Session of the Provincial Parliament, for an Act to amend and extend certain provisions of the Act 2 Wm. 4th, chapter 58, entitled, "An Act for making a Railroad from Lake Champlain to the River St. Lawrence" and particularly the provisions of the 4th Section of the said Act, so as to authorize the said Company to extend and construct a Branch of the Champlain and the St. Lawrence Railroad from some point on the present line of the same West of the River commonly called La Petite Riviere de Montreal, in as direct a line as may be found practicable to any point upon the River Saint Lawrence at which a Bridge shall be constructed under the authority of any Act to be passed by the Legislature over the said River to communicate with the City of Montreal, and also to empower the said Company to carry their said Branch Railroad over such Bridge and thence to the City of Montreal, upon such terms and conditions as shall be fixed by Legislative enactment.

JOHN E. MILLS, Chairman. WM. B. LINDEAY, Commissioner.

RAILROAD OFFICE, Montreal, November 2, 1846.

ST. LAWRENCE AND ATLANTIC RAIL-ROAD.

NOTICE.

THE STOCKHOLDERS of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road Company, having, at their Special General Meeting, held on the 2nd instant, unanimously resolved upon the immediate commencement of the Rail-Road, whereby the Subscriptions for Shares of Stock conditional upon that resolve (received subsequent to the 30th ultimo) have become absolute, the New Stockholders are requested to PAY the FIRST INSTALLMENT of £4 16s. Currency per Share, to the Treasurer, at the Company's Office, 18, Little St. James Street.

By order of the Board,

THOMAS STEERS, Secretary.

Office of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road Company, Montreal, 25th August, 1846.

JOHN M'GLOSKY, SILK AND WOOLLEN DYER, AND CLOTHES CLEANER,

(From Belfast)

No. 76, St. Mary Street, Quebec Suburbs.

GENTLEMEN'S Clothes Cleaned in the best style, and the Cloth made to look as well as when new. All kinds of Stains, such as Tar, Paint, Oil, Grease, Iron Mould, Wine Stains, &c. carefully abstracted.

N.B.—Persons not finding it convenient to call at his place, by sending a few lines will be punctually attended to.

WANTED,—for the EXPOSITOR OFFICE,—TWO CARRIER BOYS, who have been in the habit of taking round papers.

DONEGANA'S HOTEL.

THE PROPRIETOR of this UNRIVALLED ESTABLISHMENT, in returning thanks to the Public for the liberal share of patronage bestowed upon his uncle (Mr. RASCO) and himself, during the twelve years they conducted the Establishment so well known as "RASCO'S HOTEL," begs to inform them that he has now removed into that

SPLENDID BUILDING

in Notre Dame Street, formerly the Property of WILLIAM BISHAM, Esq., and the Vice-Regal Residence of Lords DURHAM and SYDENHAM, which has been greatly enlarged and fitted with

EVERY CONVENIENCE & ORNAMENT

Which Comfort and Luxury can desire. THE SITUATION is central, and within an easy distance of the Champ-de-Mars, the Cathedral, Bishop's Church, the Banks, the Government Offices, the Court House, and other Public Buildings. The openness of the site, and the elevation upon which the Hotel stands, ensures it abundance of light and air, while it commands upon every side an Excellent View, including the River, the Island of St. Helens, and the opposite shore, the Mountain, and the adjacent Picturesque Country.

The Establishment has been furnished throughout with NEW AND COSTLY FURNITURE, and fitted in every way worthy of what it is—

THE FIRST HOTEL IN BRITISH AMERICA!!

Among the conveniences will be found SIX BATHING ROOMS and a BILLIARD ROOM.

THE TABLE

will be supplied with EVERY DELICACY of the Season; and while the Proprietor will spare no expense to give satisfaction to all who may honor him with their patronage, the large number which the extent of the Establishment enables him to accommodate, will admit of making his CHARGES VERY REASONABLE.

CARRIAGES will be always in attendance, to convey parties to and from the Steamboat Wharves, and the Upper Canada and other Stage Offices. And the Proprietor will spare no exertion to make his New Establishment worthy of the liberal patronage he received as Lessee of Rasco's.

J. M. DONEGANA.

University of McGill College, MONTREAL

THE CAPUT of the COLLEGE having this day received through the Principal an Official Communication of the confirmation by Her Majesty of the STATUTES of the COLLEGE, avails itself of the earliest opportunity of announcing the COURSE of LECTURES to be delivered in the College during the current Term:—

On Classical Literature—By the Rev. W. T. LEACH, A. M., Professor.

On Mathematics and Natural Philosophy—By EDMUND A. MEREDITH, L. L. B., (T.C.D.) Principal of the College.

On History—By the Rev. JOSEPH ABBOTT, A.M.

On French Literature and the French Language—By LEON D. MONTIER, Esquire.

All the above Courses will be commenced on TUESDAY next, the 22nd instant, but Students matriculating on or before the 29th instant, will be able to keep the Term.

Fees, £3 6s. 8d. per Term, or £10 a-year. Board, including Fuel and Candle, £3 5s. a-month.

Sept. 21, 1846. J. ABBOTT, A.M., Secretary.

DEBTORS TO THE ESTATE OF WM. FARQUHAR.

TAKE NOTICE.

A SECOND Dividend will shortly be declared on this ESTATE; from the Debts due, the Dividend is to be paid. All unpaid on 15th December next will be placed in the hands of an Attorney for Collection.

JOHN G. DINNING, Assgnee. Montreal, 19th Novr. 1846.

NEW RAIL-ROAD JOURNAL

The Weekly Expositor,

OR, REFORMER OF PUBLIC ABUSES; and Railway and Mining Intelligencer.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS having for their

object redress of grievances, and well-founded complaints against any Public Department whatsoever, as well as those treating of Railways and Mining Speculations, are requested to be dropped in the Post Office, addressed to the Editor of the 'WEEKLY EXPOSITOR'; and all Advertisements (which are especially solicited from those who are interested in the prosperity of an Independent Paper) may be left at the Office, corner of St. Francois Xavier and Great St. James Streets.

The names of communicators of flagrant abuses or injustices will not, unless they desire it, be made known.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—Two Dollars per Annum in Montreal, and Two Dollars and a Half in the Country payable in advance.

Montreal, August 11, 1846.

PRINTED FOR THE PROPRIETOR, BY

DONOGHUE & MANTZ,

Chaparr's Buildings, 142, Notre Dame Street.

PUBLISHED BY J. TENISON,

At the Office of the Proprietor, No. 1, SAINT FRANCOIS XAVIER STREET.