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Bro. Mitchell

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Dangers of Dining Out.

BY MRS. MILLER.

It was a beautiful May morning, and the bells of St. Mary's were ringing merrily, when a carriage and four, adorned with white favours, drove rapidly down the street, and stopped at the entrance of a respectable mansion situated at the west end of the town of —. At the door of this mansion stood footmen and servants, adorned in a similar manner, while the hall was thronged with brothers and sisters, uncles, aunts, and cousins, all wearing the aspect of joyous welcome, not unmingled with feelings of a deeper and more earnest character.

It was a beautiful sight, the neighbours said, to behold the bride that day; for she was a lovely creature, the favourite of her family, and of all who came within the influence of her gentle and graceful manners: and then she was so elegantly dressed; for good taste was the ruling principle of her life, subservient only to one other principle, that of doing every thing in the manner most approved by good society.

The happy bridegroom, for such indeed he might be called, was a medical gentleman of the highest reputation, just launching into public favour, as the partner of one of the oldest and most popular practitioners in the same little gossiping and busy town.— And well the spectators said he looked that day; his tall gentlemanly figure dressed in black, and his dark hair and manly countenance, contrasting with the snow-white robes, the soft blue eyes, and delicate complexion of the bride. It was, in short, a wedding with which the most envious observer could find no fault; the parties were so well suited in age, character, and rank; the dresses were so admirably chosen; and every thing was conducted in so unexceptionable a manner. The very elements of nature, things animate and inanimate, the earth and air, appeared as if rejoicing in the happy auspices of the day; for, as the carriage, in the course of a few hours, again rolled away along the broad smooth road, past the little villas situated in the outskirts of the town, it seemed to sweep through a complete labyrinth of lilacs and laburnums, varied here and there by the tender green of the weeping willow, or the spiral poplar pointing to the sky.

The happy couple were dining out on that accustomed tour, which is often the first and last excursion of a woman's life; and their journey was commencing under a sky without a cloud, while every tree, and garden, and shady grove, was vocal with the song of merry birds; young lambs were sporting on every verdant lea, and the green earth spread her carpet of scented flowers over every sloping hill and fertile plain.

Through such a scene the travellers pursued their way, we will only say with feelings of happiness, and hope; for those who write, and those who speak, seem all to have agreed that no commentary upon married life shall commence, until after the conclusion of the first experimental tour. With the party left at home, however, it was impossible to refrain from all remark; particularly as the prospect of the bride returning so soon to settle for life beside her own family, left no excuse for grief: and there was a whole drawing-room full of guests still remaining, who had nothing else to do than exclaim about the loveliness of the scene, and the auspicious omens of the day. Nor was it until the evening, when the company was dispersed, and the young members of the family had retired, that Mr. and Mrs. Stanley, the father and mother of the bride, found time to think seriously of the important change which had taken place.

Mr. Stanley was a man of much worldly wisdom, prudent and irreproachable in his conduct as a gentleman, a husband, and a father; and, had his responsibilities terminated with this life alone, he would have been one of the most excellent of men. Mrs. Stanley was a weaker agent in doing good, but she also was esteemed an excellent woman: and as they both judged kindly of the world, submitted to its bondage, flattered it, and lived for it, it would have been as unreasonable as ungenerous, had the world refused to look kindly on their faults and follies in return.

"Well, George," said Mrs. Stanley, seating herself with great satisfaction in one of her large damask chairs, while her husband leaned in rather a thoughtful attitude, against the mantel-piece—"you must allow that we are happy parents, to lose our favourite child, only to welcome her back again to a house more suited to her taste?"

"We are indeed happy," replied Mr. Stanley, "but—" "You have always some *but* in the way, with your excessive prudence," said the mother. "It cannot, however, relate to the character of the husband Eleanor has chosen, for if one could venture to say of any man, he was without a fault, it would certainly be of Frederick Bond."

"He is a man," replied Mr. Stanley, "under whose care any father might feel it a privilege to place his daughter's happiness; his goodness of heart no one can call in question; his prospects, in the way of his profession, are encouraging in the extreme; but, still, in my opinion, he has one fault."

"And pray what may that be?" "He is rather too fond of dining out."

"Dining out!" exclaimed Mrs. Stanley, "every body dines out, especially bachelors. What can you mean, George?"

"I mean simply this, that the love of dining out may lead to habits extremely objectionable in a medical man. He may, for instance, when called upon to act in some critical case, be altogether unnerved; and the mere fact of his being reputed a man too fond of wine, will be injurious to him as a doctor."

"Yes, my love; but dining out occasionally, and being too fond of wine, are very different things."

"They may be different at first, but they often lead to the same conclusion; and it is of the future I am thinking, not the present."

"That is so like you, George. You are always spoiling the present with anticipations of the future. For my part, I am perfectly satisfied that Eleanor is beginning the world as favourably as any reasonable woman could desire; and with such a family of daughters as ours, you know it is a great thing to have got the oldest well married before her three-and-twentieth year."

With feelings of self-gratulation, uninterrupted by reflections more profound, Mrs. Stanley retired to rest; and when she rose in the morning, there was her wonted routine of domestic duties, her morning calls, and the preparation of her daughter's future home, to fill up this, as well as many other days of her existence, leaving no space for anxious or speculative thoughts to encroach upon the tenour of her uneventful life.

The house which Frederick Bond had chosen, was situated in the most genteel part of the town. It had the best entrance, the least objectionable staircase, and decidedly the most approved drawing-room within its sphere of competition. There had been no want of money or of thought bestowed upon its furniture; and it was one of Mr. Stanley's greatest pleasures, to go and inspect the different apartments, and see how rapidly every thing was advancing towards perfection, preparatory to the travellers' return.

Of all the parties connected with this auspicious event, the bride was, perhaps, the only one who felt the real importance of the step she had taken. Eleanor Stanley had been remarkable as a girl for a seriousness of temperament, and delicacy of conscience, somewhat beyond her years; while, under the direction of a judicious governess, her mind had been partially enlightened by glimpses of duty, and responsibility, and dawns of hope, which extended beyond the narrow sphere of her daily avocations. She could not, therefore—she dared not, enter upon her present situation, without inwardly resolving that her life should be regulated by some regard to those religious observances, which, however excellent they might be for herself, she believed were still more necessary for the poor, and for those who would now look up to her as an example. It had been a peculiar satisfaction to her, to find that the companion of her choice entertained the same views of domestic and social duty; and, perhaps, the happiest hours of that period, which the world has been pleased to call the honey-

moon, were spent by them in laying down plans for the moral and religious conduct of their future lives.

At the expiration of the appointed time, the expected pair returned; the bride and her bridal dresses to be the wonder and the admiration of her native place; the husband, to feel himself the master of a well appointed establishment, and one of the happiest men in the world. Nor was there, according to the common ideas and calculations of society, any thing to make him otherwise.—He had an extensive and increasing practice; more than an average share of talent, energy, and skill; the good will of numerous friends, and the good fellowship of more; and a wife, a cook, and a table, with which the world could find no fault. What could any reasonable man desire beyond?

Frederick Bond had made these calculations a hundred times before; but when he now returned from visiting his patients, and felt himself thoroughly established in his own home, he sunk upon a downy couch, more than ever convinced that he was, beyond all dispute, the happiest of men.

Sunday came, and with their first appearance in public, Mr. and Mrs. Bond enjoyed the opportunity of putting in practice some of their studiously concocted plans for being *KATHA* religious. They went at precisely the right time to church—neither early nor late; and a boy in handsome livery walked after them with the books. They dined early; and in the afternoon remained at home alone, in order that their servants might go to church; and altogether spent the day so much to their own satisfaction, that they began to wonder how any one could find it either difficult or disagreeable to be religious.

It is sufficient to say of the formal visiting—that tax upon married life—that it was all conducted in the best possible order, and that no breach of good taste could be detected by the most scrutinizing eye, either in the dress of the parties, or the appointment of the new establishment.

Amongst the numerous visitors on this occasion, those who offered their congratulations in the warmest terms, were Sir James and Lady Mornford. It would be difficult to say exactly, by what means these two individuals had obtained their station of pre-eminence in the town of ——. But so it was, that no dinner party was complete without Sir James, and no evening entertainment was considered worth dressing for, without his Lady.

The gentleman was one of the old English school—one who sat long over his wine, and could rise from table at midnight, apparently as little disordered, as if he had been drinking pure water. He possessed great knowledge of the world, it by this expression we understand a knowledge of rank, title, and precedence, of dress and equipage, of inns, and horses, of field sports, and martial law, and the etiquette of public affairs. Without a rival in knowledge of this description, Sir James Mornford, was regarded as a man to be looked up to; while his dignified and gentlemanly manners, accompanied by a fund of spontaneous sarcasm and grave humour, rendered him almost as much feared as he was admired, especially by those who were only novitiates in his peculiar kind of knowledge of the world.

Frederick Bond, along with many of his friends, was often astonished to find himself betrayed into positive servility towards Sir James; and although he stood more erect after detecting himself in this folly, and determined it should be the last of the kind he ever would commit; no sooner had the baronet bestowed upon him some mark of individual favour, than he again fell in with his humour, laughed at his jokes, and courted his attention with as much assiduity as ever.

That Eleanor should have been equally flattered by the friendship of Lady Mornford, was indeed no wonder; for she was one of the most fascinating and amiable of women, if by amiable, we understand a prevailing disposition to think kindly of others, with a desire to be loved, at least as much as she was capable of loving. Had Lady Mornford been told that this capability did not extend beyond the usual limits, of human affection, she would have resented the information as at once injurious and insulting, for she believed herself to be *all heart*; but in her little sphere of philosophy, she had not perceived the difference between impulse and feeling. She was, however, so beautiful, so bewitching in her manners and appearance, that few could withstand her fascinations. She was neither highly talented, nor highly accomplished. The secret of her influence seemed to be a sort of intuitive knowledge of the restrictions and requirements of good breeding; so that while others were studying every means, and watching every opportunity to acquit themselves with propriety, she could allow herself the license of her own impetuous nature, without once

transgressing those mysterious laws, about which the middle or lower grades of society are often so painfully solicitous.

Eleanor Bond could never discover how it was, that her drawing-room, with all the pains she bestowed upon it, looked so decidedly inferior to Lady Mornford's; and with regard to dress, her own resembled too much the well-assorted flowers in a garden; while those of Lady Mornford, composed as it was of colours which few people would have ventured upon, was more in keeping with the graceful luxuriance of nature. Her laugh too, was so wild and unseal, yet so unquestionably genuine, that she could spread the infection of merriment wherever she went; while her prompt and impetuous answers, her arch smile and playful drollery, seldom failed to win back again the friends whom her careless gallantry might otherwise have driven effectually away.

Whatever faults Sir James and his lady might possess, they had one redeeming quality—for they were tenderly and devotedly attached to each other. There existed between them an affection which caprice had not been able to alienate; which time, for they were neither of them young, had not wasted away; and which, in the midst of false excitement, and falsehood of almost every kind, had remained to them as the only thing real with which they were acquainted. Such were the friends whom Frederick Bond and his amiable bride determined to make their own, and in this object they succeeded beyond their most sanguine hopes.

Persons addicted to favouritism have usually a favourite medical attendant. Lady Mornford made a point of either loving or hating every body; though her hatred was so entirely a matter of profession, that it seldom extended to thinking or speaking evil of any one. Mr. West, the partner of Frederick Bond, was an exception to her rule of extremes; for he was a man whom it was impossible to dislike; though his cold and formal manners had too much the effect of repulsion, for Lady Mornford not to express, in the warmest terms, her preference for the junior partner.

Mrs. West, too, was no favourite either with Lady Mornford or with Eleanor. Her ladyship used to say, there was a tacit reproach in the prudent silence of this gentle and simple-hearted woman, which she never could bear; while Eleanor felt, a little too sensibly, the contrast, between the habits of Mrs. West and her own.

"There can be no occasion for Mrs. West to dress so plainly," she would often say, "it looks like affectation. Good people ought never to be singular."

"But she gives a great deal to the poor," observed an acquaintance, one day as they were conversing on this subject; and she enumerated many acts of charity, with which the world in general was unacquainted.

"She must indeed," said Eleanor, "be very generous." And her conscience smote her with the conviction of her own deficiencies; for the scale on which she had commenced her house-keeping, left little for charitable purposes. "Mrs. West must be very generous. But there is a prudent, and an imprudent charity; and there is a style of giving that is out of all keeping—beyond all proportion—"

"Beyond all proportion with what?" inquired her friend, "with your charities, or mine?" And she laughed so heartily at the happiness of her own observations, that Eleanor felt more annoyed than ever by the unquestionable merits of Mrs. West.

This friend, if friend she might be called, was one of those who established intimacies without affection. She had, consequently, outlived so many, that when she first made advances of a social nature to the newly married couple, they determined not to be drawn into the snare. Miss Masterman possessed, however, the strong recommendation of being excellent in an evening party, for she could flirt with the gentlemen, laugh at the ladies, and render herself entertaining to all. Alone, with one person, she was too harsh, or too laboriously brilliant to produce any pleasing effect; but as some of those gorgeous flowers, which, when gathered, are glaring and painful to the eye, may yet adorn the parterre, she found a place in society, and was thought to mingle well with the softer or more temperate varieties of human character.

Such, then, were the associates whom Eleanor drew around her.—Lady Mornford, because she was the fashion; Miss Masterman because she made her drawing-room more attractive.

And now the formal visiting had all been gone through, when Frederick Bond proposed, all things being settled, to have a gentleman's dinner-party—only a few friends—just the choice set with whom he had been accustomed to dine in his bachelor days, and who now indulged themselves in many a sarcasm at his expense, because he had lately refused to join them in the accustomed manner. For some weeks, nay months, he found himself

so happy, that he felt no need of their society; but certain hints began to find their way to his ear, that he was no longer his own master; that he could not, if he would, invite them, and worse than all, that he wished to save his wine. There was no bearing this. He resolved to give a dinner, at which they should all be convinced, that, though his wine was worth some care, he had no desire to spare it.

It was difficult to make Eleanor fully understand the nature of this dinner. She wished to have Mr. and Mrs. West invited; and though her husband earnestly requested her to make no addition to the party he had named, not liking to be the only lady at table, she requested, as a particular favour, that Miss Masterman would come and assist her through the day. It was a great pleasure to her, to superintend the arrangement of every thing precisely to her husband's satisfaction; to spare no expense in procuring exactly what was then in season, and to hear him say, on returning home to dress for dinner, that she had left him nothing to ask, or to wish for.

"But why is Miss Masterman and your sister?" here, my love?

"I asked them to come and assist me."

Frederick bit his lip. "You must get them away early, Eleanor; and remember I never lay a charge upon you without reason. I would rather have given fifty pounds, than that you should have disgraced me in this."

"I thought," said Eleanor meekly, "that you liked Miss Masterman; and my sister can offend no one."

"Miss Masterman is a snake in the grass, Eleanor; and your sister may toll tales, if she cannot invent them."

The last words were spoken in an under tone, but, even had they been more audible, they would only have added to Eleanor's astonishment, for the whole affair was a mystery to her; and had not her husband cleared his brow, and spoken kindly to her again, she would probably have added to her former imprudence, by immediately sending the unwelcome guests away.

The hour of meeting arrived, and Frederick Bond had scarcely more pride in introducing his lovely wife, than in the perfect adjustment of every thing relating to the dinner. Sir James Mornford, of course, was one of the guests, and he evinced his satisfaction by being in the best possible humour. He was a grave—some said a deep feeling man; but of that the world had little proof, for to no one being alone was his heart laid open. He seldom praised any thing, for his forte seemed to lie in quiet sarcasm. Yet, while others exhausted their eloquence in profuse encomium, he, with a few looks, and tones of approbation, could at any time reward the endeavours of those who sought to give him pleasure. Thus, to have had Sir James to dine, and to have had him in good humour, was a thing to be told of the next day, as the highest honour which the town of — afforded.

To this honour, Frederick Bond was peculiarly alive on the present occasion, as well as to all other sources of satisfaction.—His dinner was excellent, his wines were approved; and when the ladies rose to leave the table, he seemed to have nothing left to wish for beneath the sun.

While he and his guests were enjoying themselves to their heart's content, Eleanor, her sister, and Miss Masterman, began to feel the time hang heavily on their hands. They opened the piano, but there was no audience to hear them play. They took out their worsted work, but still an involuntary yawn betrayed at intervals that they thought the evening both long and dull: nor was their situation rendered more agreeable by hearing peals of laughter from the dining-room below.

"The gentlemen appear to be merry," observed Miss Masterman; "I have heard that Sir James, when he has taken a pretty liberal quantity of wine, is one of the most entertaining companions imaginable, not, however, so merry himself, as the cause of mirth to other men. But of all persons under such circumstances, I have the greatest horror of the little gentleman who sat on your right hand. I am told, he thinks nothing of chasing the ladies from room to room, and that neither age nor dignity are secure from his impertinence."

All this was a new style of conversation to Eleanor. In her father's house there had been no dinner parties for gentlemen alone; and she had, hitherto, been ignorant enough to believe, that to be, what is called affected by wine, a man must make some sacrifice of his dignity, if not of his character, as a gentleman. What then was her astonishment, to hear the laughter from the dining-room grow louder, coarser, and in every way less like the sounds that might be expected to celebrate the meeting of rational and enlightened men. There were songs, too, at first

deep and full-toned, but afterwards in broken voices, and all the while she felt that Miss Masterman's keen searching eyes were fixed full upon her face, while her ear was set forth listening, and her smile seemed at intervals to say, "Do you hear that?"

"Let us have tea," said Eleanor, and she rung the bell with violence, glad of any thing that would make a bustle, and help to drown the discord below.

"Tell your master," said Eleanor to the footman, "that coffee wants in the drawing-room."

The footman did not return, and the three ladies sat and sipped their tea in almost unbroken silence.

In the course of an hour, Eleanor renewed her message to the gentlemen, but still no answer, and both tea and coffee were growing cold. At last, about eleven o'clock, the dining-room door was heard to open, and a creaking step came deliberately up the stairs.

The gentleman who entered, was a philosopher, or rather a man of science; and the ladies consequently felt it incumbent upon them to reach the highest range of their own intellect, for a subject on which to engage his attention. He had bowed to them with great majesty on approaching the table, and having taken a seat, he looked rather vaguely, this way, and that, but still not a word was spoken.

"I suppose it is the way with men of genius," thought Eleanor, to have nothing to say to ladies," but yet, as the mistress of the house, she thought it necessary to make some farther attempt. In vain she tried the effect of common-place. Still there was no answer. The gentleman, however, took the coffee that was handed to him, and not the coffee alone, for he poured out the cream, until both cup and saucer were filled.

"It is one of the singularities of clever men," thought Eleanor, in the simplicity of her heart; and again she searched through her own little store of scientific information to find something more fitting the occasion, and more worthy of being said. At last she thought of something.

"Pray Dr. —" she asked, "what is your opinion of animal magnetism? Do you think it possible that the nervous system should be affected by laws so mysterious; or do you consider it a deception altogether?"

Still there was no answer. Eleanor looked in the gentleman's face. He had raised the coffee to his lips, and a pair of little twinkling eyes were winking at her over the edge of the cup; while a nod more than familiar, convinced her, that although wise men might sometimes look singular, singularity did not always look wise.

Miss Masterman understood the case better. She had understood it from the beginning; and she was more than rewarded for the dull evening she had spent, by the rich treasure she hoped to lay up for the amusement of future evenings elsewhere.

The next outlet from the dining-room was of a very different description. It was a complete explosion. Amongst the screams of the maid-servants, the laughter of the foot-men, and the derangement of all the furniture in the hall, in shot the little gentleman, the terror of all nervous ladies, the delight of all stable-boys and grooms.

The sister of Mrs. Bond was a well-looking girl of sixteen; gentle and timid as a young dove, she was exactly the kind of subject the little gentleman was wont to choose for his boisterous and absurd attentions.

Eleanor looked on with astonishment equalled only by her indignation. The maternal feelings of an elder sister rose in her heart, and glowed upon her cheek as she saw the poor girl struggling, almost in tears, beneath his familiar and insulting treatment. One of her attempts to escape had rent her white muslin frock from the top to the bottom, and her hair, which she usually wore arranged around her brow with classic order, was torn from its bandage, and lay loose and flowing upon her neck.

Eleanor could bear it no longer. Towering high with the majesty of insulted feelings, she advanced towards the offender, and demanded in the most imperative tone she had ever assumed, how he dared to treat a lady, and her sister, in such a manner.

It was a scene which Miss Masterman was often afterwards heard to describe as being worthy of Hogarth; for while Eleanor stood, beyond her usual height, in this commanding attitude, the little gentleman, not in the slightest degree daunted by her authoritative manner, let go his former prize, and seizing both her hands, compelled her to perform various rapid evolutions round the drawing-room; during which, notwithstanding the giddiness of her brain, and the agony of her vexation, Eleanor retained the power of perceiving, that through the partial opening of the door,

the foot-men and servant maids were peeping, and giggling, having been attracted to the spot by the unusual sounds, and well known reputation of the gentleman for producing scenes.

Happily for the mistress of the house, the group collected there were more in keeping with the little gentleman's present humour; and by a sudden bound, which upset a marble table, on which were placed a choice collection of fancy ornaments, he darted forth amongst the domestics, and sent them screaming and laughing to every quarter of the house.

To describe the feelings with which Eleanor gathered up her own and her sister's dishevelled locks, would be impossible.—What could she do? She did what all women do when they have no other resource, she sat down and wept. That her husband should leave her to be the subject of such gross and violent insult, was the prevailing thought amongst many bitter ones that filled her mind.

"What can your master be doing," she said to the only servant who approached her with serious commiseration. "What can your master be doing, that he does not come to my help. Go and tell him that he must come to me in the drawing-room immediately." And in the mean time she locked the door, and sat down and wept again.

In vain Miss Masterman assured her it was all nothing, nothing but ploy—not worthy of a thought, still less of a tear—that such things were perpetually occurring, and that when gentlemen dined together, they must of necessity occur. It was a style of reasoning which found no echo in Eleanor's unsophisticated mind, and, but for the dread of exposing the disorder of her household, she would, even at that late hour, have sent for her father to protect her.

It is not necessary to trace the events of that night to a later period. Well would it be if the oblivion, which on such occasions wraps the senses of some, could extend itself to all. The guests may depart, the servants may retire, but the wife must bear the presence of her husband; and that hour of seclusion, that chamber of rest, in which the full hearts of the happy are accustomed to unburden themselves, must become the scene of horror and repulsion.

Eleanor Bond had been accustomed to regard her husband as the most perfect specimen of manly beauty. Not the colours of the painter, who ventures to portray the inhabitants of heaven, could be more bright or more pure, than the light in which she viewed him—in which she had viewed him, until that melancholy night, when he lay before her a grovelling mass of humanity—not dead, for he was still distorted by muscular convulsion, though no longer animated by a soul. Hitherto his presence, even when both were silent, had seemed to fill the room in which they lived and breathed together. He was near her still, but, oh! she was so lonely! she had been accustomed to feel safe, if she could but touch his hand, or know that he was within hearing of her voice; but there he lay, inanimate, and gross, and she, the subject of indignity and insult, had no one to defend her—she, his once honoured wife, and mistress of his house, was left to be the plaything of rude men, and the object of pity to her own domestics! It was a fearful breaking down of the strong barrier which her love had built around him. She slept not that night; and when he awoke at a late hour in the morning, he found that the pillow where her head had rested was still moistened by her tears.

Eleanor herself rose earlier than her servants, and being unable to settle to any occupation, she walked from room to room, and at last found her way into that in which the gentlemen had dined. The curtains were still closed, though daylight was struggling through. She drew them aside, and throwing open the shutters, looked out upon a little plot of garden-ground, where the crisp frost of an autumnal morning was yet white upon the grass. After gazing for some time upon the distant woods, and the corn-fields now stripped of their golden treasure, she turned to inspect the apartment, the secrets of which had not yet been revealed to her view.

One dying lamp was still smoking, and crackling in its socket. The rest had buried themselves out. The flowers she had gathered and arranged the day before, were withered, and strowed upon the floor. Glasses had rolled from their places, and pools of wine lay black upon the table. Chairs were heaped together in strange confusion: and in one part of the room the carpet was torn from the boards, as if some heavy substance had been violently dragged along the ground. It was a sickening sight, to one who knew that all was the result, not of accident, but of premeditated grossness and excess.

When Eleanor met her husband at a late breakfast that morning, she felt so deeply his disgrace, that she could not for worlds have alluded to the transactions of the past night. Fearing he might suspect, that, although she did not speak of them, she was still making them the subject of her thoughts, she talked abruptly and rapidly about other things, as though her attention was wholly occupied with affairs that were, in reality, foreign to the minds of both; nor did she venture to look into her husband's face. As if she had been the transgressor—as if it was her peculiar part to feel ashamed—she studiously avoided meeting his eye. Only once, when his head had been bent down, and she had watched him with more than her wonted tenderness, he suddenly looked up, and detected her with the tears just starting to her eyes.

It was a moment of painful embarrassment to both; but it passed over, and Eleanor talked rapidly again about Lady Mornford, who had sent that morning to request that Frederick would pay her a visit at an early hour, and if he met Sir James, he was charged to tell him that he had come to see one of the children, who was slightly indisposed.

Frederick was scarcely in a fit state for an interview with any one, more especially to be consulted on any subject requiring serious and connected thought. His temples throbbed, his hand trembled, and he was tormented with a restless impatience, which he feared would render it impossible for him to sit and hear the long stories mothers are so apt to tell about the ailments of their children. There was, however, no alternative. He must go; so he swallowed another cup of strong coffee, and left the house.

Arrived at the residence of Lady Mornford, he was ushered into a little study adjoining her bed-room, where she brought to him her youngest child, and descended long and eloquently upon the symptoms of latent disease which it had recently evinced.—He thought her looks and manner peculiar, but it might be the disorder of his own nerves, and the beating headach which seemed to bewilder his brain; still it was not natural for her to stop suddenly, and look grave, as she often did on this occasion, though she gave utterance at intervals to an unusual quantity of playful nonsense.

At last she rang the bell, ordered the child to be taken away, and when she had seen that the door was closed, took a long breath, and sat down again.

"I dare say Mr. Bond," she said, "you will think me extremely weak; I know I am fanciful, and take up strange notions about things I do not understand. But I suppose you are accustomed to this sort of thing; you meet with many silly women besides me, don't you?" And she looked into his face with one of her arch and playful smiles.

"If all folly," said Frederick, "was as pleasant to bear with as yours,—"

"Hush! Hush Mr. Bond," she said with an air of mock gravity, "You know you are come to see me as a doctor, and I don't pay for compliments."

"But you are not ill, it is impossible," said he, attempting to feel her pulse.

"You will discover nothing here," she replied, displaying her beautiful fairy hand. "You men of wisdom are sadly deficient on some points. You would say of me, for instance, that I was in perfect health."

Frederick looked more earnestly in her face. Time had dealt so gently with her beauty, that she might still have been called young, for her rich dark hair, amongst which a few silver threads might with difficulty have been detected, still flowed in natural curls around her brow, and the shadow of her long eyelashes still fell upon a cheek that wore the bloom of Hebe.

Convinced that she had no serious object in detaining him, Frederick at last rose to depart, when her countenance at once assumed a change. She looked more than serious, and almost gasped for breath, as if making some desperate effort to speak.

"My dear Lady Mornford," said Frederick, deeply affected. "Do tell me what is the matter: tell me as a friend, if you cannot tell me as a doctor, and I will serve you in either capacity to the utmost of my power."

"I know it is all imagination," said she, "I am the weakest creature on earth, or I should never dream of such a thing—you will be quite angry with me for troubling you about so mere a trifle, and I cannot divest myself of the idea—that—I have a cancer."

She burst into a wild hysterical laugh, when she had uttered these words, and it was with the greatest difficulty that she could be prevailed upon to speak seriously again, or to behave with any thing like composure.

In the course of another hour, Frederick Boni was seated in his own private study, his head resting upon his clasped hands, his lips compressed, and his whole attitude indicating the most intense and earnest thought.

(To be Continued.)

Dogs and Temperance Houses.

A Bill has recently been introduced into the House of Assembly to impose a tax on Dogs and Temperance Houses! Rather a curious association this certainly. But our senators are rather a curious body, and therefore no surprise need be felt at any emanation either of their individual or collective wisdom. The merits of this sapient measure it is not our present intention to discuss; we refer to it purposely, for placing before our readers the dignified addresses of two of our honoured Legislators:—

“Col Prince was in favour of taxing temperance houses, for no sooner had a licensed tavern keeper opened his house, and laid in a stock of good cognac and whiskey, which he contended a man could not live without in this country, than along came a temperance man, opening a house opposite to him, with barrels of beef and pork, and the run of a pump, and took away the tavern keeper's profits. For his own part he had no great opinion of temperance people, he had always found them the greatest gluttons in the world, for they would think nothing of bolting five pounds of beef, where another man would not take as many ounces. The temperance house was in fact a tavern, and he did not see why a man who preached temperance with a long face, and said his grace over a cup of cold water, should be exempted from the taxation which the other who furnished the traveller with a good horn of stuff, paid; the more particularly as in these temperance houses, in spite of all their protestations, there was generally a sly bottle to be found in the cupboard. (The hon. gentleman was greeted with shouts of laughter throughout.)

“Dr. Dunlop objected to the coupling of the two things together which were found in this Bill—he was a friend to dogs, but he was no friend to temperance houses—(Laughter) As for temperance houses, he thought they ought to be subject to the same regulations as taverns, for they sold the meat if they did not the drink. The hon member for Prince Edward had quoted a sign from Hogarth as being one now exhibited in London, to the effect that a man might get drunk for a penny, dead drunk for two-pence, and straw for nothing. But he would assure that gentleman that whatever might have been the case in the time of George II. a man could not now get drunk so cheap, and as straw for nothing, there was no such luxurious accommodation provided. (Shouts of laughter.) Drinking deponed entirely upon the wish of the individual, there was no law to compel him, he might go without if he chose, therefore the tavern keeper could not be blamed if he got drunk. A man might take one horn, and be like one of the supporters of her Majesty's Arms, an Unicorn, if he chose; or he might take many horns, and be like the beast in the Revelations which had ten horns: but there was no compulsion for him to take horns at all unless he was a married man, when they followed as a matter of course. (Loud laughter.) If it was necessary for safety to tax dogs, a fortiori it was necessary to tax temperance houses.”—

The utterance of such ribaldry and trash tarnishes the moral dignity of the Legislature; and is calculated to repel from its precincts the virtuous of every grade. And are these the men on whom rests the solemn responsibility of framing the laws for the preservation of the morals, health, and safety of the community? Is it to such the guardianship of our Country's weal is entrusted? What a melancholy spectacle to witness, so often, the aged votary of Bacchus luxuriating in his own offensive utterance, redolent of the intoxicating cup. Friends of the Temperance Reformation to you it specially belongs to note these things. Dure you send such men to the Hall of Legislation? If so, on you must rest an accumulated weight of guilt.

The records of our Courts of Justice and Jails, furnish the most appalling proofs of the pestiferous influence of the inebriating cup, and the withering curse of intemperance. Yet the abject and squalid poverty—the ruined health,—the agonies of broken hearts,—the perpetration of the foulest crimes,—with the long train of other deadly evils which follow in its course and flows from its maddening influence, these Legislators view with cold and scornful indifference, or make the butt of their ridicule and sport. And while the Hall of Legislation reverberates with laughter at the freaks of the anti-temperance Harlequins, the debased and degrad-

ed inebriate quaffs with glee another and another glass, encouraged by the constitutional conservators of law, of order, and of morals, till he end his inebriated course, either by the self-inhoted blow, or the arm of retributive justice.”—Observer

PROGRESS OF THE CAUSE.

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP, Jan. 3.—ANNIVERSARY OF THE BALTIMORE TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.—It becomes my duty to give you an abstract of the report adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Baltimore Total Abstinence Society, held on 3rd January, 1845. Fifty names have been added to the pledge during the year, making in all 171 on the books of the society, in good standing. Six or seven have violated the pledge, and remain to be dealt with by the Committee. Eighty more names were added during the year from an adjoining neighbourhood, but have since withdrawn, without assigning any reason, and assumed their former position as a society distinct. The Committee regret, that although no licensed tavern or distillery exists within the bounds of the society's operations, yet, their proximity to the town of Cobourg, exposes the whole community to all the perils incident to the making and vending in other places. They regret that an additional distillery is about to be erected in Cobourg, and that the vendors are arduously engaged in their nefarious traffic, consequently serious injury is done to members and the cause generally. The want of a temperance house in Cobourg is much felt; but the apathy of temperance men in regard to patronizing such houses, forbids enterprising individuals from engaging in so praiseworthy an employment, from almost certain exposure to failure, for want of sufficient public countenance. The Committee, generally, are resolved to push forward in their endeavours to benefit the interest of the society during the coming year. But, cannot conclude this report without expressing their conviction of the importance, in addition to local endeavours, of patronizing the Advocate, believing its circulation one of the most efficient means of promoting the best interest of the cause, both here and elsewhere. They are deeply impressed with the hopeful labours of the Montreal Society, and wish them every possible success, as upon them more immediately devolves our hope of future success throughout the country. On the adoption of the report the nomination of office-bearers took place, when A. G. Alexander was elected President; Levi Bates, J. J. Densmore, John Breslin, Vice-Presidents; and a Committee of five was appointed, after which, a speech was delivered by Mr. English, eleven names taken to the pledge and the meeting adjourned.—LEWIS WARREN JOYCE, Sec.

BATH, Jan. 10.—We are still on the gaining hand, there is at the present time not more than two or three hard drinkers in this place, and I am in hopes there will be less in a short time; we have by a good deal of exertion stopped one of the rum-selling places and one of the greatest nuisances that we were troubled with; our society still stands good with a few exceptions.—T. C. JOHNSTON, Sec.

STOUFFVILLE, Jan. 13.—The cause of temperance is progressing slowly in this place; our society numbers at present, about 170 members. Our magistrates have been very kind to us—they have licensed three grog shops, two in Stouffville and another within three quarters of a mile, where the liquid poison is dealt out very freely to persons having cash, but when that is gone the poor inebriate must seek for lodgings elsewhere.—HENRY WIDEMAN.

DRUMMONDVILLE, Jan. 21.—Two or three years ago we numbered eighteen taverns, this year we number only eight, and we have only one store at present in this place that is licensed to sell spirituous liquor—two only three years ago we had five. We have an excellent temperance house in the village kept by Mrs. Abigail Frahek, which is well worthy of the patronage of the travelling community of the temperance cause; so the watchword is forward, forward, until old alcohol is banished from our land. About the 1st of April I intend to make a return of the articles sold by me for the Montreal Society, I have not said much yet, but I think I will be enabled to effect some sales this winter.—W. E. POINTEA.

COBOURG, Jan. 21.—I cannot say that the society is in a healthy state, or that intemperance is on the decline. The cause is obvious, too great indifference on the part of its officers, thus we all see and deplore, and yet the pressure of other duties seems to

prevent us from making that effort which is necessary to bring about a better state of things. I sincerely hope the present committee will be more active than for the past year. The entire town has been canvassed for subscribers for the *Advocate*.—**W. KINGSTON, Cor. Sec.**

INROSSLO, Jan. 25.—In Oxford the good cause of total abstinence is still in the ascendant. Our monthly meetings (which are kept up with regularity) are well attended, and are enlivened with speech and song; they are usually addressed by young men, members of our society, who are taking an active part in the glorious work, and their efforts have been crowned with abundant success. Many old and well tried followers of Prince Alcohol have of late deserted his ranks, and entered under the waving folds of the banner of total abstinence. But whilst there are yet so many of our neighbours and friends held willing captives by the tyrant alcohol; and while so many thousands of our fellow beings are still paying homage to their Moloch of a modern age; our efforts shall not be relaxed. "Onward and onward yet," shall be our motto till a decisive victory is ours.—**J. R. JACKSON, Cor. Sec.**

ADRIANO, Jan. 26.—Our society is called the Appleby Temperance Society, and was established about six years ago, since which time we have been steadily progressing though we have had to contend with peculiar difficulties, we have gone on from conquest to conquest; our members in good standing are 125, with every prospect of continued success. On new year's day last we had a temperance festival, which gave a fresh impulse to our society; our meetings are held monthly, on which occasions we supply speakers out of our own members, and our meetings are interesting and well attended.—**R. SAUL, Sec.**

L'ORIGNAL, Jan. 27.—On Monday evening, Jan. 13, the annual meeting of the Ottawa District Total Abstinence Society was held at the red school house, on the Seigneurie of Longueuil. In the absence of the president Augustus Stone, Esq., one of the Vice-Presidents occupied the chair, but this he subsequently vacated on the arrival of the Rev. Mr. Metcalfe. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Byrne, and closed in the same manner by the Rev. Mr. Hughes. The whole time of the meeting was occupied in discussing, amending and passing certain resolutions submitted by Mr. Byrne, and in the election of officers for the ensuing year. The resolutions advert to the expediency of remodeling the society, and making such new arrangements as are likely to awaken and secure a more general interest in the temperance reformation; the organization of branches or sections of district operation, in connection with the District Society, appointing the Vice-Presidents to arrange the formation of the branches in certain specified localities, and to act as Presidents for the present year, &c. The suggestions not being fully adopted, renders the plan somewhat defective; but its operation will doubtless lead to further improvement, and we trust, to the advancement of the cause of temperance in the district. The officers chosen were: Dr. David Pattee, Pres.; C. P. Treadwell, Esq., J. P. Wells, Esq., Mr. John Lamb, Rev. F. Metcalfe, and Mr. James Frith, Vice-Presidents; Rev. J. T. Byrne, Secretary; Z. S. M. Hersey, Esq., Treasurer; Messrs. Gregor, Metcalfe, Hughes, Taggart, W. McMillan, McLaurin, McNally, and Mr. James Gambell, Committee. In a few days we expect the branches adverted to, to be formed, and such arrangements made as will secure greater interest in the temperance *Advocate*, and more prayerful and persevering attention to plans of future usefulness.—**JAMES T. BYRNE, Sec.**

LONDON, C. W., Feb. 1.—There was a temperance tea party here a few weeks ago, at which the Rev. William Ryerson very kindly assisted to promote the cause, and probably the present remittance is partly the effect of his advocacy. There are many public houses and a good deal of drinking in this place; and there was some talk of subscribing, if possible, to institute a market temperance house, for the farming yeoman, for copies of the *Advocate* to the different spirit dealers and licensing magistrates, and for similar purposes, to make your principles bear on the public mind in this town and district.—**A FRIEND.**

ELORA, Feb. 3.—The cause of temperance is making some progress amongst us—some hard cases have recently subscribed the pledge. We held a temperance meeting last Wednesday evening, in the Scotch Church, in the Township of Woolwich.—**STERNER BROWNELL, Wesleyan Minister.**

LACORTE, Feb. 4.—The temperance cause in this vicinity is in the back ground, owing principally to the want of public lectures. If your society could send a lecturer this way, I think it

would be a means of reviving the cause and adding to the list of subscribers to the *Advocate*.—**J. S. HUTCHINS.**

BRACKVILLE, Feb. 6, 1845.—Here I am instead of being on my way to Pittsburgh, and here must I remain until Providence shall please to open my way. A dreadful and extensive storm of snow has visited these parts.—I came through the storm on Tuesday, and addressed a small meeting at *Greenbush*, then pressed in to this place for the evening appointment, which was a total failure. I immediately received an invitation to an Agricultural meeting, where I recognized several of our teetotal friends, amongst others—**J. W. ROSE**, and **M. CAMERON ESQ., M. P. P.**—there was dinner &c., in connection with the proceedings, the whole conducted on total abstinence principles. It was a favourable opportunity for introducing a few remarks, but such were the regulations, that my lips were closed; still it was highly gratifying to myself to observe the influence of our beloved principle, and to see the "pure cold water sparkling bright" fill the glasses, instead of the "ruby wine" which causes woe, contention, babbling, &c.

Our friends here are very active, and deserve every encouragement. I will through this storm, lose five collections, and will have to take the stage to Toronto, \$10, (12s 6d less than the regular fare, reduced by a tavern keeper because, I am a temperance man,) and I fear from that direct to Hamilton,—this frets me, but it is altogether providential. I will of course improve the circumstance by urging upon other societies to make up the amount in their contributions.—**R. D. WADSWORTH.**

GALT.—I have just terminated a protracted temperance meeting in the beautiful town of Galt. Arrangements have been recently made to organize a temperance choir and a brass band. I trust the clouds of adversity which seem to hover over the cause will soon disappear, and that the sunshine of prosperity will be upon it, and that the friends of temperance may be as successful in all their laudable undertakings as they are liberal in supporting temperance principles.

BRANT.—At this place I attended a soiree a few evenings since, a sumptuous repast was provided for the occasion, the music was exhilarating, the singing excellent, and the speeches were appropriate and promptly appreciated. This flourishing village has a temperance hall, a temperance brass band, and a temperance hotel.

PRESBYTER.—This society embraces many staunch, judicious, and generous adherents to the pledge; several copies of the *Advocate* are taken here, and the Germans are beginning to enter the ranks of the temperance army. Last year the tavern-keepers were chosen trustees and closed the school-house against the temperance cause, so that meetings were held in mechanics' shops, but this year the teetotalers selected men of the right stamp for trustees, and the school-house is at their disposal.

PARIS.—I delivered six lectures in Paris lately, and received several valuable accessions to the pledge. The society here is in a promising and prosperous condition. The principle inhabitants of the place have endorsed the pledge, and their exertions are crowned with distinguished success.—**G. W. BUNYAR.**

MR. ROBIN is meeting with an encouraging reception, in the commencement of his agency.

SCOTLAND.—The efforts of the effort year are going on, and we persevere with pleasure the journals of several lecturers, who are perambulating the country in all directions. Many indications encourage us to hope for great success of the temperance reformation in Scotland.

TEMPERANCE TRACT DISTRIBUTION.—A reprint of an excellent article in favour of the temperance movement, which recently appeared in the pages of the "Christian Witness," was, in the form of a four-page tract delivered at the doors of most of the churches in Edinburgh on Sabbath week, to the number of 20,000.

A meeting was held in London on Monday week, at Exeter Hall, Lord John Russell in the chair, for entering into subscriptions, and devising means to relieve Father Mathew from his embarrassments. About 2,000 persons were present.

The Queen has presented the British and Foreign Temperance Society with a donation of £25, and the Queen Dowager has also presented the same Society with a donation of £20.

UNITED STATES.—Mr. Gough is going from city to city producing a very strong impression in favor of the temperance cause wherever he pours forth his eloquent appeals.

At a temperance meeting in Washington, on Thursday evening, John Tyler, jr., son of the President, and a son of the Secretary of the Treasury, were enrolled amongst its members.—*Chrystal Fountain of February 3, 1845.*

CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE

'It is good neither to eat flesh, nor drink wine, nor do any thing by which thy brother is made to stumble, or to fall, or is weakened.'—Rom. xiv. 21—*Macneil's Translation.*

PLEDGE OF THE MONTREAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, DO AGREE, THAT WE WILL NOT USE INTOXICATING LIQUORS AS A BEVERAGE, NOR TRAFFIC IN THEM; THAT WE WILL NOT PROVIDE THEM AS AN ARTICLE OF ENTERTAINMENT, NOR FOR PERSONS IN OUR EMPLOYMENT; AND THAT IN ALL SUITABLE WAYS WE WILL DISCOUNTENANCE THEIR USE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 15, 1845.

A DELICATE QUESTION.

Can a man be a Christian, and at the same time countenance the drinking system, by using intoxicating drink as a beverage and recommending its use to others?

A few years ago when the nature and effects of alcoholic drinks were little known in comparison to what they are at the present day, this question might safely have been answered in the affirmative. But now after the light of truth has been brought to bear so clearly upon this subject;—after our most intelligent physiologists and experienced physicians have subjected alcohol to a most strict and impartial examination, and as the result, have pronounced their most hearty and unqualified condemnation of it, in any of its forms or combinations, as a beverage for the use of man;—after being aware of the startling fact from the most authentic sources, that more than two-thirds of the deeds of violence committed in our land, have their origin in strong drinks, and that at least three-fourths of the pauperism can be traced to the same cause; and that intoxicating drinks have poisoned and corrupted, brutalized and beggared so many who once were the fairest in community, and shone in the social circles, and in the literary and moral world as stars of the first magnitude. When all these and numerous other evils have been most conclusively proved to be the effects of alcoholic stimulants, how can a man comfort himself as a Christian, and still persist in vending, drinking and recommending alcoholic drinks as a beverage? This is indeed a delicate question, but however delicate, it is one which ought to be answered.

Christianity, if I understand its principles, teaches us to deny ourselves all ungodliness and worldly lusts; to avoid not only what we are confident is evil, and that out of which evil is sure to originate, but to avoid every appearance of evil; to be sober-minded, and to improve our noble faculties to the glory of God; it prompts us to lend our efforts to aid whatever is good, and directly promotes morality and religion, advances human happiness and the glory of God. It prompts us to study the good of our neighbours, even at a sacrifice of pecuniary interest; to labour with becoming zeal to correct the errors and follies that may have crept into the minds of the community; and it makes us willing to embrace truth, and renounce any prepossessions that neither science, philosophy, nor the Bible can justify. If these are truly the principles of Christianity, it follows that whoever knowingly deviates from them, or maintains opposite principles, cannot be a Christian. Now let us compare the conduct of a certain portion of the community, professing to be Christians, and who belong to Christ's visible church, with some of the above named principles, and see how they agree. The word of God teaches us to avoid every appearance of evil. Now if intoxicating drinks bring those who use them into a condition, through the influence of which, they are induced to commit certain acts in direct violation of conscience, the laws of man and God, they must be admitted as the cause of great evil. Indeed no argu-

ment need be adduced to prove this, for all admit it. This admitted then, we have to ask if a man can support the drinking system without violating the above command? Surely he who uses intoxicating drinks, treats his friends, and gives it to his workmen, he who is countenancing and supporting what the Bible teaches him to avoid! "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments" says the Saviour, therefore if a man does not keep his commandments, we may naturally conclude that he does not love Him. Now to be a Christian and not love the Saviour is a plain contradiction.

We are also exhorted to be sober-minded, and press on from one state of improvement to another. When under the influence of alcohol a man is not sober-minded. His mind is in a state of peculiar excitement, quite unfavourable to improvement, and when he is intoxicated to any considerable extent, he has neither the disposition nor power to improve his mind. He is often excited to deeds of violence, and does that which he would be ashamed to do when in his sober mind! The mind in this state is deprived of its reasoning powers, is greatly enfeebled, and rarely if ever disposed to contemplate any thing of a grave and serious character. Although a man be affectionate and kind to his family, ardent in his devotions, and zealous in all his religious duties, yet when actuated by alcoholic stimulants, the effects of his religious culture are destroyed! Every thing which made him agreeable to his family, a useful member of society, and a pattern of morality is suspended, and every trace of his divine origin is annihilated.

Christianity prompts us to lend our efforts to aid whatever has a tendency to promote morality and religion, advance human happiness and glorify God. One of the great evils in which the drinking of ardent spirits consists, is that it tends to immorality and irreligion. Therefore those who support the drinking system, do more or less to support immorality and irreligion; while those whose influence goes to check this system are doing more or less to promote morality and religion. For it has been proved beyond a doubt that a reformation from habitual or occasional intoxication, in every instance, has had the effect to improve the morals, and in many instances to lead to conversion. Now if this be true, and Christianity prompts us to aid whatever has a tendency to promote morality and religion, is it not a duty binding on every Christian to put forth efforts to promote the cause of temperance, to be ardent in their attachment to its interests, and active in every duty calculated to extend its influence? No man can occupy neutral ground on this point. He must be either a friend or an enemy to this cause, and the position he takes, establishes which he is. No man who vends ardent spirits, makes use of them as a beverage, or as an article of entertainment, can be considered a friend to the temperance movement. And alas! there are many professing Christians, and indeed many ministers who do these things, and still try to maintain that they are friendly to the temperance enterprise. Said a highly respectable elderly gentleman to me a few days since while conversing upon the subject of temperance, "The temperance society is a fine institution, it has done a great deal of good, and I wish it success, but added he, I believe I'll have nothing to do with it." This is the language of thousands who profess to enjoy religion! Would to God that the scales might fall from the eyes of all such that they might become teetotalers! Then would this heaven-born institution receive a mighty impetus, and speedily rise to its bright meridian glory, and nations would be converted to the principles of temperance in a day! But so long as these oppose the cause, or by their influence hinder its progress, so long will the burning tide of intemperance sweep over the

land, consigning its tens of thousands to shame and wretchedness, and impeding the progress of science and religion!

LANCASTER.

W. C. MURSON.

The Ballad Singer.

The ballad singer is not the creature of imagination, he is a *bona fide* piece of flesh and blood, about five feet seven inches high, with a pock marked face, small twinkling grey eyes, and a fair development of forehead; was born in England, and emigrated to the United States upwards of a dozen years since, where his mirthful and musical abilities were appreciated by the admirers of voluptuous songs and reckless hilarity. Shortly after his arrival on the shores of the new world, he was called to the bar, not to practice law, but to drink the health of others at the expense of his own. He became a notorious inebriate, neglected his business, impoverished his family, debilitated his body, and rendered himself a nuisance in the neighbourhood where he lived. He would without funds in his scrip or shoes on his feet tramp from town to town, sing songs, crack jokes, and chop logic, and become a laughing stock to the thoughtless multitude. So far had he descended the down-hill road to rags and ruin, that he would rob scare-crows to procure clothing to cover his bloated body. He was an adept at cracking lie, shuffling cards, playing chequers, handling dice, but a novice in the art of living soberly and righteously in this evil world. At one time he returned home in a state of brutal intoxication and fell like a sack of sand upon the floor: his wife left the house for a short time, during her absence their youngest child fell into the fire, and this unhappy man heard its heart-rending shrieks, and saw it perish in the flames, he was so steeped in liquor he could not snatch it as a brand from the burning. Language cannot describe, imagination can scarcely conceive what were the feelings of that affectionate mother when she saw the companion of her bosom wallowing in filth on the floor, and the remains of her innocent and beautiful child in cinders on the hearth. But there is a sunnier side to this picture, and the reader as well as the writer will undoubtedly prefer the pleasant to the repulsive view. The ballad singer's talents brought him into notice and led him into the society of those who spend their money for that which is not bread. He became a common and to all human appearance an irreclaimable sot and remained such for many years. One Saturday night after a hard weeks work and a harder weeks drinking he began to examine his pockets in order to ascertain the condition of his financial affairs; he soon discovered that as his debts were unpaid, he was the possessor of three shillings and six-pence cash, a part of this he resolved to spend for the staff of life, and the remainder for his favourite beverage. He put on his crownless hat, and the rim went flap flap about his face, whilst he hastened to the bake shop; when the baker handed the loaves from the shelf, he said, "friend, I pity you." "What right have you to pity me," he enquired. "I pity you because you are now what I once was an unfortunate drunkard." "How do you know I am intemperate," "I know the soldiers that serve Bacchus by the rugged regimentals they wear," "I do not class myself with drunkards, and I pay for what I drink and its nobody's business." "Accept of this bread," said the baker, "and regard it as a proof of my sincerity, and call on me on Monday night if you can conveniently, as I do not drink another drop until you see me again." This appropriate gift was accompanied by a tear, which told the poor drunkard he had at least one friend in the world beside his careworn heart-broken, but faithful wife. He took the bread home to his hungry family, and visited the baker on Monday evening. The Washingtonian

baker ushered him into a neat parlor, and after introducing him to his amiable family, he pointed to a pledge that hung in a neat frame against the wall, and said, "there is our family total abstinence pledge, my wife is president, and I am secretary of this domestic association, will you sign our fireside pledge and become a member of our family society." "No, no, no!" said he, "I will not sign away my freedom, Britons never will be slaves, I can take care of myself." After much persuasion he appended his signature to the pledge, but in consequence of his previous habits of intemperance he had beggared his family, so that his children were frequently seen soliciting the crumbs that fall from the rich man's table. One day his eldest girl a pretty child about eleven years of age, was passing through the streets of B——, with a basket on her arm, when she was hailed by a young lady, a teacher in the seminary who inquired of her if her mother was living, "yes," was the reply. "Is your father living, yes Miss." "My dear child, is your father a sober man." "He signed the pledge the other day, but he cannot get work," said the child. "The ballad singer was shamefully treated even by temperance men after he signed the pledge. During his drunken career he had been kicked and cuffed, and driven and dragged from pillar to post, and now when he reformed, no person except the baker encouraged him." Take this basket of provision home to your mother, and tell your father to come to the seminary and we will furnish him with employment," said the generous hearted young lady. The bare footed rosy checked little creature ran home with tears in her eyes and told the glad news. Her father went to work and at the end of the month he received twelve hard dollars for his services, he had not owned such a large sum at one time before for nearly as many years, and he was pleased as a child with a handful of buttons. He put the cash in his pocket, then pulled it out and counted it over and over again, then placing one dollar on the extreme point of his middle finger he arranged the other eleven on his hand, wrist and arm, tossed them in the air and caught them in both hands. He was elated with golden dreams and lofty anticipations when the idea came in his mind that his family never could endure such prosperity, and that it would be injudicious to take home such a large amount of cash at one time, he therefore determined to purchase some provisions and take his wife and children by surprise. So after pulling up his shirt collar half an inch higher than usual, he walked into a store and said, "I want a barrel of flour." "Who do you want it for," inquired the merchant. "None of your business," said the singer, "you will not get a barrel of flour here, unless you tell me who it is for." "Well sir, it is for myself." "Your credit is not good." "My cash is," said he, and he laid his fortune down upon the counter. "Oh, oh," exclaimed the merchant. "You usually patronized our establishment, but you generally purchased three pounds of flour at a time, I am happy to serve," said the obsequious merchant, who had so often sold him liquor. "I want a barrel of flour and no blarney." "You shall have it sir." I want to borrow a wheelbarrow." "Mine is at your service." The ballad singer lived nearly opposite the store, but instead of taking the flour directly home, he trundled it through almost every street in B——, so that the inhabitants might see how rich he was. Sometime after sunset he reached his own residence he rapped at the door, "Who is there," inquired his wife, "your husband" was the reply. "Why you are so proud and polite since you signed the pledge you cannot enter your own house without knocking at the door." "Open the door good, wife," said he, and in came the one-wheeled carriage with its welcome load. "You have come to the wrong house with the flour, and pork, and groceries I

think," said the wife. "Oh no," said he, "get me the hammer, and I'll knock the brains out of the barrel in less than no time." When the head of the barrel was taken out, a little lad climbed up and looked for the usual three pounds. "Why," said he lifting up his hands, "why daddy the barrel is full." Yes said the singer, signing the pledge has filled up my beef, pork, and flour barrel, clothed my children, and repaired the torn and crushed front of my wife. The writer is personally acquainted with the ballad singer. He is now engaged as a Washingtonian lecturer in the State of New York, and his labours are eminently successful. He is a capital singer, as a proof of it several months ago he sang a temperance song in a bar-room, when he concluded, said the landlord with tears in his eyes, there is my cross-cut saw, will you be so obliging as to help me to saw down my sign post.

G. W. BUNGAY.

ALCOHOLIC WINE.

METHODISM IN BRITAIN & AMERICA.—The following remarkable document has been transmitted to us by a friend. To say the least of it, it is a statistical curiosity:—

THE CONTRAST.

The United States Methodist Conference of 1841, Resolved,—

1. That we regard the temperance cause with increasing interest, and greatly rejoice in its triumphs during the past year.
2. That total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage is the only course that can be depended on, either for the prevention or cure of drunkenness, and that we earnestly recommend the course to all our people.

3. That we consider the traffic in intoxicating liquors inconsistent with pure Christian morality,—and that we enjoin upon our preachers more strenuous efforts to induce all our members to abandon the traffic.

4. That as our rules forbid the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, except in cases of necessity, and as it is now fully established that there is no necessity for their use by men in health,—it is disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church for one member to use them

The British Methodist Conference of 1841, Resolved,

1. That unfermented wine be not used in the administration of the sacrament.

2. That no chapel be used for total abstinence.

3. That no preacher go into another circuit to advocate total abstinence, without first obtaining consent of the superintendent of the circuit to which he may have been invited.

THE CONSEQUENCE.

Increase to the United States Methodist Society;

In the two years,—1842 and 1843,—one hundred and sixty-four thousand and eighty-five members (164,085.)

—*Scottish Border Watch.*

Increase to the British Methodist Society:

In the two years,—1842 and 1843,—but two thousand two hundred and thirty-two members (2,232.)

We do not copy the above statement for the sake of making invidious comparisons; for we think the slavery sanctioned by a large section of the American Methodist church, may very fairly be set against the countenance given by the great majority of British Methodists to the use of intoxicating drinks. Our chief object is to make a remark upon the first resolution of the British Methodist Conference reported above, viz., "that unfermented wine be not used in the administration of the sacrament," or in other words, "that fermented, i. e. alcoholic wine be used." It follows that all who refuse alcoholic drinks, must be excluded from the Methodist communion, and thus the partaking of alco-

hol is established as a test of church membership, a test no where recognized in Scripture, and the bare stating of which is sufficient to shew its absurdity. We have heard a great outcry about total abstinence being made a test or condition of church fellowship, although we have never known a positive instance of it, but supposing this test to be actually established somewhere, and as bad as drinkers call it, could they themselves say that it is as bad as to establish as a test the partaking of alcohol. We say advisedly the partaking of alcohol, for there is no controversy about partaking of the juice of the grape—of the fruit of the vine, upon this all are agreed; but the great majority not only of Methodist churches, but of all other churches that we are acquainted with, take the ground that their must be alcohol in it—that part of the natural properties of the grape shall be converted by fermentation into alcohol, also they will not partake of it—and further that all who join them must partake of this alcohol too, however much they may conscientiously object to it; or whatever may be the danger in the case of reformed inebriates of having their former destructive appetite re-awakened by even a very small quantity.

To the Law and to the Testimony, to see whether this resolution of the British Methodist church, which is practically concurred in by almost all other churches, be in accordance with Divine wisdom.

INTEMPERANCE IN PARLIAMENT.

For some time past strange hints have appeared in the newspapers, and extraordinary stories have been whispered about concerning the conduct of some Members of the House of Assembly at present in Session. It appears however, that the evil has become at last so flagrant, and the House is so deeply disgraced by it, that public opinion (vicious as it is in this respect,) can no longer withhold from crying shame! shame! The evil in question, is intemperance, manifested even in the House itself in a variety of disgusting forms, to the great hinderance of the business of the country, and consequently to the great waste of the people's money. Alas, yeomen and citizens of Canada, are these individuals the men that some of you delight to honour! We do not ask Constituencies to return temperance men, but we do ask them for the credit of the country, not to return drunkards.

OUR FIRST NUMBER.

We regret to state that the first number of the present volume has been for sometime exhausted, and that in consequence many new subscribers are disappointed. In the month of December last, we earnestly requested intending subscribers to order in good time lest they should be disappointed in some of the first numbers, as we could not print any great quantity on chance. A large edition of the first of January number, was printed and circulated to Post-masters, Merchants, and members of Parliament, and all old subscribers, (many of whom have not subscribed for this volume) and a quantity kept for future subscribers, which has not proved sufficient. We regret this much, but cannot help it. Future subscribers may order from this 15th February number, in which a new tale commences, at 2s 3d or from the 15th January number, at 2s 4d.

Non subscribers having received the first number are requested either to hand it to subscribers who lack, or to return it to us.

RIBALDRY.

Extraordinary specimens of this kind of eloquence will be found very properly characterised in an article copied from the *Observer* entitled "Dogs and Temperance Houses." All circumstances considered we think the two speeches there recorded very excellent temperance addresses.

PARENT'S AND CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

THE ROLLO PHILOSOPHY.

AIR.—VALVE MAKING.

"What is the matter with the bellows?" said Nathan.

"The valve is out of order," replied Jonas.

"The valve," repeated Nathan; "what is the valve?"

"The valve is a kind of clapper," said Jonas. "I will show it to you in a few minutes."

So Jonas proceeded to take off the leather from one of the sides of the bellows. There was a hole in one of the sides, but no hole in the other. Nathan had often noticed the hole, but he did not know what it was for.

"What is the hole for?" said Nathan.

"That is to let the air in," said Jonas.

"What do they want the air to come in for?" said Nathan.

"To make wind of," said Jonas.

"Do they make wind out of air?" said Nathan.

"Yes," said Jonas, "they get the bellows full of air, and then blow it out through the nose, and that makes wind."

"Wind is air, put in motion," said Rollo. "I read it in a book."

"By this time, Jonas had taken off the leather so far that Nathan could see into the bellows. He saw that there was a little clapper over the hole, in one of the sides of the bellows.

"Is that the valve?" said he to Jonas.

"Yes," said Jonas.

"What is it for?" said Nathan.

"It is to keep the wind from coming out of that hole."

"Why don't they want the wind to go out of that hole?" said Nathan.

"Because," said Jonas, "they want it to go to the fire,—to blow the fire."

"You see," said Rollo, "it can't go out of the hole, and so it has to go out of the long nose, which is pointed towards the fire."

"What makes it go out at all?" said Nathan.

"Why, when we blow the bellows, we press the two sides together, and that presses the wind out. It can't go out of the hole whence it came in, because the clapper stops it up, and so it goes out the long nose, right into the fire, and makes the fire burn."

By this time, Jonas had got the leather off so far, that he could get at the clapper to mend it. He told the boys that it was old and worn out, and he must make a new one.

"How are you going to make it?" said Rollo.

"You'll see," said Jonas, "if you watch me closely."

So Jonas took some leather, and cut out a piece, of an oblong shape, a little wider than the hole, and about twice as long. Then he laid this down over the hole. It covered it entirely. Then he took some small carpet nails, and nailed one of the ends of the leather down to the board. Then Jonas put his hand down under the board, and run one of his fingers up through the hole, and pushed the leather up a little way.

"There," said he to the boys, "you see I have nailed the leather, so that, when it lies down in its place, it covers the hole completely; and yet I can push it up a little with my fingers, so that there will be an opening."

Then Jonas cut a small leather strap, and nailed one end of it down upon one side of the clapper, and the other end upon the other side of the clapper. He put one little carpet nail into each end of the strap. The strap, when it was nailed, passed directly across the clapper or valve. It was not drawn tight across, but it lay upon the clapper loosely. The ends were nailed tight, but the middle rested loosely upon the clapper.

"Now," said Jonas, "I can push the clapper up a little way, but I can't push it far. The strap keeps it from coming up far."

"But why," said Nathan, "do you want it to go up at all?"

"To let the air in," said Jonas. "When I get the leather all nailed on again, I'll show you the whole operation of it."

"And you can be telling us about it in the mean time," said Rollo.

"Well, then," said Jonas, "when I lift up the upper side of the bellows by the handle, to blow, the air comes in by the hole. The clapper lifts up a little way, and lets it in. Then, when I press down the handle again, it presses the air out through the nose, because it can't go back through the valve hole."

"Why not?" said Nathan.

"Because," said Jonas, "the valve falls down over the hole,

and stops it up. It is made so as to lift up easily, and then to fall down and cover the hole exactly, and prevent the air going out the same way it came in. So, as it cannot get out by the valve, it has all to go out through the nose. If the nose were stopped up, it could not get out at all."

"And what then?" said Rollo.

"Why, then," replied Jonas, "you could not bring the two sides of the bellows together again. The air between would keep them apart."

"I should like to try it," said Rollo.

"Well," said Jonas; "and there are some other experiments you may perform with it too."

At length, Jonas said that he had got the leather all nailed on, and they might try the experiment. He took hold of the nose of the bellows, and held his thumb near the end of it, ready to stop up the hole.

"Now, Nathan, you may take hold of the handles, and pull them apart as if you were going to blow."

Nathan did so. He pulled the handles apart, and held them open.

"Now," said Jonas, "I will stop up the nose, and the valve will close itself; and then you will find that you cannot bring the sides together again."

So Jonas put his thumb over the hole, and told Nathan to blow.

Nathan pressed hard, and the sides came together again about as easily as usual.

"What!" exclaimed Jonas with surprise. He did not know what to make of the failure of his experiment.

"There must be a leak somewhere," said he. And he took the bellows out of Nathan's hand to look for it.

He found there was a corner, on the side opposite to the one where he had been working, where the leather was open, he having forgotten to nail it down.

"Ah!" said he, "here is the difficulty. When I have nailed this down, we will try again."

"Is that a leak?" said Nathan.

"Yes," said Jonas. "When you worked the bellows, you pressed the air all out through there. I did not know that that was open. Let me nail this down, and then we will begin our experiment regularly."

EXPERIMENTS.

When Jonas had finished nailing down the corner, he said, "Now there are several experiments, which we can perform with the bellows. I will be the professor, and you two shall be my class in philosophy, and I will direct you how to make the experiments."

"First," said Jonas, "you, Rollo, may take hold of the nose of the bellows with your hand, in such a way as to put your thumb over the end of it, to stop it up, and then let Nathan try to blow."

Rollo did so, and Nathan tried to blow. He found that he could open the bellows very easily; but when he attempted to press the sides together again, he could not. He crowded the handle belonging to the upper side down, as hard as he could, but it would not move.

"What makes it do so?" said Nathan.

"The air inside," said Jonas. "We have stopped up all the places, where it could get out. The valve stops itself. Rollo stops the nose with his thumb, and I have nailed the leather down close, about all the sides. And so the air can't get out, and that keeps you from bringing the sides together again."

Nathan tried again with all his strength. The sides came together very slowly.

"They're coming," said he.

"Yes," said Jonas. "They come a little, just as fast as the air can leak out through the little leaks all around."

"I thought you stopped all the leaks," said Nathan.

"Yes," replied Jonas, "I stopped all the real leaks, but still I can't make it perfectly tight. Some air can escape between the leather and the nails all around, and just as fast as it can get out, so fast you can press the sides together, and no faster."

Here Nathan tried again with all his strength; but he could only bring the sides together very slowly.

"Now comes the second experiment," said Jonas. "While Nathan is trying to press the two handles together, you, Rollo, may run your finger into the hole, and push up the valve a little."

Rollo did so. He pushed up the valve a little with his finger, and that allowed the air to escape through the opening. The

consequence was, that the bellows collapsed at once under the pressure which Nathan was exerting upon them.

"There," said Jonas, "you see that when the air is kept in you cannot bring the sides together; but when I let the air out, then they come together easily."

"Yes," said Nathan; "do it again, Rollo."

So they performed the experiment again. Nathan pulled the handles apart wide, while Rollo kept his thumb over the nose, to keep the air from issuing through. Then Nathan tried to press them together; but he could not, until Rollo put his finger under, and pushed up the valve a little, and then they came together again very easily.

"The air is a real thing, I verily believe," said Nathan.

"Yes," said Rollo, "I know it is. And now for the third experiment, Jonas."

"The third experiment," said Jonas, "is this. Turn the bellows bottom upwards, and try to blow."

Nathan did so. He found that he could work the bellows easily—too easily, in fact; but they did not blow.

"Hold your hand opposite the nose, and see if any wind comes," said Jonas.

They did so; there was no wind, or rather scarcely any.

"The reason is," said Jonas, "that, when the bellows are bottom upwards, the valve hangs down off from the hole all the time, and lets the air all out through the hole in the side; and it can come out more easily there than through the nose, and so it don't blow well."

"Well, Jonas," said Rollo, "that's a pretty good experiment but what is the next? Let me try the next. Nathan, it is my turn."

"The next experiment, which is the fifth,——"

"No, the fourth," said Nathan.

"The fourth, then," said Jonas, "is to prove what I said to you—that the air, which is blown out at the nose of the bellows, really comes in through the valve. Let me see,—I want something to make a smoke."

"Will not paper do?" said Rollo.

"Yes," said Jonas, "here is some brown paper, which will do." So Jonas rolled it up, and told Rollo to set it on fire, and then, when it was well burning, to step on it with his foot, and put the flame out.

Rollo did so, and the paper lay in a heap, making a great smoke upon the hearth, just before the fire.

"Now," said Jonas, "put the bellows upon its edge, by the side of the paper, so as to have the valve near the smoke, and then hold still a minute, until the smoke comes up steadily by the valve."

When this was done, Jonas told Nathan to take hold of the nose of the bellows, to steady it, so that Rollo could blow. He then directed Rollo to lean the bellows over a little towards the smoke, so that the moving side should not rub upon the hearth, when he began to blow.

"Now," he continued, "if you work the bellows, you will see that the smoke will be drawn in through the valve, and then will come out through the nose."

AGRICULTURE.

[The following is an extract from a highly interesting and instructive article, in the last number of the *Edinburgh Review*, a periodical of the highest order of literary and scientific merit.—Ed.]

The natural progress of agricultural improvement is, in its main steps, easily traced. It is determined partly by the nature of the soil, and in part by the density of the population. At first the people are few—land therefore abundant, instruments rude, live stock thinly scattered, and manure little cared for or collected. Only where the land is dry, or of lighter quality, and easily stirred, is the natural herbage broken up. Corn is there sown, and crop after crop is taken, till the produce dwindles down to three or four seeds, when the soil is for the time abandoned, and new land broken up, to be subjected to a similar exhausting tillage. Such has been more or less the case in our time with all the older states of the American union; such was formerly the case in many parts of Scotland; and such is still the case on the plains of Russia and Poland. In this stage of agriculture, manure is almost unthought of except as a nuisance which unavoidably accumulates, and calls for labour to remove it. On the shores of

Volga, and its tributary streams, winter aids the farmer in removing his dung-heaps. They are carted on to the ice when the rivers are frozen, and the thaw sweeps them down towards the Caspian sea.

But as land becomes less comparatively abundant, corn must be raised more frequently from the same spot, and one or other of the simplest forms of rotation will be introduced. The farm is divided into three portions—one in perpetual grass, on which the live stock graze in summer, and which yields hay for their winter's food—the other two in arable culture. From the latter, in the colder countries, as was till lately the case in Sweden, a crop is taken in each alternate year. The value of manure is now, in some measure, understood, and the droppings of the cattle are collected and bestowed upon the land. We do not indeed insist upon this yearly alternating corn and naked fallow—though a rude form of husbandry found in countries where agriculture is still young—as necessarily and immediately succeeding to the system of perennial and exhausting crops of corn. It may be too sudden a transition, to pass at once from many successive crops, and many years of fallow, to a single season of each; but it must, we think, be considered as a stage through which an advancing people will pass. It cannot be the result of a high refinement in agriculture, since such refinement accompanies only an increase of population; which is generally followed by a diminution of naked fallows—which cannot in fact, afford that the land should lie idle every other year.

When a diversity of soils prevails, as is so much the case in this island, those parts are first selected for arable culture which, not being blown or naked sands, are naturally the driest,—are worked at the least cost of time and labour, and give the most sure return. Thus certain districts—certain whole counties—the surface of some entire geological formations—have been ploughed and sown from time immemorial; while others have lain as long in permanent pasture. Hence it is, that on some of the stiffest clay lands of England, the richest old grasses exist. Hence, also, in counties abounding in clayey soils, the oldest villages are usually found upon the lighter land, or on the hills or ridges of sand and gravel which here and there cover or pierce through the clay. Such a case presents itself in the eastern half of the county of Durham, in which every old village or parish church—almost without exception—between the Wear and the Tees, is situated on such rounded hills or banks, or flats of sand and limestone gravel; on which tillage is easy, the natural drainage good, and the rains of a humid climate of less hurtful influence.

Such lighter land being all in occupation, the next step the farmer is induced to take, as the demand for corn increases, is further to diminish his naked fallows—to adopt, for example, the ancient three-course shift (two crops between each naked fallow) which to the present day characterizes a very large portion of the North European agriculture. Naked fallows could not yet be abolished, even on soils from which weeds could be readily extirpated. Where manuring is little understood or cared for, they must still prevail. If we do not renovate the land by adding to it some equivalent for what we take off, we must, for a time leave our fields to themselves, to renovate their exhausted powers as they may.

But to this state of things succeeds the alternate husbandry. Instead of naked fallows, green crops—called hence fallow crops—are grown on the land, which otherwise would have been idle. To eat these green crops, cattle are kept in greater numbers. More manure is thus produced. When laid on the land, this manure causes more corn to grow on the same extent of surface, so that a larger measure of grain is earned to the market by the farmer than before; while the green crops, or rather the beef and mutton into which they have been converted, form a clear gain of food to the country, and of profit to the husbandman.

Still other benefits follow this change. Armed with this new supply of manure—a new engine, as it were, placed at her command—improvement turns now to the uncultivated lands. Light sands, and dry heaths and commons, which refused to grow corn crops alone, are brought, by means of alternate green crops, and eating off with sheep, or other forms of copious manuring, to yield continuous and profitable returns. Thus wide wastes, like those which formerly covered Norfolk and Lincolnshire, are converted into productive domains—rich in sheep and corn, honourable to the improvers, and of great value to the state.

And now the dry land of easy tillage, and at moderate elevations, being pretty generally worked up, improvement again takes a new direction. Emboldened by past success to expend

her labour and capital more freely, she discovers that the levels of lakes may be lowered and good land around their margins thus cheaply bought; that bogs may be drained and wet lands laid comparatively dry, by making open or covered ditches (drains) wherever springs arise, and thus diverting their waters into fixed channels. These first steps in drainage add largely to the available surface of countries in which, as in ours, much rain falls. In Britain they have already done a considerable part of their work—though vast tracts of bog are still ready, both in Britain and in Ireland, to reward the industrious improver. In Sweden and Norway they are at present promising to add nearly an entire third to the best of the Scandinavian peninsula.

Meanwhile, other important advances are making. Green crops yield much manure, but they also require much. It is discovered by some that the higher the farming—the more liberal the supply of manure—the greater the profit. Hence the manure of the towns comes to be eagerly sought for, and the produce of the neighbouring lands is largely increased. But the farmer who lives remote from towns cannot avail himself of these supplies. For him, therefore, lighter, drier, and more concentrated manures are in request. And thus arises a new and enlivening demand,—that for bones, rape-dust, and other portable manures—or hand tillages, as the Yorkshire farmers call them—experience having previously shown that such substances were really capable of augmenting the produce of the soil.

Thus the country farmer and the town farmer are again placed nearly upon a level. It is in the power of both to farm high, and—if they have enterprise enough—yearly to bring new land into tillage by the aid of manures respectively within their reach. But a further great benefit follows the introduction of these easily transported and highly fertilizing substances. Moors, and woods, and commons, and the hilly parts of farms, to which, on account of the expense, it had hitherto been impossible to cart up and apply heavy farm-yard manure, even could it be got, were now in effect lowered in elevation by the diminished bulk and weight of the manure to be carried to them. One cart of bonedust was found to raise more turnips than twenty of farm-yard dung; and the corn crops which followed gave equal returns. Thus the green corn now waves on the hill-tops of Wooter and the highlands of Lincolnshire; and the Yorkshire wolds have been added to the permanent tillage lands of the kingdom.

But each succeeding step becomes more difficult and costly than that which went before—as in astronomy and chemistry, it requires longer preparation and higher talent to achieve distinction now, than when Newton and Lavoisier laid the first secure foundation for either science. It is upon the lighter lands—the sandy, the loamy, the peaty soils—that the main expenditure of skill has hitherto taken place. The heaviest clay lands have still lain in grass, and those of a less stubborn character have still rested their accustomed time in naked fallow. From the time of the Romans to our own day, the same rotation of wheat, beans, fallow, has prevailed on some of the best and most capable clay soils in the island. Here, therefore, it is true, a rare instance is recorded in the agricultural history of our midland and southern counties, of a thorough drainage being successfully attempted. The idea of thoroughly draining such lands, with the view at once of increasing their produce, of rendering the harvest more sure, and of making the soil more easy to work—this idea does not appear to be new. In Norfolk, and Essex, and Surrey, and in many other counties, the system may have been long known; but it is not upon record that any great national benefit was in any of these counties derived from the practice. We can imagine many reasons why the knowledge of this mode of improvement should linger on isolated spots; and, though understood by men of clearer heads and stronger minds, should diffuse itself slowly among the mass of country squires and farmers. Formerly, as now, however, the expense may have been the main obstacle to the extension of the practice; and this obstacle would be the more formidable then, because less costly means of improvement were as yet far from being exhausted.

Without conceding that it is either a Scottish improvement—one of exclusively northern origin, or even as yet a characteristic of Scottish agriculture, since there are very many districts in Scotland into which the skillful drainer has yet scarcely found his way—we must, nevertheless, allow that in Scotland the thorough, or, as some improperly call it, the furrow draining of clay lands was first made a national question; and that to Mr. Smith of Deanston, the agriculture of Great Britain and Ireland is mainly indebted for demonstrating its advantages, and

for recommending it to the attention of the community at large. To the energy and perseverance, no less than to the intelligence and practical skill of Mr. Smith, we owe the present widely diffused conviction, in regard to the utility and importance of this branch of agricultural improvement. It is not now denied indeed, that the first great stride which England has to make in the culture of her arable lands, is in the adaptation of her clay soils to the alternate husbandry, which an efficient system of drainage will enable her to effect. Into the colonies, too, the drain and the subsoil plough have made their way; and Jamaica, Barbadoes, and Demarara, are equally alive to the benefits which the use of them may confer on the staple productions of their now less fertile soils.

In saying that England has this great stride to take we by no means wish to insinuate that Scotland has already done her duty to the clay and other wet soils she possesses. Whole tracts of country, apart from the high-roads, are still unacquainted with thorough draining; many of the older drains are put in too shallow, and without a sole to rest upon; and so little is still known, even in the zealous and intelligent agricultural districts of Ayrshire and Lanarkshire, of the true principles and purposes of thorough draining, that leading improvers are even now allowing themselves to be guided by men who can see no advantage in sinking their drains beyond twenty inches in depth.

Next in order to the drain succeeds the subsoil plough. The water being drawn off the land, it will bear to be deeper dug, or stirred or trenched. The crops which formerly were condemned to draw their sustenance from six or nine inches of soil, can now descend eighteen or twenty inches. A double store of food is thus unlocked; and he who opens up, and, by draining, renders wholesome, the surface of his fields to a double depth, does, in reality, add in effect to the available extent of his possessions. He makes them capable of yielding him larger returns, and for a longer period of years, without the risk of exhaustion.

The Draining era is also that of improved Agricultural Implements. The stiffness of the clay soils demands strong ploughs. The unavoidable heaviness of the draught prescribes lightness as an important requisite, while ease of management is a high recommendation where the ploughman is less skillful or intelligent. Thus the ingenuity of the mechanic is called forth, and instruments of various forms are constructed; with the view of fulfilling these several conditions in the way which is best adapted to the soil, and to the other local circumstances of the district in which they are to be used. Thus open soils are found to be benefited by pressers; the stiff clays by clod-crushers; and by grubbers or extirpators to tear out the weeds. The high farmer indulges also in the luxury of drill-machines, of turnip-slicers, of straw-cutters, of thrashing mills, and of steaming apparatus; so that mechanical science, at this stage of its advancement, becomes as much the handmaid of agriculture as of any of the other arts of life.

But further wants are meanwhile beginning to be felt. The higher the farming, as we have said, the greater the quantity of manure which is required; and the more the high-farmed land in a country increases, the greater, in an equal ratio, will the demand for extraneous manures become. It is found that land, to be well farmed, must receive now and then some manure, in addition to that which it produces. The demand, especially for portable manures, increases—the supply not being exhaustless, does not keep pace with it—and thus they increase in price to the highest sum which the farmers who live nearest the seaports can afford to pay. Science is now consulted: her aid is craved to point out new sources of old manures—to manufacture new ones—to tell how the old are to be husbanded—what new economy can be introduced into the manuring of the soil—to unfold, in short, the principles on which a rational, economical, and profitable tillage of the soil ought to be founded. This is the last great step which an advancing and hard-pressed agricultural community takes,—slowly and almost unwillingly takes. Long accustomed to empirical rules, and guided by old methods, the husbandman is slow to admit that science can throw light upon his path;—that what he is pleased to stigmatize as theory can aid the long experience on which his practice rests. But once persuade him that the same scientific researches which have pointed their forward way to the other arts of life, are fitted to lead him on too—so persuade him, as to induce him to ask for the aid of science—and a new era has commenced in the tillage of the land. Such a new era is now, we hope, commencing among the agriculturists of Great Britain and Ireland.

We could have wished, in answer to our question—What is now doing to hasten forward that increased productiveness of

which the soil is capable?—to have dwelt for a time on the progress now so extensively making with the drain and the subsoil plough, and on the great results we are entitled to expect from a still wider, and more skilful adoption of these fundamental instruments of improvement. But these points of enquiry are already, in some measure, understood. We shall turn, therefore, to the newer and higher branch of the subject—that on which imperfect information still widely prevails; in regard to which even fears and misgivings exist in the minds of some—the influence, namely, which science is fitted to exercise on the future improvement of the soil.

The questions—What has science hitherto done? What can it be expected yet to perform for the benefit of agriculture?—are at the present time of the greatest moment; because the general mind is awakened, in an unprecedented degree, to the necessity of doing something to elevate the art of culture to a level with the other useful arts; and because the three great bodies who at once represent and guide the agriculture of the three kingdoms, are zealously striving which can do most, in their respective spheres, towards the attainment of this great object.

The Irish, the English, and the Scottish "National Agricultural Societies, are, as the circumstances of each country direct, following different main lines of improvement. Besides the bettering of the breeds of stock—which all encourage, perhaps, in too great a proportionate degree—the Irish Society is planting auxiliaries in the provinces—fixing centres, as it were, from which her future operations in each county may begin—is drawing attention to the drainage and improvement of bogs, and is diffusing among the peasant farmers of Ireland the elements of a better husbandry. The force of the English Society has hitherto been more especially expended, and certainly with great success, upon the mechanics of the art—on the improvement of the implements by which the stubborn clays of the country may be hereafter thoroughly subdued—and in collecting information as to what has already been done in different parts of England, with the view of discovering what she may herself most usefully endeavour to accomplish. This is consistent with English prudence, and full of future promise. The Highland Society, again, if not the parent, long at least the predecessor of both, having all her machinery perfect, and possessing full leisure to consider what both agriculture and the times require, if she does not quite lead, has not as yet lagged far behind the advance of knowledge. With limited means, she has for many years shown an increasing desire to enlist the aid of science in the cause of agriculture. This desire, as her published premiums show, is now stronger than ever; and ere another year passes, will, we are sure, be still more decidedly manifested. It becomes a kind of national duty with us, therefore, briefly to point out the relations which the sciences, especially those of Chemistry and Geology, bear to the art of culture.

The progress of agricultural improvement, as we have seen, brings with it an increased demand for manures of easy transport. The supply gradually falls short of the demand, and their market value rises until they reach a kind of famine price; at which the corn they can be made to raise barely repays the cost of applying them. This high price, which at first appears to be an unmitigated evil, leads, however, to good in many ways.—Perhaps the simplest and most intelligible way of treating our present subject will be, to follow in their order the successive effects or improvements to which this high price naturally gives rise.

In the first place, it causes all known manures to be eagerly sought for and collected. The home dealer is stimulated to search for them in every quarter, and each lone-mill employs its staff of humble collectors to perambulate the towns and villages. Foreign and larger dealers spring up in the seaports. Our east coast puts the whole seaboard of Europe under requisition—whole fleets of merchantmen from the west, skirt the Irish shores, or crossing the Atlantic, bring their cargoes of bones from the United States; and even to Buenos Ayres and Monte Video, suggest a new article of export, in addition to the hides and tallow of their numberless cattle. Such is perhaps the earliest national advantage which springs from high prices and increased demand.

It is interesting enough to mark how agriculture and commerce thus mutually aid each other—how the wants of one country impart a new value even to the refuse substances of another, and afford a new employment to its idle population. But it is more interesting still to observe how such a traffic, commenced with a view to the benefit of our own farming interest, reacts upon the minds of the agricultural population in these distant countries—

awakening them to new desires, and leading them to increased skill in the art by which they live. Bones, for example, they come to think, may be useful at home, if it is worth the while of English merchants to bring them from so great a distance. How are they to be used, they ask, where and when applied, to what crops, on what soils, and after what preparation? Such questions call forth by degrees a vast amount of practical information, the diffusion of which has in Sweden already given rise to the complaint, that bones are not to be obtained by the home farmer, because of the high price offered by the exporters to England; and in the United States of America, to the reflection, that they are surely worth more for home consumption than the seven or eight dollars a ton which the English agents pay for them. How striking to see the awakening intelligence of a few thousand agriculturists in our own island, thus rousing a spirit of enquiry, and actually pushing forward the art of culture in the most remote parts of the world!

A second and no less important consequence of this high price of manure, is the saving to which it leads of such as were previously wasted. It is only the more skilful farmers who use these comparatively costly substances in any considerable quantity.—The less skilful cannot afford to use them. Their land is not in proper condition, perhaps because it is undrained, or they apply them after a wrong method, or at a wrong season; so that if by way of experiment they are tempted to try them they suffer an actual money loss, and they are long deterred from employing them again. Nevertheless, the absolute value of manures of every kind rises in the estimation of the farmer, as that of portable manures increases. He comes to see that every waste of manure is an actual loss of money; and when satisfied of this, the slowest begin to move, and the most wedded to old customs to think of deviating from the methods of their forefathers.

NEWS.

MADEIRA.—DR. KALLEY.—The Lisbon correspondent of the "Times" writes as follows:—"We have very alarming accounts from Madeira. By the *Impartial* of Funchal, of the 11th ult. I learn that the preaching of Dr. Kalley has led to even a more considerable ferment than I announced to you as probable some time since. The bishop of the island has adopted means of endeavouring to arrest the progress of the doctor's labours, and the authorities, alarmed by the extent of his success, had sought to put him down by measures of a strong character. The Administrator of Machico had proceeded to the parish church of San Antonio de Serra to effect the arrest of "one of the propagators of the schism," when the populace, "rose in great numbers," and prevented him from effecting the capture. The superior authorities of Funchal immediately met in Council, and the result was, that a body of troops was marched to the refractory parish, accompanied by the principal judge, and the chief law officer of the crown. After the customary forms seventeen men and five women were arrested and conveyed prisoners to Machico, all charged with being implicated in a conspiracy to resist the due course of law. The military force remained stationed in the district, and the prisoners had appealed to the Tribunal of Second Instance."

FREE CHURCH MISSION IN CALCUTTA.—A correspondent has favoured us with the following extract from a letter received by the last overland mail from Calcutta. The writer, we understand, is a gentleman high in the service, and takes a deep interest in whatever regards the welfare of the native population, but is not a Free Churchman;—"I went to Dr. Duff's new Free Church School the other day and was much gratified by the result of the examination. I think there was about one thousand children of all ages, being instructed, with perfect order and regularity; and there can be no doubt that in progress of time a great effect will be produced in the improvement of the native Hindoo population, by the instruction and education they are now receiving throughout this country. The Musselmen are nearly equal to the Hindoos in this country, but scarcely any of them will attend the schools. Out of one thousand children I saw, there was scarcely a single child the offspring of Musselmen parents, so bigoted are the followers of the Koran's precepts, that they will not permit their children to receive education at a Christian Seminary. Time will no doubt gradually remove the difficulty."—*Aberdeen Journal*.

Sir Henry Harding, the new Governor General of India, has issued an order that hereafter in all cases the pupils of schools conducted in the European manner, including the Missionary

schools, shall have the preference over all other candidates for filling every office under government from the highest to the lowest. This directly reverses the long established policy of the Indian Government which gave a decided preference to every thing oriental—even to Mahomedanism and Idolatry, over Christianity. As government offices are extremely numerous, and as the chief object of ambition with the natives is to fill them, it is expected that a great impetus will be given to education which happily is in the hands of enlightened and pious Missionaries.

THE TRADE WITH CHINA.—The speech of the Mayor of Manchester, at the dinner given to Sir Henry Pottinger, in that town, shows that the export of cotton goods, shipped to China within the last twelve months, has increased about 100 per cent. in quantity; that is to say, to 2,550,795 pieces for the year ending the 30th of November, 1844, against 1,148,381 pieces for the year ending the 30th of November, 1843, giving an increase in the value since the tariff, arranged under the treaty of Nankin, became known, of £595,978.

SWITZERLAND.—This country has been the scene of a great excitement, in consequence of the local government of Lucerne having come to the resolution of intrusting the tuition of youth to the Jesuits, who had been permitted to enter the canton. An attack was made upon the capital town by the Lucerne Liberals, on the morning of the 8th instant; and another revolt took place simultaneously in the neighbourhood of Willisau, evoked by a party of volunteers from Argau. The utmost alarm was felt for the peace of the republic, as some of the neighbouring cantons were expected to aid the insurgents, and the whole republic might again be torn with a religious war.

A report is in circulation that the domestic circle of her Majesty will probably be blessed with another increase towards the end of the summer.

The American house of representatives, has passed resolutions for the immediate annexation of Texas. What will be the result in the Senate and Texas itself, both of which must concur—remains to be seen.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, January 21.

Mr. George Sherwood, from the Committee appointed to try the merits of the petition against the election of Malcolm Cameron, Esq., for Lanark, presented a report to the effect, that in consequence of no poll being held in the townships of Westmeath, Ross, Pembroke, and Stafford, at the last election for the County of Lanark, the said election is void.

On motion of Geo. Sherwood, the Speaker was directed to issue his writ for a new election for Lanark in the room of M. Cameron, Esquire whose seat has been declared vacant.

Mr. Solicitor General Sherwood brought in a Bill to make further regulations for holding the Courts of Assize and Nisi Prius, Oyer and Terminer, and General Gaol Delivery, in Upper Canada, and to provide for the trial of persons under certain circumstances.

On motion of Mr. Price, an address was ordered for copies of any Despatch, from his Excellency to the Colonial Secretary, on the subject of King's College, and of any Despatches from him in reply.

The following Bills were read a second time, and referred to Committee of the whole on Friday:

The Bill to provide for the management of the Customs and the collection of the Revenue.

The Bill to impose a duty on the sale of spirituous and fermented liquors.

The Bill to impose a duty on licenses to hawkers, pedlars, and billiard tables.

The Bill imposing a duty on auctioneers and sales at auction, and The Bill imposing a duty on bank notes.

The House went into Committee on the expediency of granting a sum of money for completing the geological survey of the Province, and the committee reported progress and obtained leave to sit again on Friday.

The Bill to incorporate the Board of Trade of Toronto, was read the second time, and referred to a Committee of the whole House, reported with amendments, which were adopted, and the Bill was ordered to be engrossed.

WEDNESDAY, January 22.

The following Bills were read the third time and passed:—

The Bill to revive the law formerly in force respecting statute labour on roads running into macadamized roads.

The Bill to enable the Trustees of a certain lot in the town of

Simcoe, reserved for the use of a church, to dispose of the same. And the Bill to incorporate the Shorbrook Cotton Factory.

The following petitions were read:—

Mr. Morin, from the committee on Private Bills, presented a report on the petitions of D. McDougall and A. Williams, and reported the Bill to incorporate the Canada Baptist Missionary Society, with an amendment.

The House went into committee on the Bill to indemnify Clergy men who may have voted at the last election, and the Bill was reported with amendments, which were agreed to, and it was ordered to be engrossed.

FRIDAY, January 24.

The following Bills were read the third time and passed:—

The Bill to incorporate the Toronto Board of Trade.

The Bill to authorize appointment of a Reporter to the Court of Chancery.

The Bill to incorporate the Ursuline Nuns of Three Rivers.

The Bill to indemnify Clergymen who voted at the last Election.

The following petitions were read:—

Of members of the Canada Sunday School Union, for the adoption of measures to establish a cheap and uniform rate of postage.

Of Thos. A. Corbett, Sheriff of Midland District, and others, for aid to construct a road from Kingston to the Ottawa.

Of Thomas White and others, of Trafalgar praying that their Clergy Reserve Lands may not be assigned as prayed for, but that they may be sold, according to the provisions of the Imperial Statute 3 and 4, Vict. cap. 78.

Mr. Brookes presented a report on the petition of H. Smith and others, and a Bill for incorporation of a Company to construct a Railroad from the Province Line to Montreal. Second reading Monday fortnight.

MONDAY, January 27.

The Bill for the relief of the sick and destitute Mariners was read the third time and passed.

The following petitions were read:—

Four petitions of members of the Church of England residing at Woodstock, for the repeal of the Common School Act.

Two petitions, from D. Caldwell, and others, and J. Lynn, and others occupiers of Clergy Reserve Lands in Equeusing, praying that the said Reserves may not be assigned, as prayed for above, but that they may be sold, according to the provisions of the Imperial Statute.

The petition of the Bishop of Toronto and others, for repeal of the common school law, was referred to a select committee.

WEDNESDAY, January 29.

Nine petitions were brought up.

The following engrossed Bills were read the third time, and passed:—

The Bill to prevent payment by District Treasurer in any thing but money.

Bill to incorporate *la Communauté des Sœurs des Saints noms de Jesus et Marie* of St. Antoine.

Bill for better defining the limits of Counties, &c, in Upper Canada.

Of the Church Society of the Diocese of Quebec, praying that a portion of the Clergy Reserves corresponding to the portion of the income arising to the Church of England in this Province, from the Reserves, may be vested in the said Society.

On motion of Mr. Hale, a Committee was appointed to consider the Petition of the Canada Sunday School Union, for a cheap and uniform rate of postage, and all Petitions, Documents, and despatches before the House, on the subject

A Message was received from the Legislative Council, stating that they had passed the Bill to indemnify clergymen who voted at the last general election.

Mr. Secretary Daly laid before the House a return to an Address to His Excellency for copies of the four last Quarterly returns made by the Deputy Postmaster General, to the Postmaster General in England, shewing the Receipts and Expenditure of the Post Office Department in this Province. Referred to the Committee on the Post Office.

Also, two Messages from His Excellency, transmitting copies of a correspondence between His Excellency and the Secretary of State relative to the late Montreal Election, and the conduct of the Returning Officer thereat, and transmitting Reports and other papers connected with outrages committed in the vicinity of certain public works, and recommending the expediency of adopting some measure for the more effectual protection of Her Majesty's subjects. 500 copies.

Mr. Boulton brought in a Bill to Amend the Act of 4 and 5 Vict., for encouraging the establishment of Savings' Banks. Second reading this day week.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, all the returns from Banks and Insurance Offices were referred to a Committee.

On motion of Mr. Christie, 1000 copies of the geological surveys and Report by Mr. Logan were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Moffatt, the House proceeded to consider the report of the Committee on Private Bills, upon the Bill to incorporate the Canada Baptist Missionary Society, and the amendment read by the Committee was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be engrossed.

The House went into Committee on the Bill to enable District Councils in Upper Canada, to tax Dogs and regulate Temperance Houses,—and the Committee reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again to-morrow.

Two petitions from the Montreal Board of Trade—one in favour of the proposed duties on Spiritous Liquors, and on Distillers and Brewers,—and the other, praying the House to consider the effect of a tax contemplated by the Montreal Corporation, upon sales at auction.

A message was received from the Council, stating that they had passed the Bill to revive the former law relating to statute labour on the roads adjoining macadamized roads in Upper Canada,—and the Bill for the relief of shipwrecked and distressed mariners.

On motion of Mr. Cummings, the Bill to enable District Councils in Upper Canada to lay a tax on dogs, and to regulate Temperance houses.

Mr. McDonell of Dundas, moved that it be an instruction to the Committee to strike out of the Bill so much as relates to Temperance Houses; which was carried on division—Yeas 49; Nays 17.

On motion of Mr. Scott, the House went into committee to consider the propriety of remunerating petit jurors for their attendance in Court,—and the Committee reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again in a fortnight.

The order of the day for the second reading of the Bill to provide for the distribution of the property of persons dying intestate, being read.

Mr. Roblin moved that the Bill be read a second time.

In amendment. Mr. Johnston moved that the Bill be read a second time this day six months' which was carried by the casting vote of the Speaker—Yeas, 28; Nays, 28.

FRIDAY, January 31.

The Bill to incorporate the Canada Baptist Missionary Society was read the third time and passed.

The Bill to authorise the attachment of official salaries for debt, in certain cases, was read the third time.

On motion of Col. Prince a rider was added, providing that the Act should not extend to persons payable out of the provincial revenue.

The following Petitions were read.

Of Rev. L. D. Charland and others, of the parish of Rigaud, praying for aid to establish a model school in that township.

Of Wm. Evans, of Montreal, for an agricultural survey of the Province, to ascertain the best means of promoting the agricultural interest.

A message was received from the Council stating that they had passed the Bill to incorporate the Board of Trade of Toronto—and the Bill relating to the appointment of peace officers to Sherbrooke, without amendment.

Mr. Papineau brought in a Bill to make better provision for elementary instruction in Lower Canada.—Second reading on Friday.

The motion of Mr. Papineau, which was laid on the table in December last, for an Address to Her Majesty, praying that all statutes, proceedings of the Legislature, &c., may be kept in the French language as well as the English, was put, and it was carried unanimously in the affirmative, and a committee appointed to draft the Address.

The House then went into Committee again on Mr. Williams' Bill for enabling different religious societies in Upper Canada to hold property. The Bill passed with an amendment, doing away with that clause which enjoined a religious test.

MONDAY, February 3.

Thirteen Petitions were brought up.

The Bill to repeal so much of the election law as prevents clergymen voting at elections, was read the third time.

Mr. Price moved a Rider, that it shall not be lawful for any clergymen to vote on any Glebe or lot of land which he may hold by virtue of his office, which was negatived. Yeas 9, Nays 45.

The Bill was then passed.

TUESDAY, February 4.

The Attorney General brought in a bill to provide for the better preservation of the peace on the line of public works.

Mr. Aylwin brought in a bill to establish the limitation of the time during which actions for debt may be brought in Lower Canada.

The following engrossed Bills were read the third time:—
The Bill to provide for completing the geological survey of the Province.

The Bill for the relief of certain Religious Societies.

The petition of the Montreal Board of Trade, for the repeal of the Usury Laws was presented.

Mr. Johnston gave notice of his intention to move for a Select Committee to enquire into the manner in which the Crown Lands Department is conducted.

The Committee of enquiry into the present depressed state of agriculture, reported the present Bill for its protection inadequate to that purpose, and recommended certain alterations therein.

Mr. Moffatt introduced a Bill to compel all Corporations, holding real estate, to lay a statement of their affairs, annually, before the Legislature. Second reading this day week.

THURSDAY, February 6.

The Bill to regulate Line Fences and Water Courses in Upper Canada, was read the third time and passed.

The following Petitions were presented.

Of the Board of the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning, for such an amendment of the charter of McGill College as to allow them to dispose of the real property belonging to the College, for the purpose of increasing the revenue thereof.

Of R. Aitchison, and others of Ashfield and Wawanosh, for a reduction in the price of Government Lands, and an extension of the time to emigrants for paying them.

Of W. Donaldson and others, of Kingston, for Incorporation as the Merchant Seamen's Society.

On motion of Dr. Dunlop, an address was ordered for a copy of the Report of Captain Jones, (made by order of the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada) on the expenditure of upwards of £48,000 of public money by the Canada Company.

Mr. Stewart, of Bytown, brought in a Bill to regulate the cutting and measuring of Timber, masts, spars, deals, staves, and other articles of a like nature, and to repeal the Act of 7 Vict. cap. 25. Second reading on Thursday next.

FRIDAY, February 7.

The Bill to Incorporate the High School of Montreal, was read the third time and passed.

A message was received from the Council, stating that they had passed the following Bills, viz:—

The Bill to repeal so much of a certain Act of last Session as prevents Clergymen from voting;

The Bill to authorise the Ursuline Nuns of Three Rivers to hold additional real estate;

The Bill to complete the Geological Survey of the Province;

And, the Bill to afford relief to Insolvent debtors in Lower Canada.

The Bill to regulate Savings Banks was read the second time, committed, reported without amendment, and ordered to be engrossed.

MONDAY, February 10.

Fifteen petitions were brought up.

A message was received from His Excellency, by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, commanding the immediate attendance of the House at the Bar of the Legislative Council Chamber, and being returned, the Speaker informed the House that His Excellency had given the Royal Assent to the following Bills:—

An Act to confirm an Act of the Imperial Parliament relating to the Gaspé Fishery and Mining Company.

An Act to make better provision for the relief of parties claiming lands in Upper Canada for which no patent has been issued, as representatives of the original nominees of the Crown.

An Act to provide more effectually for the collection of certain arrears of taxes on lands in the Wellington and other Districts, and for better defining the limits of the District of Wellington.

An Act to enable the Trustees of a certain lot of land in the

town of Simcoe, reserved for the use of a church, to dispose of the same for the purposes of the said church.

An Act for the relief of shipwrecked and distressed mariners.

An Act to incorporate the Toronto Board of Trade.

An Act to indemnify Clergymen who voted at the late general election in ignorance of the law.

An Act to repeal a certain part of an Act of Upper Canada relating to public highways.

An Act to extend to the town of Sherbrooke the provisions of a certain Ordinance relating to the appointment of Peace Officers, and to explain the jurisdiction of the General Sessions of the Peace for the District of St. Francis.

An Act for better defining the limits of Counties, and Districts in Upper Canada, for erecting certain new townships, for detaching townships from some Counties, and attaching them to others and for other purposes relating to the division of Upper Canada into Townships, Counties, and Districts.

Of Baxter Bowman and others, of the County of Ottawa, praying that the Canadian Lumber Trade may be protected by equalizing the duty, and imposing a duty of 25 per cent. *ad valorem* on American sawed lumber.

The Bill to amend the law providing for the establishment and encouragement of Savings Banks, was read the third time and passed.

A message was received from the Legislative Council, stating that they had passed the following Bills, viz:—

The Bill to incorporate the Quebec Library Association.

The Bill to incorporate the Canada Baptist Missionary Society,—and

The Bill to incorporate "Les Sœurs des Ste. Noms de Jesus et Marie."

The Bill to authorize District Councils, and the Boards of Police of Incorporated Towns, to lay a tax upon dogs, was read the third time and passed.

Of the Montreal Board of Trade in favour of a measure for constructing a railroad from Montreal to the Province Line.

On motion of Mr. Hale, the petition of the Montreal Board of Trade, in favour of the projected Railroad from Montreal to the Atlantic was ordered to be printed—500 copies

Monies Received on Account of

Advocate.—Per J. P. Roblin, A. Jisk, 5s; H. Strong, S. Simmons, J. M. Merryman, Miss S. Greely, W. Easton, C. Fiddick, J. Perdy, A. D. Eddy, Simpson & Hays, S. W. Ludu, J. Bower, W. Black, Colborne, 2s 6d, each; Capt. J. Mason, H. Bulky, J. Wright, M. Alcase, B. M. Bellis, J. Cumming, S. Brooks, A. C. Singleton, H. Nix, J. Mayboe, W. Orser, Brighton, 2s 6d, each; Gilbert H. Hitchcock, Seymore, 2s 6d; C. S. Male, J. Wilson, W. C. Irish, J. Wait, L. Card, J. Steel, Esq., Grafton, Hal. diamond, 2s 6d each; H. S. Northrop, S. Vimelyer, N. Simmons, C. R. Boasteel, G. Finkle, J. J. Finkle, Belleville, 2s 6d, each; H. Holmes, Kutley, 2s 6d; J. Lapp, Farmersville, 2s 6d; W. E. Pointer, Drummondville, £1 5s 0d; W. Curry, Dunfries, 7s 6d; J. Lloyd, New Glasgow, 5s; W. D. Dickinson, Prescott, £1 0s; P. S. Timmerman, Mill Creek, £1 10s; A. T. Green, Belleville, 15s; H. Saul, Adelaide, £1 5s 0d; Rev. W. Digman, Warwick, 15s; S. M' Coy, New Castle, Clarke, £1 10s 0d; C. Biggar, Murray, £2 10s 0d; T. R. Jackson, Ingersoll, £2 0d 0s; Rev. H. Herrick, Huntingdon, £1 5s 0d; J. F. Dickey, Clarke, £1 0s 0d; Carr & Short, Otonabee, £1 5s 0d; D. Campbell, Carlton Place, 5s; J. P. Williams, Bloomfield, 2s 6d; R. Burlingham, do. 2s 6d; D. Allen, Seymour, (East), 2s 6d; James Wilson, Napance, 2s 6d; R. Kilborn, Beamsville, 17s 6d; J. Aird, 17th Concession, Indian Lands, 2s 6d; J. B. Torry, Montreal, 2s 6d; J. W. Bungay, Ritchville, £1 5s 0d; Mr. Turnbull, St. Laurent, 2s 6d; William Bos, do. 2s 6d; S. Andres, Chambly, 5s; J. S. Hutchins, Lachute, 5s; Thomas Palen, Cornwall, 12s 6d; J. Fraser, London, £3 15s 0d; R. Holden, Belleville, £1 10s 0d; A. A. Heaton, Stamford, £1 5s 0d; Rev. S. Brownwell, Elora, 5s; N. Lainson, Simcoe, £1 5s 0d; J. Christie & Son, Toronto, £2 5s 0d; H. Wideman, Stouffville, £1 5s 0d; L. W. Joyce, Baltimore, £1 5s 0d; H. Black, St. Thomas, £4 0s 0d; Mr. Tucker, Petite Nation, 2s 6d; D. Pratt, Chatham, 2s 6d; Sgt. O'Conner, Kingston, 2s 6d; L. Larned, do. 2s 6d; L. Gorman, Windsor, 2s 6d; A. Lockhart, 2s 6d; J. Leader, Port Stanley, 2s 6d; R. Thornton, Sandwich, 2s 6d; J. Allen, Perth, 10s; J. M'Kay, do. 10s; Thomas Fales, Markham, 2s 6d; A. Parish, Farmersville, 2s 6d; Moses Hutchison, Rev. John Tuke, A. Hamilton, Brockville, 2s 6d, each; Sundries, Montreal, £2 14s

2d; T. A. Carman, Matilda, 10s; George Douglass, John Teller, W. Hodge, G. Galaspey, Joseph Sudliff, Port Dover, 2s 6d, each; Levio Douglass, Simcoe, 2s 6d.

Donations.—S. W. Ludu, 1s 3d; O. Gosfield, 7d.

Penny Subscription Cards.—Mary J. Irish, 1s 5d; William D. Brown, 1s 5d.

Collections at Public Meetings.—Colborne, 2s; Brighton, 3s 8d; Prescott, £1 2s 3d; Bellamy's Mills, 10s 6d; Farmersville, 5s 2d; Greenbush, 11s 1d.

On Account of Consignments.—H. Black, St. Thomas, 5s S. M' Coy, New Castle, Clarke, £2 0s 0d.

MONTREAL PRICES CURRENT.—Feb. 15.

ASHES—Pot	22s 6d	LARD	4d a 5d p. lb
Pearl	23s 6d	BEER—P. Mow tierce	\$9 a \$11
Flour—Fine	23s 6d a 24s	Do bbls	\$6½
Do. American	26s a 27s	Prime	\$4½
WHEAT	4s 9d	TALLOW	5d
PEASE 3s 3d per minot		BUTTER—Salt	6d
OAT-MEAL	2s 0d per cwt.	CHEESE	3a a 5d
PORK—Mess	\$13	EXCHANGE—London	1½ prom.
P. Mess	\$10½	N. York	2 do
Prime	\$9½	Canada W.	¼ do

The above prices are, generally speaking, merely nominal, there being no transactions.

AGENT'S APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. WADSWORTH will (D. V.) hold meetings as follows:—

Sabbath, February 23, Sermons,	} Mersca, Morning, Gosfield, Afternoon, Colchester, Evening,
Monday, " 24, Amherstburgh, Evening,	
Tuesday, " 25, Sandwich, Evening,	
Wednesday, " 26, Irish Settlement, Morning,	} Detroit, Evening,
Thursday, " 27, Chatham, Evening,	
Friday, " 28, Dobson's Settlement, Morning,	} Louisville, Evening, Indian Village, Morning, Zone Mills, Evening,
Saturday, March 1, Indian Village, Morning,	
Sabbath, " 2, Sermons,	} Wallaceburgh, Morning, Sombra, Afternoon, Sutherland's, Evening,
Monday, " 3, Indian Settlement, Morning,	
Tuesday, " 4, Plymton, Morning,	} Port Sarnia, Evening, Warwick, Evening,
Wednesday, " 5, Bosanquet, Morning,	
Thursday, " 6, Hay, Morning,	} Stephen, Evening, Goderich, Evening,
Friday, " 7, Devonshire Settlement, Morning,	
Saturday, " 8, London, Evening,	} Delaware, Morning, Muncytown, Afternoon, London, Evening,
Sabbath, " 9, Sermons,	
Monday, " 10, Dorchester, Morning,	} Ingersollville, Evening, Beachville, Morning,
Tuesday, " 11, Beachville, Morning,	
Wednesday, " 12, Springfield, Morning,	} Woodstock, Evening, Galt, Evening,

The remainder will be advertised in due time.

Mr. WADSWORTH will, as heretofore, be in a great measure dependent on the societies he visits for the means of conveyance.

Mr. ROBLIN, of Shannonville, will arrange and appoint a series of meetings to be held in the Midland, Prince Edward, Victoria, and Newcastle Districts during the next three months.

The friends of the cause in the places visited by the above named agents of the Committee for Provincial efforts, are respectfully requested to yield them every assistance in their power and to make a collection in aid of the Committees funds at each meeting.

N. B.—The morning meetings are intended to be at an hour to suit the distance to be travelled, both before and after each meeting.