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PEOPLE'S MAGAZINE,

AND WEEKLY JOURNAL.

Vol. I.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1847.

No. 20

THE CHEERFUL GIVER.

BY MRS. SIGOURNEY.

"God loveth a cheerful giver."

"What shall I render thee, Father supreme,
For thy rich gifts, and thine the best of all?"
Said a young mother, as she fondly watched
Her sleeping babe.

There was an answering voice,
That night in dreams. "Thou hast a little bud
Wrapt in thy breast, and fed with dews of love.
Give me that bud. 'Twill be a flower in heaven."
But there was silence. Yea, a hush so deep,
Breathless and terror-stricken, that the lip
Blanched in its trance. "Thou hast a little harp,
How sweetly would it swell the angels' song!
Give me that harp." There burst a shuddering sob,
As if the bosom by some hidden sword
Was cleft in twain.

Morn came. A blight had found
The crimson velvet of the unfolding bud,
The harp-strings ran a thrilling strain and broke,
And that young mother lay upon the earth
In childless agony.

Again the voice
That stirred her vision. "He who asked of thee,
Loveth a cheerful giver." So she raised
Her gushing eye, and ere the tear-drop dried
Upon its fringes, smiled. Doubt not that smile,
Like Abraham's faith, was counted righteousness.

"A TIME TO DANCE."

A worthy clergyman, who had been suspected of having improperly interfered in influencing some of the young people under his pastoral charge to absent themselves from a ball that took place in the parish, received, in consequence, the following anonymous note:—

"SIR,—Obey the voice of Scripture. Take the following for your text, and contradict it. Show in what consists the evil of that innocent amusement of dancing—'A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.'—Eccles. iii. 4. A TRUE CHRISTIAN, BUT NO HYPOCRITE."

The minister wrote the following admirable reply, which he inserted in a periodical publication:—

MY DEAR SIR, (OR MADAM).—Your request that I would preach from Eccles. iii. 4, I cannot comply with at present, since there are some Christian duties more important than dancing, which a part of my people seemed disposed to neglect. Whenever I perceive, however, that the duty of dancing is too much neglected, I shall not fail to raise a warning voice against so dangerous an omission. In the mean time, there are certain difficulties in the text which you recommend to my notice, the solution of which I should receive with gratitude from "a true Christian."

My first difficulty respects the *time* for dancing; for although the text declares that there is a *time* to dance, yet *when* that *time* is, it does not determine. Now, this point I wish to ascertain exactly, before I preach upon the subject; for it would be as criminal, I conclude, to dance at the wrong time, as to neglect to dance at the right time. I have been able to satisfy myself, in some particulars, when it is *not* "a time to dance." We shall agree, I presume, that on Sabbath day, or at a funeral, or during the prevalence of a pestilence, or the rocking of an earthquake, or the roaring of a thunder-storm, it would be no time to dance. If we were condemned to die, and were wait-

ing in prison the day of execution, this would be no time for dancing; and if our feet stood on a slippery place beside a precipice, we should not dare to dance. But, suppose the very day to be ascertained—is the whole day, or only a part, to be devoted to this amusement? and if a part of the day only, then which part is "the time to dance?" From the notorious evil effects of "night meetings," in all ages, both upon morals and health, no one will pretend that the evening is "the time to dance;" and perhaps it may be immaterial which portion of the daylight is devoted to that innocent amusement. But allowing the *time* to be ascertained, there is still an obscurity in the text. Is it a *command* to dance, or only a *permission*? Or is it merely a declaration of the fact, that as men are constituted, there is a time, when all the events alluded to in the text do in the providence of God come to pass? If the text be a *command*, is it of universal obligation? and must "old men and maidens, young men and children," dance obedience? If a *permission*, does it not imply a permission also to *refrain* from dancing if any were so disposed? Or if the text be merely a declaration that there is a time when men do dance, as there is a time when they die, then I might as well be *requested* to take the first eight verses of the chapter, and show in what consists the evil of those innocent practices of hating, and making war, and killing men, for which it seems there is "a time," as well as for dancing. There is still another difficulty in the text, which just now occurs to me. What *kind* of dancing does the text intend? for it is certainly a matter of no small consequence to "a true Christian" to dance in a Scriptural way as well as at the Scriptural time. Now, to avoid mistakes on a point of such importance, I have consulted every passage in the Bible which speaks of dancing; the most important of which, permit me to submit to your inspection.

"And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her, with timbrels and with dances." Exod. xv. 20. This was on account of the overthrow of the Egyptians in the Red Sea.

"The daughter of Jephthah came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances." Judges xi. 34. This also was on account of a victory over the enemies of Israel.

"The yearly feast in Shiloh was a feast unto the Lord, in which the daughters of Shiloh went forth in dances." Judges xxi. 21. This was done as an act of religious worship.

"And David danced before the Lord with all his might." But the irreligious Michal "came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to-day, who uncovered himself to-day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovered himself." 2 Sam. vi. 14, 20.

Dancing, it seems, *was a sacred rite*, and was usually performed by women. At that day, it was perverted from its sacred use by none but "vain fellows" destitute of shame. David vindicates himself from her irony, by saying, "It was before the Lord;" admitting, that had this *not* been the case, her rebuke would have been merited.

On account of the victory of Saul and David over the Philistines, "the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing." 1 Sam. xviii. 6.

"Let them praise his name in the dance." Psalm cxlix. 3. "Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing." Psalm xxx. 11. The deliverance here spoken of was a recovery from sickness, and the dancing an expression of religious gratitude and joy.

"As soon as he came nigh unto the camp, he saw the calf and the dancing." Exod. xxxii. 19. From this it appears that dancing was a part also of idol worship.

"O virgin of Israel, thou shalt again be adorned with thy

tabrets, and go forth in the dance with them that make merry." Jer. xxxi. 4. This passage predicts the return from captivity, and the restoration of Divine favour, with the consequent expression of religious joy.

"We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented." Mat. xi. 17. That is, neither the judgments nor the mercies of God produce any effect upon this incorrigible generation. They neither mourn when called to mourning by his providence: nor rejoice with the usual tokens of religious joy when his mercies demand their gratitude.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew nigh unto the house, he heard music and dancing." Luke xv. 25. The return of the prodigal was a joyful event, for which the grateful father, according to the usages of the Jewish church, and the exhortations of the Psalmist, praised the Lord in the dance.

"A time to mourn, a time to dance." Eccles. iii. 4. Since the Jewish church knew nothing of dancing, except as a religious ceremony, or as an expression of gratitude and praise, the text is a declaration that the providence of God sometimes demands mourning, and sometimes gladness and gratitude.

But when Herod's birth-day was kept the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod." In this case, dancing was perverted from its original object to purposes of vanity and ostentation.

"Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us, for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit shall we have if we pray unto him?" Job xxi. 7, 11. Their wealth and dancing are assigned as the reason of their saying unto God, "Depart from us," and of their not desiring the knowledge of his ways, or of serving him, or praying to him.

From the preceding quotations it will sufficiently appear.

1. That dancing was a religious act, both of the true, and also of idol worship.
2. That it was practised exclusively on joyful occasions, such as national festivals or great victories.
3. That it was performed by maidens only.
4. That it was performed usually in the day-time, in the open air, in highways, fields, or groves.
5. That men who perverted dancing from a sacred use to purposes of amusement, were deemed infamous.
6. That no instances of dancing are found upon record in the Bible, in which two sexes united in the exercise, either as an act of worship or amusement.
7. That there is no instance upon record of social dancing for amusement, except that of the "vain fellows," devoid of shame; of the irreligious families described by Job, which produced increased impiety, and ended in destruction; and of Herodias, which terminated in the rash vow of Herod, and the murder of John the Baptist.

I congratulate you, sir, on the assured hope which you seem to have attained, that you are "a true Christian," and on the meekness and modesty with which you have been able to express it; and most sincerely do I join with you in the condemnation of all "hypocrites."—I am, affectionately yours, &c., * * *

FREEZING OUT A TEACHER.

From the Philipsburgh (C. E.) Gleaner.

District No. ——— in the parish of N ——— engaged a teacher, for their winter school, who came to them well recommended.

Before entering his school, he was politely informed, that he would be expected to see that the large boys *chopped* the wood for the fire. He made no reply, but thought to himself that he was engaged to teach *reading and writing*, and not *chopping*. Early on Monday morning, guided by some of his scholars, the Teacher found his way to the school-house. Some large boys were before him, and succeeded in mustering some huge logs, so as to furnish wood enough for the day. The house stood upon the top of a bleak hill, having a loose under-pinning, so that the wind could have a free circulation beneath the floor, and breathe up through a multitude of air-holes. The walls of

the house had once been plastered, but time and ill usage had laid them bare in many a spot, leaving open crevices, through which Old Boreas often whistled his tunes making music of a doleful sort! But the teacher was a man of standing character, not easily discouraged, so he determined to go *ahead*. He regulated his school as well as possible; told his scholars that for the sake of storing their minds with useful knowledge, they must be willing to study with cold feet, and he encouraged the large boys to persevere in furnishing wood for the old broken stove, oftentimes going out and taking the axe himself to show them how it might be wielded to the greatest effect. Thus matters went on for nearly four weeks, when the teacher said to the children one night—"tell your parents that we have only wood enough to last two days." The children did as they were told, but every man said that it belonged to his neighbour to get the next wood. The next, and the next day passed and no wood came—"Tell your parents," said the teacher, "that the school must stop, unless we have some wood to-morrow fore noon." But every man had something else to do, and no wood came. The school assembled, and by chips, and barks from the fences, made a partial fire. It was a cold blustering day, and all were soon shivering with the cold.

The teacher was out of patience, and the scholars out of humour. "May I go to the fire, sir," was the constant cry, while some were coughing, some trotting their feet, and others blowing upon their fingers, so loud as to be heard all over the house, and while the boys were pushing each other round the stove, the little girls were crying because they could not get to the fire! The teacher scolded and punished, and finally gave up in despair, and said,—"Take your books and go home, and tell your folks that the school has closed."—"Good," cried a little urchin, in one corner of the room, who had much rather play than study.—"I am glad of it," exclaimed another—"so am I," "so am I," went round the room; Bedlam seemed let loose; the books were quickly gathered, and all rushed from the house as though they were escaping from the most doleful prison; and they ran to their homes shouting and rejoicing that school was done! But when they told their story, their parents did not seem quite so well pleased. "O, dear," exclaimed the wife of Mr. Tighthouse, "how can we live, to have all our six children at home, through this long winter? We must send them to school to get them out of the way—don't be so stingy of your wood, old man—do send a load of wood to the school-house, to-morrow morning, and your children with it—you can't tell how I am *bothered* with them all around me, every day." These arguments were so potent, that Mr. T. consented to take 1-4 of a cord of wood, from his own shed, and send it to the school-house, that very night. Other parents had no idea of having the school stop, for they wished to have their children learn; so in the course of the next day, half a dozen loads of green wood were tumbled into the snow, around the school-house, and the school went on another month, as before—then nearly the same scene had to be acted over again. And nearly one week before the teacher's engagements expired, he was obliged to close his school for the want of wood, the parents thinking that it would not be worth their while to make another fuss, to get wood just for one week. And then they tried to wrong the teacher out of half his wages, because the school had been unprofitable! true enough. But then who was to blame? The teacher or the parents? Certainly not the teacher. Let parents do their duty, in furnishing a good school-house, and dry wood fitted for the stove, and then if the school be unprofitable, blame the teacher.

The least inconvenience, arising from the negligence of the district, in making the school-room comfortable, will injure the school.

Such has been the experience of

AN OLD TEACHER.

A COLOURED DIGNITARY.—The Paris correspondent of the *Boston Atlas* says: "A frequent visitor at the Tuilleries of late, where he has a seat, by the Queen's side, is Father Mousa, a jet black African priest, who excites great interest by accounts of his missionary labours in Senegal. Most of the nobility have invited him to their tables, and large sums have been subscribed to build him a new church. Through his exertions, over six hundred Roman Catholic priests have signed a petition for the abolition of slavery in the French colonies, to be presented to the next Chambers—over eight thousand other signatures are attached."

PROSPECTS FOR ILLINOIS.—Lyell, the geologist, asserts that there is more coal in the single State of Illinois than in all Europe.

THE REVELATIONS OF ASTRONOMY.

(Continued from North British Review.)

At the enormous distance from the sun which we have now reached, we believed, at the commencement of this article, that the solar system terminated. The late M. Cacciatori, the successor of Piazzi, had indeed declared, as we have seen, that he had followed for three days a moving star, which, from the slowness of its motion, he suspected to be beyond Uranus; but the conjecture excited no other feeling than that of grief, that he should not have continued his search for so interesting a body. At the time we are now writing, however, the discovery of a new planet beyond Uranus, has been announced to the scientific world—a discovery which will ever be regarded as one of the grandest triumphs of astronomical science. To discover a planet by the ordinary process of observation, is an act of no greater merit than that of discovering a comet, or any other celestial object; but to predict the existence of a planet from phenomena which indicated its existence, is one of the finest achievements which philosophy has ever performed. In comparing the calculated with the observed places of Uranus, a discrepancy appeared which could not be explained by any of the perturbations produced by the other planets. The deviation in question seemed to be owing to the disturbing action of a planet more distant than Uranus. M. Le Verrier undertook the problem of computing the probable place of the supposed planet, from the nature and amount of its perturbations as affecting Uranus, and he seems to have obtained a correct solution of it. The planet was actually discovered on the 23d of September, at Berlin, by M. Galle, of the Royal Observatory, and has been since seen at Mr. Bishop's Observatory in Regent's Park. It resembles a star of the 9th magnitude, having a diameter of three seconds, and a volume 230 times that of the Earth. Mr. Hind saw the disc with a power of 320. Its motion, which is at present retrograde, amounts to two or three seconds of time daily. On the 24th of September, at 8h 54' 40".9, its right ascension was 328° 18' 14".3, and its declination 13° 24' 29".7 south. On the 30th September, at 8h 16' 21", mean time at Greenwich, its right ascension was 328° 3' 8".6, and its south declination 13° 27' 20". In conformity with Bode's law, its distance will be about 3453 millions of miles, and its periodic time about 1723 years, and if there should still be another planet, its distance would be nearly 7000 millions of miles. With a Newtonian reflecting telescope 20 feet in focal, and with an aperture of 24 inches, and powers of from 316 to 567, Mr. Lassels of Liverpool has examined this planet, and has announced in *The Times* the probability that it has a ring like Saturn, and a satellite. "On the 3d October," he says, "at about 8½ hours, I observed the planet to have apparently a very obliquely situated ring, the major axis being seven or eight times the length of the minor, and having a direction nearly at right angles to a parallel of declination. At the distance of about three diameters of the disc of the planet northwards, and not far from the plane of the ring, but a little following, there was situated a minute star, having every appearance of a satellite. I observed the planet again, about two hours later, and noticed the same appearances. * * * *"

With regard to the existence of the ring, I am not able absolutely to declare it, but I received so many impressions of it, always in the same form and direction, and with all the different magnifying powers, that I feel a very strong persuasion that nothing but a purer state of atmosphere is necessary to verify the discovery. Of the existence of a star having every aspect of a satellite, there is not the shadow of a doubt. Afterwards I turned the telescope to the *Georgium Sidus* (Uranus), and remarked that the brightest two of his satellites were both obviously brighter than this small star accompanying Le Verrier's planet.

Since the preceding paragraph was printed Prof. Challis, of Cambridge, has communicated to the *Athenæum* some interesting information respecting the history and discovery of the new planet. From this communication it appears that, previous to January, 1843, Mr. Adams, an under-graduate of that university, had endeavoured to account for the anomalies in the motions of Uranus on the hypothesis of a more distant planet. The necessity, however, of preparing himself for the examinations for the academic distinction which he obtained in January, 1843, left him no time for pursuing the research. In the course of 1843, he arrived at an approximation to the position

of the planet, but having employed only a small number of observations of Uranus, he obtained in February, 1844, through Prof. Challis, from the Astronomer Royal, the early Greenwich observations then in course of reduction. With these materials, Mr. Adams proceeded in this inquiry, and in September, 1845, he communicated to Mr. Challis his values of the heliocentric longitude, eccentricity, place of perihelion, and mass of the supposed planet.

On the 29th of July, 1846, Prof. Challis, guided by a paper drawn up for him by Mr. Adams, commenced with the Great Northumberland Achromatic, a systematic search for the planet. On the 30th June, he observed all the stars even to those of the 11th magnitude, in a zone 9 minutes broad. On the 12th of August, he met with a star of the 8th magnitude in the 9 minute zone which did not contain it on the 30th July. "Of course," says Prof. Challis, "this was the planet, the place of which was recorded a second time in four days of observing." The following were the positions of the planet on the 4th and 12th of August:—

Aug. 4, 13h 36m 25s	R. Ascens.	21h 58m 14".70
	N. Pol. Dist.	192° 37' 32".20
Aug. 12, 13h 3m 26"	R. Ascens.	21h 57m 26".13
	N. Pol. Dist.	103° 2m 0".2

The following elements of the planet's orbit have been deduced by Mr. Adams from these positions compared with more recent ones:—

Distance of the planet from the sun,	
the Earth being 1.	30.05
Inclination of Orbit,	1°45'
Longitude of descending node,	309°43'
Heliocentric longitude, August 4,	326°39'

The distance of the planet from the sun is less than the theory had indicated, and also less than it should be by Bode's law.

It would be presumptuous to assert that we have reached the limits of our system, especially at the present moment, when we have, since 1781, extended that system from an orb of 1800 millions of miles in diameter, namely, that which is bounded by Saturn's orbit, to one of 6906 millions of miles, or that which is included within the orbit of Le Verrier's planet,—that is when we have extended it nearly *four times* its former diameter. There is, however, a probable limit to every planetary system. When the light and heat of the central sun has become so diffuse and weakened by distance, that they are scarcely capable of producing the effects which we ascribe to them, we may reasonably conjecture that we have reached the boundaries of the system. Even on the surface of Uranus and of Le Verrier's planet, their influence must be feeble indeed. In the former, the light of the sun is to that which we enjoy on the earth as 3 to 1000, while in the latter it is only as 7 to 10,000, that is, on Uranus the light is only $\frac{1}{333}$, and on Le Verrier's planet only $\frac{1}{1428}$, of the light upon the earth. If there should still be another planet, which unexplained perturbations in Le Verrier's planet may indicate, the light upon it will be only $\frac{1}{333}$ of the earth's light—a glimpse altogether insufficient for eyes like ours.

After an attentive examination of the preceding statement, we could scarcely anticipate any controversy respecting the honour of being the first discoverers of the planet. Mr. Adams appears, according to our present information, to have been the first to predict its existence and its place, and as M. Galle did not discover the planet till the 23d of September, while Prof. Challis observed its place on the 4th and 12th of August, seven weeks previous to the first Berlin observation of it, we should have thought it equally clear that he was the true practical discoverer of it. But Professor Challis has made such a statement near the end of his letter, as to make it appear that he was not aware of the discovery of the planet; and unless he give some explanation of his language, we are sure that as the foreign claimants first published their discovery, it will be urged against him with all the feeling of national rivalry. "A comparison," says he, "of the observation of July 30 and August 12, would, according to the principles of search which I employed, have shown me the planet. I did not make the comparison of it till after the detection of it at Berlin, partly because I had an impression that a much more extensive search was required to give any probability of discovery, and partly from the press of other occupations. The planet, however, was secured, and two positions of it recorded six weeks earlier

here than in any other observatory,—and in a systematic search expressly undertaken for that purpose.”

NOTES OF A VISIT TO CHATSWORTH.

THE CONSERVATORY.

Do not imagine this as an overgrown hothouse attached to the mansion, or as, in fact, resembling any thing greenhouse-like that is to be found elsewhere. It is quite an object by itself—and I was, therefore, pleased with its site, and the management of the locality.

The spot where it is situated, is about five minutes walk from the house. You pass along one of the most perfectly kept carriage roads, through the park, or rather through a wood—then under a striking and picturesque arch, and you come to a large opening in the midst of a noble wood of old trees—an opening such as I have seen in some of our stateliest forests, and which I am told, was actually cleared up to form the site for this building. This smooth area is surrounded by terraces, which form a fine frame-work of walks, from which the conservatory is seen to great advantage.

The Grand Conservatory itself—I cannot give you any better idea of it than by telling you that it is a glass structure which covers an acre of ground—that it is seventy feet high; and that the carriage road is continued directly through it, so that the Duke and his guests can drive through with a coach and four! The whole building is heated by hot water, the pipes to convey which measure miles. The temperature of various climates is imitated, and the collection of trees and plants embraces all that is fairest and loveliest of the vegetable world. Here there is a whole avenue of Bananas and Plantains living one of the grand walks, and among them *Musa cavendishii* full of flowers, and laden with heavy masses of fruit. There, in an appropriate climate, is a charming grove of Oranges and Lemons. An *aquarium*, or pond of water, is the site for all the rare and curious water lilies and other aquatic plants of the tropics. And near by is a wild mass of rock-work, of Derbyshire spar, looking like a rich bank by a forest stream, where rare exotic ferns, lichens, and air plants, enjoy something as near as possible to their natural homes.

Over this hill of rock-work, is conducted a flight of steps; this leads you to a light gallery carried quite round the conservatory. Whence, as you may imagine, the eye of the spectator revels in the strangeness and novelty of the masses of oriental vegetation, not plants half-starved and dwarfed in pots, but trees nearly full-grown, and luxuriating with their roots in the warm soil—Palms, Dates, and Bananas, developing almost all their native grandeur and oriental wildness!

I attempted to keep no notes of the many rare and interesting plants that were shown me here. *Amherstia nobilis* however I saw—a plant so rare, and so coveted, that a collector was sent by the Duke, specially to India for it! I believe it is the only plant in Europe. It is a native of the Burman Empire, where only one tree of it is yet known. It is said in its flowers and foliage to surpass any other tree in the world. The flowers are presented as offerings before the images of Buddha. All the amateurs, of course, are in agonies to see this plant bloom!

The appearance of the exterior of this immense glass pleasure-ground, is quite different from anything that I ever saw in the United States. It is not a smooth surface of glazed sashes—but a great curved surface, glazed in what is technically called the *ridge and furrow* system. The look it has at a distance is as if the whole roof had been nicely *crimped*, like the folds of a plaited ruffle. As you look at it from without, it is, on the whole, entirely satisfactory—massive and grand. Touching the inside—I was somewhat disappointed, as the wooden rafters are necessarily heavy. But this, I have no doubt, will be less apparent when the luxuriant vines and creepers have quite covered them. On my route through the grounds I was shown the tree which the Queen planted to commemorate her visit here two years ago. It is doing well, is an object of more interest and solicitude, than any body but a loyal subject can well understand or conceive of, and I contrived to enrich my book of *mementos* with a leaf.

An *arboretum*, or collection of rare hardy trees, is quite the leading fashion in England—a very useful and instructive fashion, introduced I believe by Mr. Loudon. I may give you a glimpse of the extent of ornamental planting here, by stating

that 50,000 *Rhododendrons* are now growing, all of which have been planted since Mr. Paxton, the present able manager, came here, some twelve years ago. In the range of the Arboretum I noticed the finest specimen of our great California Pines—*Abies Douglassii*, and *A. nobilis*, that I have any where soon. They are on the side of a rocky bank, and will, no doubt, soon become grand trees. I should say they are thirty feet high now. The *Norfolk Island Pine* is perfectly hardy here, the *Deodar Cedar* grows surprisingly fast, and dozens of arboricultural varieties that will not bear our winter seem quite acclimated here. Among the notabilities I remember seeing a *Fuchsia* on the “conservative wall,” that covered a space twenty feet every way; and a famous peach tree trained in the kitchen garden, which bears, or has borne, fifty dozen peaches in a season!

In all the points of a perfect country place of the first class, Chatsworth is complete. Forcing houses, without end, separate greenhouses for all kinds of rare plants, stables, cricket grounds, &c., out of doors—and the choicest collections in all departments of the fine arts within doors. About one hundred and forty men are constantly employed on the grounds near the house. In this way you see, a large income is turned to some account—giving occupation to quite a village of people.

APPROPRIATE GIFT.—The editor of the Cincinnati Atlas has been presented with a quill of the condor of the Andes, which is two feet three inches in length, the barrel six inches long, and nearly as large as the forefinger. No one will hereafter deny that the editor of the Atlas wields a powerful pen.

MAGNIFICENT PROJECT.—We learn from a citizen of Hartford, Conn., that they have it in contemplation to bring down the Enfield Canal to Hartford for the purpose of supplying the city with water, and introducing into this finely located place an immense water power. The route has recently been surveyed by a competent and thorough engineer, and his report is in the highest degree favorable. It is proposed that the canal shall be 100 feet in width and 12 feet in depth. This will afford a water power in Hartford much more extensive than that of Lowell, it being sufficient, according to accurate estimates, to carry more than 500,000 spindles. The whole cost of this splendid enterprise will not exceed \$700,000.

AGRICULTURE AND DIPLOMACY.—Hon. Henry A. Wise, U. S. Minister at Rio Janeiro, has written to the Patent Office a valuable letter, published in the *Union*, on topics of much agricultural interest. He recommends the transplanting of many Brazilian plants, especially of the Angola grass. The cotton about Rio Janeiro is said to be high and of good quality; the cereal grains to have degenerated.

PROGRESS.—“The South was never more united on this subject (Slavery) than at present. The time was when many of us were accustomed to acknowledge that Slavery is an evil, though without attaching any definite idea to the phrase; but of late years we have been led, by our affectionate Northern friends, to examine the subject, and are now convinced that it is sanctioned by the Bible, and just such an institution in its social and political influences, as we need.”—*Christian Index*, Nov. 20.

MORE LEAD MINES.—The Galena Jeffersonian says: “Large discoveries have been made this fall at Hazel Green, Jefferson, Mineral Point, Franklin, and other places, and miners have flocked thither from all parts of the mineral region. The Wisconsin lead region is the El Dorado for the enterprising and industrious.”

APPLES OF GOLD.

There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God; God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved. Psa. xli. 4, 5. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world. 1 John iv. 4; Psalm cx. 2; Zech. ii. 5.

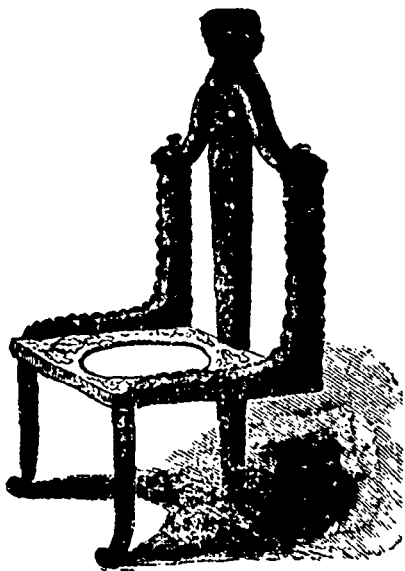
True Christians, in a right spirit, still are subject to temptations from within and without; but, watching unto prayer, they do not fall by them. On the contrary, as temptations are great helps to discover their hidden infirmities, and stir them up to be more cautious, serious, and faithful, they are followed and rewarded with great and glorious victories. Temptations are not indeed joyous in themselves, but are attended with good fruit and blessed effects in the faithful. Hence St. James bids us count it all joy when we fall into divers temptations. What reason have we, then, to be afraid of temptations, since every one carries a new blessing along with it?

Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly;
While the billows near me roll,
While the tempest still is high.

Hide me, O my Saviour! hide,
Till the storm of life is past!
Safe unto the haven guide!
O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none;
Hangs my helpless soul on thee
Leave, ah! leave me not alone!
Still support and comfort me.

SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATION.



ROMAN JUDGMENT SEAT. From an unique example at Wilton House. "And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor." Matt. xxvii. 2. Verse 19.—"When he was set down on the judgment seat."

"Pontius Pilate the Governor."—This person came to Judea as procurator in the year 26 A.D., and continued to fill that office to the year 38. Nothing of his previous history is known. The Jews had in later days worse governors than Pilate; but the general character of his government appeared to much disadvantage as compared with that of most of his predecessors. He was a man of stern and inflexible temper, and understood but little of, or cared but little for, the peculiar character of the people whom he was appointed to rule. By his utter disregard for the religious feelings of the people, to which most of the former procurators had shown some respect, he gave much offence, greatly disturbed the repose of the country, and laid the foundation for many troubles and revolts that afterwards followed. On one occasion, when he sent troops to winter in Jerusalem, he caused their ensigns, on which were the worshipped images of the emperor, to be carried into the city, which no previous governor had allowed for fear of exasperating the people, who regarded the presence of such idolatrous symbols and images as an insult to their religion, and a pollution to their land. Pilate's ensigns were brought in covered, by night; but their presence being discovered the next day, many of the Jews hastened to Cæsarea to entreat the procurator to withdraw them. He kept them waiting five days and nights before his palace; but on the sixth sent for them to an open place where we had set up his tribunal. Here he caused them to be surrounded by soldiers, and threatened them with instant death unless they returned home. But they threw themselves on the ground, and, baring their necks, declared that they would sooner die than that the idolatrous standards should remain in the holy city contrary to the law. Pilate, astonished at their resolution, for once relented, and gave orders for the standards to be brought back to Cæsarea.

THE HONEY BEE.—*APIS MELLIFICA.*

(From the Witness.)

In compliance with the request of your correspondent, I will endeavour to give you a short treatise on this important insect, partly collected from the best authorities, but principally from my own experience and observation.

It is a well ascertained fact, that each swarm or hive consists of three kinds of bees—the female or queen, the neuter or worker, and the male or drone.

The appearance of the workers and drones, are well known to every keeper of bees; but many have kept them for years without having ever seen the queen, and some have even doubted her existence: it may therefore be well to give a more minute description of her.

The queen more resembles the worker than the drone, but is chiefly distinguished from it by the greater length of the abdomen, and the paler colour of the legs and antennæ; the wings are short and

smaller in proportion when closed, scarcely reaching more than half the length of the abdomen; while the wings of the worker reach nearly to the apex. She is furnished with a bent sting, and the hairs on her head are of a yellow colour, except on the forehead, where the hairs are nearly black; the worker has a straight sting, and the hairs on the head are black; the drone has no sting.

There is only one queen in a hive, except just at the period of swarming, when occasionally several young queens are hatched out at the same time. Nearly all writers concur in supposing that the old queen goes off with the first swarm, and that no young queens are permitted by the workers, or nurse bees, to quit their cells till the old one has left, when one is permitted to come out, which goes off with the second swarm, and so on in the same manner till all the swarms have left; after which the rest of the young queens make their escape from their cells, being no longer guarded by the nurse bees, when a contest ensues, and the strongest remains queen of the hive, after destroying all the others, and all the royal larvæ and pupæ that remain. That this supposition is not always correct is certain, from the fact that as many as three or four queens have been sometimes found dead under a swarm that has been newly hived, having fought till all were destroyed but one; but a greater number than one leaving the hive at a time, may probably be considered the exception to the general rule.

It is also supposed, that in case of the queen dying at any time when there are eggs or larvæ in the hive, the workers will take an egg, that would have made a neuter or worker, and by peculiar feeding and constructing a large cell round it, will convert it into a queen; from which it is supposed that the workers are all undeveloped females.

The sole occupation of the queen is to lay eggs in the several cells prepared for that purpose by the workers, for she takes no care of the young herself. Until about ten or eleven months old, the eggs laid are such as will nearly all turn workers; after that period which occurs in spring, the queen commences the great laying of eggs for males, at this time she will lay from two to three thousand eggs, sometimes from forty to fifty a day, being laid during the months of April and May; a few male eggs are also laid in autumn; in the interval the eggs of workers are almost exclusively laid.

The royal cells, or those in which the eggs for the queens are laid, are very different from those for the workers or drones, they are something of the form of a pear, and are generally suspended from the edges or sides of the combs, attached by the thickest end to the comb, with the mouth or entrance hanging downwards: the number of these cells vary from two or three to twenty, though the latter is a very unusual number. When the larvæ in the royal cells are about changing to pupæ, the old queen begins to exhibit signs of agitation, running carelessly over the cells in every direction, she is no longer surrounded by her usual circle of attendants, and her agitation being communicated to all she passes, a general confusion is created, till at last the greater part of the bees rush out of the hive, with the queen at their head; it is thus that the first swarm quits the hive.

At any other time the queen would be unable to fly, the great number of eggs contained in her abdomen rendering her too heavy, this, however, is sufficiently reduced, after the great laying just described, to enable her to fly with ease.

After the swarming is over for the season, the males or drones are killed by the working bees; it is generally stated that they are stung to death, but this, I think, is not the case, as from the most careful investigation I have never seen the workers use their sting. Two generally seize the drone by the wings and twist and bite them, so as to disable him from flying, when he is conducted to the front of the hive and precipitated to the ground, where he runs and crawls about attempting to fly, till he perishes; if he has not been sufficiently disabled the first time, he flies back to the hive, when he is again seized in the same manner as before.

The reason of the destruction of the males has never been satisfactorily explained, it has been supposed that being no longer of use they are killed to prevent too great a consumption of honey during winter, but as every strong hive lays up far more honey than is necessary for their winter consumption, it is doubtful if this is the true reason.

Owing to the great difficulty of examining into the operations of bees caused by their constant motion and clustering so much together, it has been very difficult to arrive at any definite or certain conclusions

with respect to their habits, etc., and as I am not convinced that the theories or conclusions hitherto considered established are correct, I will refrain from going into them, as they would have little interest to the general reader, and would extend this article to too great a length, besides they are not necessary to the profitable management of the bee. I shall, therefore, only further remark on this head, that it has been supposed by some of the best authorities, that the working bees are divided into different classes which have different duties to perform, such as honey gatherers, wax workers, sculpture, and nurse bees, and that some of these classes are smaller in size than others: they have also supposed that the wax which exudes in their scales from the rings or segments of the abdomen, is deposited in a solid form by the bees, which they call wax workers, and that the sculpture bees excavate it into cells; but from my own observation I am led to believe this idea to be erroneous.

The wax exudes in thin scales as above stated from the segments of the abdomen of the working bees, and from what I have seen, each scale is of a circular form, and exactly the size of the cell, so that by depositing one scale above another the cell is quickly formed, and without the labour of excavating them from the solid wax; what convinces me of this is, that the combs, in whatever state seen, invariably have the lower part or what is not fully completed, containing cells in all the different stages of construction, from fully formed to those just commenced—while, if excavated as supposed by these authorities, the wax would need to be deposited first to the full depth of the cell in the solid state, before the sculpture bee could commence its excavations, and no comb has ever been discovered in this state or in the least approaching to it. The circle of wax which exudes from the segment of the abdomen is broader on the under side than the upper, and this enables them to build their combs in the tapering manner, which will be easily seen and understood on examining the combs of hives, that are not completely filled. The foundations of the cells are probably laid and excavated in the manner supposed, after which they are built in the manner I have described.

In my next, I will give instructions for living bees, making hives, bee houses, and the general management of the bee, which I hope will prove more interesting and instructive than my present letter, being founded on careful investigation and twenty years' experience in the management of the bee.

A CANADIAN FARMER.

DANCING EXTRAORDINARY.

(From the Witness.)

There appears to be a dancing endemic abroad for which it would be difficult to account. Does a Governor retire—he must be danced out. Does a new Governor arrive, we suppose, there must be fully as much vigor manifested in dancing him in. Are the morals and minds of mechanics to be improved—dancing appear. the specific remedy. Are the fine arts to be encouraged—still musical bands and the light fantastic toe are in requisition.

But this is not all, the disease has put forth still more extraordinary symptoms, which we confess we find it somewhat hard even to believe. Are the Irish starving—their brethren in the States begin forthwith to dance with great energy for their relief. Does a Lying-in-Hospital require funds—still it is dance, dance! dance!! Young men and delicate maidens dance in all the elegance of fashion and finery, for the relief of the lying-in!

This dancing mania, if we remember aright, an nearly as high in the cholera year. until death came in to join the dance; and though there may be no cholera this year, yet one and all of the dancers are exposed to death at any moment—are, in fact, for aught they know, dancing on the brink of eternity; and we leave it to themselves to say if this be a suitable preparation.

We copy the three following notices as they stand, from the columns of a cotemporary. The last, though entitled a Soiree, was in fact a very splendid Ball.

A Grand Ball, for the relief of the suffering poor in Ireland, is to come off on the 10th of February, at Castle-Garden, N. Y. We learn from a correspondent that it will be a magnificent affair.

Fourteen hundred and fifty dollars and eighty-two cents were the results of the Ball of the Erin Benevolent Association of New-York, held at Castle Garden on the 13th ult., for the benefit of the Orphans.

We beg to direct the attention of the reader to the Soiree to be given this evening, in aid of the funds of the University Lying-in Hospital,

at Donogana's Hotel, under the patronage of the Earl of Elgin. This institution has been signally successful, and consequently entitled to the favourable consideration of the public.

WORK FOR THE MISSIONARY.

(From the Union Missionary.)

The *Watchman of the Valley* contains reports of addresses delivered by the Rev. Albert Bushnell, a missionary now on a visit to this country, from Africa. Mr. Bushnell is in very delicate health, and we fear will never be able to return again to the field of his labour. His very anxiety to do so, will retard his recovery to health, and for a time at least, make it essential for him to remain in America.

The following are some of Mr. Bushnell's descriptions of the terrible superstition and cruelties of that dark land. Are there not in our Theological Seminaries some young men who would esteem it a rich privilege to give its inhabitants the gospel of peace and love?

"The population of the Gaboon country where he resided, and of the regions beyond is quite dense, divided and subdivided into numerous tribes, speaking, as he represented, perhaps fifty different languages and dialects, and ruled respectively by every form of government—a free government excepted—absolute despotism, aristocracy, and patriarchal government.

They are a people to whom the prophet's description, 'scattered and peeled,' and 'terrible' wraith, is emphatically applicable. The ravages of the slave trade here are dreadful. Were the victims of this traffic simply kidnapped by the miscreant slave-dealer, its horrors would be far less than at present. The trade is the great incentive to the cruel and bloody wars which are perpetually desolating the country; the slaves are the spoils of the victor, which he exchanges with the trader for rum and fire-arms. Thus the cupidity and cruelty of the pirate slave trader is infused into and infuriates the whole population where this traffic is carried on. Men will capture and enslave sometimes their near friends and relatives; parents have even been known to sacrifice their children on the altar of this Moloch. And the man who drags his fellows in chains to the slave factory to-day, is liable to be himself the victim of the same cruelty to-morrow.

Domestic slavery prevails there also, universally. The people have passed from a savage to a barbarous and semi-civilized state. Foreign trade has brought them some of the conveniences of civilized life, the purchase of which requires the exchange of native productions. These requisites are the fruit of labour, and to furnish them the stronger enslave the weaker, and compel them to toil in their service. All the labour of the country is performed by women and slaves; the unenslaved men, like the lordly Indian of our continent, being unwilling to tarnish their quality, by such a degrading occupation. Hunting, fishing, and fighting, are the only employments suited to their dignity.

Polygamy is universal here. Every man's rank is estimated by the number of his wives. One man, if his wealth and power are able to procure and maintain them, will sometimes own hundreds of wives.

The most cruel superstitions prevail among them. They believe that no man, except in extreme old age, dies a natural death. Every instance of premature death, whether by sickness or casualty, is brought about, they think, by the invisible, supernatural agency of some hostile acquaintance. (They are strong believers in witchcraft.) Every such death, therefore, stirs up the indignant friends to prosecute and convict the suspected murderer. He is arraigned, passes the ordeal of their cruel and capricious tests, and receives the punishment of death. Multitudes of innocent men are the constant victims of this superstition. Cases of the kind had fallen under Mr. Bushnell's personal observation.

But the cruelties of their superstition do not end here. When a distinguished personage dies, he wants the company and services of his wives and servants in the spirit world. To supply this want, great numbers of his wives and slaves are often sacrificed, and buried with him in the same grave. Besides this, his bones are sometimes exhumed, after the lapse of a year or more, and bathed in the blood of other human victims. Human sacrifices are also the expedient which their superstition dictates, to propitiate the favour of their gods. Success in war, in trade, and in agriculture, are the expected fruits of such sacrifices.

Mr. Bushnell's attachment to this benighted people, during his two years residence among them, had become very strong. Ho

found them grateful, confiding, and imitative. These traits of the African character rendered them far more susceptible to missionary influence, than most other pagans. Such was their attachment to the missionaries that they were ready, at the time of the French invasion, to shed their blood in their defence. Night and day—in spite of the remonstrance of the missionaries, who assured them that their own government would protect them—they would watch in secret around the mission premises.

The severest trial to Mr. Bushnell's feelings was, to be told by his physician that he must seek the restoration of his health by a return to his native country; and now his strongest earthly desire is to go back to Africa and spend his days for the salvation of this people.

The pestilential climate of this country Mr. B. thought a less insurmountable obstacle than it was once considered. The African fever, with its appropriate remedies, was becoming better understood by our physicians. Missionaries, after becoming acclimated, and recruiting their vigour by a temporary residence in a healthy country, became fortified against further attacks. There were those there now who had been labouring ten years in that field."

SELECTIONS.

THE SECRET.—"Mother," said a girl of ten years of age, "I want to know the secret of your going away alone every night and morning." "Why, my dear?" "Because it must be to see some one you love very much." "And what leads you to think so?" "Because I have always noticed that when you come back you appear to be more happy than usual." "Well, suppose I do go to see a friend I love very much, and that after seeing him, and conversing with him, I am more happy than before, why should you wish to know anything about it?" "Because I wish to do as you do, that I may be happy also." "Well, my child, when I leave you in the morning and the evening, it is to commune with my Saviour. I go to pray to him—I ask him for his grace to make me happy and holy—I ask him to assist me in all the duties of the day, and especially to keep me from committing any sin against him—and above all I ask him to have mercy on you, and save you from the misery of those who sin against him." "Oh, that is the secret," said the child: "then I must go with you."

BEWARE OF FICTION.—An agent employed by the Franklin County Bible Society, to distribute the word of God in that county, in making his report, says: "An aged man of ninety years, did not want a Bible, but a *story book*—that is, a *novel*! Let novel readers ponder this result of a depraved taste: a passion engendered in youth, now clinging to the very extreme of age. How unspeakably sad the view! An aged man tottering a step or two more to his grave, from eternity's entrance turns back his sunken eye, reaches forth his feeble, trembling hand, and calls for *fiction*, as one dying of delirium tremens does for more of the fatal poison which has already destroyed him! What will he do with his passion beyond the grave? Can he throw aside God's truth and have fiction in heaven? Can he have it in hell—though more fitting there than in any other department of eternity? Let the young, let parents, beware of the poison which eats out all relish for the truth, and especially the truth of God, from the soul."

MATERNAL TUITION.—No man can sympathise with a child's feelings so truly, so intimately as woman; he is deficient in kindness which in her overflows; from her heart she pours out nourishment to the infant mind, which man's intellect in vain attempts to supply. No education, from which the mother virtually or actually is excluded, can suffice and satisfy; no education can be normal in which woman has no part; for without her though the understanding may be brought out, the will, which yields not to hard and harsh motives, but to soft and inviting spontaneities—which does not and cannot respond to more intellectual teaching, but answers only to sympathetic persuasions—must remain comparatively dormant. Christian morals, taught by female lips, cease to be syllogistic disputations, and at once become living principles, receiving illustration not only in the pictures of fancy, and the moving shape of strong imagination, but in the affectionate reality, true loving-kindness, good-will, well-being, which live in woman.

CHEAP FOOD.—Rice being now the most moderate article of food, it may be of some importance to the public generally to know by what an easy, expeditious, and simple mode it is best prepared, viz., by placing it in a pot or pan, (after being washed through cold water,) and pouring on at the rate of two quarts of water (if hot so much the better) to a pound of rice, and letting it boil smartly for about ten minutes, (occasionally stirring it;) afterwards let it be left in the pot, near the fire, and closely covered for about half an hour to swell. When it will be sufficiently done; and, when poured in a dish to cool and seasoned with a little salt or sugar, ready for use. In the process of cooking it will have increased to five times its original weight and quantity; and, as good, sound rice may now be had, in the wholesale market, (bought in quantity,) at about 2d per pound, thus a good, nutritious, warm, comfortable meal may be had at a cost of less than a

3d per pound, and so wholesome that it is the principal food of more than one-half the inhabitants of the known world.

HINT TO THE LADIES.—Dr. Durbin in his *European Sketches*, speaks of the high health and fine forms of the French ladies, and attributes them to the fact that they take so large a share of out door exercise. Such is the uniform testimony of Americans who have visited Europe, and if their accounts are to be relied on, the ordinary every day walks of the French, German, and English ladies, would actually frighten the pale, slender, in-door beauties of our glorious land. Was there ever a person, male or female, living in the habitual neglect of a vigorous use of the limbs, who enjoy high, rosy health? Let those who think a glowing skin, a strong muscle, and an elastic step, signs of vulgarity, enjoy their fashionable dyspepsia, and dignified hysterics; but let the lady who expects to be or to make others happy, cultivate high health by out-door exercise. Who ever saw a class of women possessing higher health or handsomer forms than the market women, who ride half a dozen miles before sunrise?

LONGEVITY OF PROFESSIONS IN AMERICA.—A statistical report, recently published by order of the state of Massachusetts, gives the following statement of the comparative duration of life of the members of various professions and occupations in that State:—"The average age of the clergymen was 64.07 years; of the gentlemen without profession, 66.20; merchants, 55.07; blacksmiths, 51.09; carpenters, 48.94; coopers, 51.21; harness-makers, 38; masons, 49.50; painters, 40.25; printers, 32.50; sailmakers, 42.33; shoemakers, 42; tailors, 54.40; tinnies, 47; labourers, 49; fishermen, 45.14; seamen, 48.76; female domestics, 30.60; dressmakers, 29.87; ladies, 70; milliners, 44; seamstresses, 38.83, and tailoresses, 38.71 years. In this abstract, no person under 20 years of age is included, as it is supposed that occupations have no particular influence before that time. We give the above statements as we find them in the table alluded to, and they must go for what they are worth.

CARE FOR THE YOUNG.—"When," asks Governor Slade, in a recent address at N. York, "will the statesmen of this nation—the noble intellects that move senates and give tone and direction to the popular mind—learn that the surest guaranty of our safety and prosperity is to be found in the silent infusion into the minds and hearts of the people of all parties, and especially of the children, who belong to no party, of sound knowledge and true Christian principle?"

EDUCATION.—A wealthy farmer in Kentucky says, "I would rather be taxed for the education of the boy, than the ignorance of the man. For one or the other I am compelled to be."

ELOQUENCE.—A man Down East, who has occasionally been employed as a country school-master, in speaking of the place where he lived, said—"I have lived to see the wilderness blossom as the rose, the village church spire glisten in the rays of the morning sun, and one night the stream rose twenty feet and carried away my mill, which cost one thousand dollars."

HAIR-CUTTING GRATIS.—"I must tell you a ridiculous thing that occurred in a small village of Oxfordshire last week, and which caused a diminution in my congregation yesterday. A man, wearing a certain badge of authority, passed through the village, and calling at each house, informed the inhabitants that he was a Government barber, sent from London to cut all the poor people's hair gratis, it having been ascertained to be the most effectual way of keeping off the cholera, which had already made its appearance. The fellow succeeded in carrying away with him sufficient hair to make several wigs, and the deluded people were obliged to set and make caps to defend their bare heads from the cold which set in next day."—*Correspondent of Times.*

STEAMBOAT ACCIDENTS.—A correspondent of the *N. Y. Gazette* gives a list of the accidents to steamboats in the United States, from the 1st of November, 1845, to November 1, 1846. The whole number of accidents on his list is one hundred and forty-five; by these accidents 310 lives were lost, and 93 persons were more or less injured. In the 145 accidents, 116 boats were totally lost, and 29 were badly damaged. The number lost on the Western waters were 120, 46 were snaggd, 38 were sunk, 16 boilers burst, 15 were run into by other vessels, 13 were destroyed by fire, 10 were shipwrecked, and 7 were cut through by the ice. He conjectures the amount of loss to be from \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

A GOOD ARRANGEMENT.—In France, all ladies who do not possess a decided ample fortune, make it a point to learn some practical art or business, which in case of reverse of fortune they may use to obtain a living. There are said to be 6,000 females among the easy classes in New York, who are destitute of any acquirement that could be made available in case of necessity.

SALT FOR HOGS.—Hogs, during the process of fattening, should be supplied with salt as often as once a week. It is no less advantageous to them than to the ox, the cow, or the sheep, and when liberally given, is a preventive of many diseases, to which, from their continual confinement, and the effect of hearty food, they are inevitably exposed. Store hogs are also greatly benefited by a liberal provision of salt, and will generally partake of it once or twice a week, as eagerly and to all appearance with as good zest, as they do of corn or meal. Charcoal is also highly salutary in its influences upon the health of swine.—*Maine Farmer.*

A venerable old man says:—"Let the slandered take comfort—it is only at fruit trees that thieves throw stones."

NEWS.

By the arrival of the transient steamer, the *Sarah Sands*, at New York, we have British dates to the 20th ult., being 16 days later.

The following is a summary of the intelligence, as reported in the Albany and Troy papers, to which places it was transmitted by telegraph:—

Parliament commenced its session on the 19th ult., and was opened by the Queen in person. In her speech she refers to the condition of Ireland, and recommends the Parliament to take into consideration whether by increasing for a limited period, the facilities of importing corn from foreign countries, and by the admission of sugar more freely into breweries and distilleries, the supply of food may be beneficially augmented. The Queen also calls the attention of Parliament to the consideration of measures for the permanent benefit of Ireland. She had ordered a protest against the extinction of Cracow, and expressed a confident hope, as also does the King of the French, that the difficulties in the River Plata will soon be arranged.

The British ministry are determined to carry out three great measures which the urgency of the case demands.—They are determined to suspend the Navigation Laws, so as to allow vessels of every country to bring provisions to the British shores. They are determined to repeal the duties of last session on the importation of grain. They have determined to prohibit the use of grain in breweries and distilleries, and permit the use of sugar and molasses under certain restrictions. Finally, the whole of the available British Navy is to be occupied in bringing food from every quarter of the world, where it can be procured, to arrest the starvation of which Ireland is the scene. In fact, it is known that several experienced merchants have agreed to furnish in a month or two from the States, large quantities of corn, at 16s. to 18s. per quarter, under the current rates. The farmers are already taking the alarm, and so far from keeping back, are now engaged in forcing their produce on the markets.

Affairs in Ireland are represented as growing worse every day, and it was said that numerous cases of death from starvation were occurring.

In this city the weather has been mild. The winter roads are beautiful, and an unprecedented quantity of produce is pouring in.

The theme of the past week has been the proposed subscription for the relief of the destitute Irish and Scotch Highlanders; and meeting after meeting has been held, not as to the propriety of taking up a subscription—upon that all are agreed—but respecting the proportions in which it is to be divided between the Irish and Scotch. This discussion has, as might be supposed, awakened a good deal of national feeling, and made a stir which may, it is to be feared, prove somewhat unfavourable to the productiveness of the collection. The Irish claim three-fourths for their friends, on the plea that they are much more numerous, but the Scotch stand out for a third, alleging that they will give the largest subscriptions. Now, all this discussion appears to us out of place, for the simple reason, that no man, nor body of men, has any right to divide the money except the parties who give it; and this is what it will, doubtless, come to, let committees or public meetings decide as they will.

Meantime, we perceive, with pleasure, that one or two ministers have stepped forward and pledged themselves to have any contributions entrusted to their care so sent and applied that they will, with all reasonable certainty, reach those who are really the most necessitous, although not, perhaps, the most clamorous.

We have received an account of the capture of Charles P. Dwyer, the party who lately defrauded Boston and New York merchants to the amount of about \$23,000, and for whose apprehension \$500 was offered. It appears from the information received by us, that Dwyer proceeded to New York and Boston, under false credentials, succeeded in making purchases to the amount of the above named sum, in goods of different descriptions, which he exported to different parts of Canada, where cash was realised for them. Dwyer and his wife then hired themselves as servants to a gentleman, named Larocque, residing near Cornwall, in whose employment he was arrested. Information was given of his whereabouts, by a person named Currie, who immediately communicated his information to Capt. Wiley and W. Wilson, of New York, the Agent for the defrauded parties. Mr. Jeremie, our well known and zealous Police Officer, accompanied by Mr. Wilson, proceeded to arrest the delinquent, which was, through the extraordinary tact of Mr. Jeremie, accomplished.—Dwyer was brought to town by Jeremie and lodged safely in jail. We are sorry to learn, that Jeremie will not receive any part of the reward offered. Currie, who was the first to communicate information respecting Dwyer will receive the full amount.—*Herald*.

DESERTING.—On Tuesday a man was brought before James M'Farlane, Esq., J. P., charged with enticing some soldiers of the 46th Regiment to

desert. He was committed for trial. He wore part of the American uniform.—*Argus*.

DESERTION.—On Tuesday three soldiers of the 46th Regt. were taken near Amherst Island. They had deserted and lost their way. Their feet were frozen, and will most probably have to be amputated.—*Id.*

We understand that upwards of thirty of the soldiers of the 81st and 16th Regts, principally of the former, have deserted from this post since the river has been frozen. These men, we believe, are generally mechanics.

PROGRESS OF TORONTO.—Mr. Boulton took the oath of office as Mayor of Toronto, on Monday last, and from his inaugural address delivered to the Council, we glean the following facts:—Within the last twenty years, the population of the city has increased from seventeen hundred to twenty-two thousand. The present debt of the city amounts to £70,000, and the revenue for the present year is estimated at £12,400, leaving a balance, after paying all expenses, of £1,500 to be expended in public improvements. The rate of taxation is 1s 1d on the pound, and the annual expense of the gas with which the city is lighted, is £1,050. The exports during the last year exceeded the imports by £140,000, and the duties on the latter for the same period, amounted to the enormous sum of £33,000.—The shipping list is considerably increased—2,750 vessels having entered the port during the year. There are sixteen Common Schools in the city, having 1,400 pupils, and supported at a cost of £773 12s., including school rents. It is gratifying to note the rapid prosperity of Toronto, and the flourishing state of its finances.—*Economist*.

ESCAPED.—Four prisoners, confined in the District Gaol, escaped on Saturday last, by breaking down a portion of the prison wall. Three of them were mentioned for a riotous attack upon the Magistrates last July. Their names are M'Condry, Doglierty, and Corcoran. The fourth, named Welch, was committed on a charge of robbery. They broke gaol about three o'clock in the evening.—*Bytown Packet*.

INCREASE OF TRAVELLING.—A premium of £25 was given for berths in the *Hibernia* and the *Cambria*. The February boat had already engaged her full complement of passengers and full freight. The *Hibernia* was compelled to leave a considerable quantity of freight.

ADVANCING SOUTHWARD.—Messrs. Bernard & Jewell, of New-Orleans, have made permanent arrangements to publish a newspaper in Tampico, to be called the *Tampico Sentinel*. They left on the 20th ult. to carry on the enterprise.

PRACTICAL WORKING OF FOURIERISM.—Fourierism, like many other projects in theory, has proved altogether a failure in practice, and we are not aware that there is now in existence any of the several associations, which were formed under the plan of the French philosopher, Fourier. An association of some 400 was formed at Clarkson, in the county of Monroë, which has been entirely broken up, producing much misery and suffering among the members, most of whom were poor people. Another association was formed at Hopewell, in the county of Ontario, near the railroad. This also has been broken up, to the entire ruin of its members; the dilapidated walls of its half finished "Phalanx" edifice, may be seen by the traveler as he passes by in the cars. Men and women were never designed to live together like bees in a hive; on the contrary, it is a law of their nature that they should separate and live in pairs and families. It is an old saying and a true one, which the Fourier philosophers might learn from any old woman, that there never was a house large enough for even two families, much less for a whole phalanx.—*Batav a Spirit of Times*.

EMIGRATION.—We are informed that Mr. Thomas Rawlings, who is interested in a society to aid emigrants from Europe to this country, has received instructions from England to reserve 150,000 acres of a large tract of land in Western Virginia, for settlers from Wales, most of whom intend to emigrate in the spring. Mr. R. has control of these lands for this purpose, by an arrangement with the owners, and is doing much to advance the interest, and improve the condition of European emigrants.

SLAVE-TRADERS.—Mr. Wise, (himself a slaveholder at home,) says that the U.S. schooner that was condemned at the Navy Yard, (Brooklyn,) two years ago, has made three successful voyages to Africa after slaves, and is now on the fourth. She sold for \$1500, and in three months cleared her owners, to his knowledge, \$9500. It is a startling and horrible fact, if indeed it be as stated.

A SREAK OF LIGHTNING.—At 10 o'clock on the evening of the 27th ult., Toronto was attached to the New-York and Buffalo line of telegraph, and communications passed along the line from New-York to Toronto for the first time. Subsequently Boston was brought into the circuit, and a connected line of 900 miles placed in operation.

Monies received on account of *People's Magazine and Weekly Journal*:—

Amherstburgh, S. K., 5s.—Brighton, R. R., 5s.—Chambly, Mr. D., 2s 6d.—Dawn Mills, S. H., 2s 6d.—Darlington, Rev. O. B., 5s.—Port Dover, H. D., 5s.—Penetanguishie, sundries per L. C., 32s 6d.—Simcoe, R. G., Jr., 5s.—Wallaceburgh, T. H., 2s 6d.

Per A. Geminill, Agent:—Farmersville, Mr. M'K., 5s.
Per J. M'Kirdy, Agent:—Amiens, J. M'K., 5s; C. S., 5s; D. L., 5s; A. M'P., 5s.—Doleware, C. W., 5s.—Goderich, W. S., 5s.—London, D. B., 5s.—Port Sarnia, G. S., 5s; W. B. C., 5s; J. W., 5s; A. S., 5s; F. U., 5s.—Tuckersmith, J. S., 5s.

Pieces of produce, since the arrival of Mail, nominal.

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