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THE PEOPLE'S MAGAZINE.

Vol. I.

MONTREAL, MAY 1, 1846.

No. 3.

THE EVENING HOUR.

BY MRS. L. WILSON.

This is the hour when memory wakes
Visions of joys that could not last ;
This is the hour when fancy takes
A survey of the past.

She brings before the pensive mind,
The hallowed scenes of other years,
And friends who long have been consigned
To silence and to tears.

The few we liked, the one we loved,
A sacred hand come stealing on ;
And many a form far hence removed,
And many a pleasure gone.

Friendships that now in death are hushed,
And young affection's broken chain,
And hopes that were too quickly crushed,
In memory live again.

Few watch the fading beams of day,
But muse on hopes as quickly flown ;
Tint after tint, they died away,
Till all at last were gone.

This is the hour when fancy wreathes
Her spell round joys that could not last ;
This is the hour when memory breathes
A sigh to pleasures past.

TEA.



The history of commerce does not, perhaps, present a parallel to the circumstances which have attended the introduction of tea into Great Britain. This leaf was first imported into Europe by the Dutch East India Company, in the early part of the seventeenth century ; but it was not until the year 1666 that a small quantity was brought over from Holland to this country by the Lords Arlington and Ossory : and yet, from a period earlier than any to which the memories of any of the existing generation can reach, tea has been one of the principal necessities of life among all classes of the community. To provide a sufficient supply of this aliment, many thousand tons of the finest mercantile navy in the world are annually employed in trading with a people by whom all dealings with foreigners are merely tolerated ; and from this recently acquired taste, a very large and easily collected revenue is obtained by the state.

The tea plant is a native of China or Japan, and probably of both. It has been used among the natives of the former country

from time immemorial. It is only in a particular tract of the Chinese empire that the plant is cultivated ; and this tract, which is situated on the eastern side, between the 30th and 33rd degrees of north latitude, is distinguished by the natives as "the tea country." The more northern part of China would be too cold ; and farther south the heat would be too great. There are, however, a few small plantations to be seen near to Canton.

The Chinese give to the plant the name of *tcha* or *tha*. It is propagated by them from seeds, which are deposited in rows four or five feet asunder ; and so uncertain is their vegetation, even in their native climate, that it is found necessary to sow as many as seven or eight seeds in every hole. The ground between each row is always kept free from weeds, and the plants are not allowed to attain a higher growth than admits of the leaves being conveniently gathered. The first crop of leaves is not collected until the third year after sowing ; and when the trees are six or seven years old, the produce becomes so inferior that they are removed to make room for a fresh succession.

The flowers of the tea tree are white, and somewhat resemble the wild rose of our hedges : these flowers are succeeded by soft green berries or pods, containing each from one to three white seeds. The plant will grow in either low or elevated situations, but always thrives best and furnishes leaves of the finest quality when produced in light stony ground.



[Tea-gathering—from a Chinese drawing.]

The leaves are gathered from one to four times during the year, according to the age of the trees. Most commonly there are three periods of gathering ; the first commences about the middle of April ; the second at Midsummer ; and the last is accomplished during August and September. The leaves that are earliest gathered are of the most delicate colour and most aromatic flavour, with the least portion of either fibre or bitterness. Leaves of the second gathering are of a dull green colour, and have less valuable qualities than the former ; while those which are last collected are of a dark green, and possess an inferior value. The quality is farther influenced by the age of the wood on which the leaves are borne, and by the degree of exposure to which they have been accustomed ; leaves from young wood, and those most exposed, being always the best.

The leaves, as soon as gathered, are put into wide shallow baskets, and placed in the air or wind, or sunshine, during some hours. They are then placed on a flat cast-iron pan, over a stove heated with charcoal, from a half to three quarters of a pound of leaves being operated on at one time. These leaves are stirred quickly about with a kind of a brush, and are then as quickly swept off the pan into baskets. The next process is that of rolling, which is effected by carefully rubbing them between men's hands ; after which they are again put in larger quantities, on the pan, and subjected anew to heat, but at this time to a lower degree than at first, and just sufficient to dry them effectually without risk of scorching. This effected, the tea is placed on a table and carefully picked over, every unsightly or imperfectly dried

leaf that is detected being removed from the rest, in order that the sample may present a more even and better appearance when offered for sale.

The names by which some of the principal sorts of tea are known in China, are taken from the places in which they are produced, while others are distinguished according to the periods of their gathering, the manner employed in curing, or other extrinsic circumstances. It is a commonly received opinion, that the distinctive colour of green tea is imparted to it by sheets of copper upon which it is dried. For this belief there is not, however, the smallest foundation in fact, since copper is never used for the purpose. Repeated experiments have been made to discover, by an unerring test, whether the leaves of green tea contain any impregnation of copper, but in no case has the trace of this metal been detected.

The Chinese do not use their tea until it is about a year old, considering that it is too actively narcotic when new. The tea is yet older when it is brought into use here. In consequence of the time occupied in its collection and transport to this country, the East India Company were obliged by their charter to have always a supply sufficient for one year's consumption in their London warehouses; and this regulation, which enhances the price to the consumer, is said to have been made by way of guarding in some measure against the inconveniences that would attend any interruption to a trade entirely dependent upon the caprice of an arbitrary government.

The people of China partake of tea at all their meals, and frequently at other times of the day. They drink the infusion prepared in the same manner as we employ, but they do not mix with it either sugar or milk. The working classes in that country are obliged to content themselves with a very weak infusion. Mr. Anderson, in his Narrative of Lord Macartney's Embassy, relates that the natives in attendance never failed to beg the tea leaves remaining after the Europeans had breakfasted, and with these, after submitting them again to boiling water, they made a beverage, which they acknowledged was better than any they could ordinarily obtain.—*Abridged from "Vegetable Substances used for Food."*

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION.

BY REV. R. H. THORNTON.

In perusing the history of our world, the reflecting mind must be struck with this truth, that the most ignorant individuals and nations, are the most degraded and vicious. We find slavery, crime, and, of course, misery, where knowledge is wanting; and liberty, virtue, and happiness, where there is mental and moral light. If we look at the popular insurrections and massacres in France in former times, we have an ample illustration of this point. "What," asks the eloquent Hall, "what sort of persons were those ruffians, who, breaking forth like a torrent, overwhelmed the moulds of lawful authority? Who were the cannibals that sported with the mangled carcasses and palpitating limbs of their murdered victims, and dragged them about with their teeth in the gardens of the Tuilleries? Were they refined into these barbarities by the efforts of a too polished education? No: they were the very scum of the people, destitute of all moral culture, whose atrocity was only equalled by their ignorance, as might well be expected when the one was the legitimate parent of the other. Who are the persons who, in every country, are most disposed to outrage and violence, but the most ignorant and uneducated? to which class also belong chiefly those unhappy beings, who are doomed to expiate their crimes at the fatal tree; few of whom, it has recently been ascertained, on accurate inquiry, are able to read, and the greater part utterly destitute of all moral or religious principle." And how can it be otherwise? An ignorant unenlightened mind is the natural soil of sensuality and cruelty. In Spain, accordingly, where, till within a few years, there was but one newspaper, and where not more than one in a hundred of the population are instructed in schools, and with a population about equal to that of England and Wales, we find the moral state of the people in comparison with that of those in England, for example, most deplorable. In 1838, the whole number of convictions in England for murder amounted to 13—convicted of inflicting injury with intent to kill, 14; while in Spain during the same period, the convictions for murder were over 1,200, and for injuries with intent

to kill, 1,773!! How obvious is it, then, that, as Simpson has said, "popular ignorance is an enormous evil, and, to say nothing of the deep reproach with which it covers a people, is full of danger to the social system, and affects deeply our daily well-being." A great proportion of our burdens must be attributed to it—it peoples our prisons and hospitals, and fills up the grave with countless multitudes, whom disease, induced by crime, the offspring of ignorance, cut off in the mid-time of their days.

When we thus contemplate the moral aspect of a people in the absence of an enlightened and efficient system of education, we are constantly meeting new illustrations of the importance of knowledge to the social system, as previously considered; and must perceive, as we advance in the inquiry, that education is the most powerful antidote to both the social and the moral evils which debase and ruin the uneducated. So great is its influence, indeed, that were there no higher views of it to be cherished, the principle of economy alone should induce every nation to neglect no longer the only efficient means by which the principle of crime can be extirpated. To what amount the community is burdened in a pecuniary point of view, owing to evils which efficient education would incalculably reduce, comparatively few are fully aware. It may be well to remind or inform all of such facts as the following, viz., that the annual expense of the police in London alone requires a sum which would go far to extend the blessings of an efficient system of moral training to its numerous youth, now rearing in the ways of vice: and in this part of the Province, in Canada West, the amount of our taxation for criminal procedure, i. e., for the want of education, is £30,000, while all we raise to extend the positive benefits of education, to supply the antidote to crime, is only £20,000.

Having thus glanced at the importance of education in its bearing upon the individual, social, and moral interests of our race, it may be well to advert briefly to some things which tend to render even the scanty share of it we enjoy much less efficient than it might be. Where any adequate impression of the value of education exists, and where improvements are aimed at, the ultimate object seems to be too generally the training of the intellect, while the moral faculties are almost entirely overlooked. Intellectual training we would not depreciate, but insist that its greatest value is, in order to moral results. But what is the tendency of all merely intellectual culture abstracted from moral considerations, but to render the ear of the pupil ultimately deaf to the voice of true wisdom? If the opening intellect is introduced, for example, only to the knowledge of second causes—if the phenomena of nature are exposed in their proximate machinery, and the natural impressions of awe, fear, and gratitude, are effaced, these phenomena are no longer ascribed to the direct agency of the Great Superintendent, but pride elevates human reason to the throne of Jehovah. Instead of this pernicious plan the intellect should be trained, and all these things should be considered, and used as means of unfolding the order, management, and unvarying laws, which the Author of all impressed on matter, when he spake it into being. The improvement of the moral faculties should be a primary object. Education should be of such a kind as to tend directly to infuse into the youthful mind correct habits of thought, affection, and outward behaviour—cause moral and relative duties to be a pleasing obligation, and religious duties to be better fulfilled. It would then decrease crime, increase habits of industry, and elevate the rising generation in the scale of virtue and happiness.

In conclusion, it should be the aim of all interested in this all-important object to discover and point out the leading defects of the prevailing system, and the main causes of hindrance in aiming at a better state of things. Among these, experience and observation both induce me to notice the want of interest on the part of parents. This is not only in itself one of the sorest evils, but is the parent of many others with which society is distressed. Neither teacher, pupil, trustee, nor superintendent, can be expected to labour with ardour, when they find no sympathy where they have the best reason to expect it. This indifference is manifested in various ways, such as in the preference often of the poorest teacher, provided only he be the cheapest, and in permitting or causing irregular attendance. It must be obvious that the best schools can do little for those who are often absent. Habits of irregularity are thus formed, and the pupil, if disposed to be active and attentive, will speedily, under this treatment, become listless and discouraged. The

practice tends, besides, to disorganise the school, and it adds grievously to the labour and vexation of the teacher. Another cause of the low state of education is attributable to the books very commonly in use, being utterly unsuited either to the *youthful capacity*, or the *end in view* in an efficient education. But generally parents manifest an utter disregard to the *kind* of book they put into the hands of the scholar; with the majority *price is everything—quality, nothing*. It is owing to the same indifference, that we meet with such a variety of books in the same department. It is quite common, for instance, to find four or five different kinds of spelling-books, where one only should be found. In short, every thing seems so foreign to what ought to be aimed at, that one is tempted to think that here is a system of things designed to prevent *thinking*, or any expansion of the mind by acquiring an understanding of the object of study. It is not to be wondered that bad reading should be so prevalent, since, from the nature of the books, it must be a mechanical exercise only, and not one in which the understanding has any share.

REVERENCE FOR THE DEAD.—COMMON BURIAL GROUND AT NAPLES.

An old man opened the iron door, and we entered a clean, spacious, and well-paved area, with long rows of iron rings in the heavy slabs of the pavement. Without asking a question, the old man walked across to the further corner, where stood a moveable lever, and, fastening the chain into the fixture, raised the massive stone cover of a pit. He requested us to stand back for a few minutes to give the effluvia time to escape, and then, sheltering our eyes with our hats, we looked in. You have read, of course, that there are 365 pits in this place, one of which is opened every day for the dead of the city. They are thrown in without shroud or coffin, and the pit is sealed up at night, for a year. They are thirty or forty feet deep, and each would contain, perhaps, 200 bodies.

It was some time before we could distinguish anything in the darkness of the abyss. Fixing my eyes on one spot, however, the outlines of a body became defined gradually, and in a few minutes, sheltering my eyes completely from the sun above, I could see all the horrors of the scene but too distinctly. Eight corpses, all of grown persons, lay in a confused heap together, as they had been thrown in one after another in the course of the day. The last was a powerfully made, grey old man, who had fallen flat on his back, with his right hand lying across and half covering the face of a woman. By his full limbs and chest, and the darker colour of his legs below the knee, he was probably one of the *lazzaroni*, and had met with a sudden death. His right heel lay on the forehead of a young man emaciated to the last degree, his chest thrown up as he lay, and his ribs shewing like a skeleton covered with a skin. The close black curls of the latter, as his head rested on another body, were in such strong relief that I could have counted them. Off to the right, quite distinct from the heap, lay, in a beautiful attitude, a girl, as well as I could judge, of not more than nineteen or twenty. She had fallen on the pile and rolled or slid away. Her hair was very long, and covered her left shoulder and bosom; her arm was across her body; and if her mother had laid her down to sleep, she could not have disposed her limbs more decently. The head had fallen a little way to the right, and the feet, which were small, even for a lady, were pressed one against the other, as if she were about turning on her side. The sexton said that a young man had come with the body, and was very ill for some time after it was thrown in. We asked him if respectable people were brought here? "Yes," he said, "many. None but the rich would go to the expense of a separate grave for their relations. People were often brought in handsome grave-clothes, but they were always stripped before they were left. The shroud, whenever there was one, was the perquisite of the undertakers."

And thus are flung into this noisome pit, like beasts, the greater part of the inhabitants of this vast city, the young and the old,—the vicious and the virtuous,—together, without the decency even of a rag to keep up the distinctions of life! Can human beings thus be thrown away?—men like ourselves,—women, children, like our sisters and brothers? I never was so humiliated in my life as by this horrid spectacle. I did not think a man, a felon even, or a leper—what you will, that is guilty or debased—I did

not think anything that had been human could be so recklessly abandoned. Pah! it makes one sick at heart! God grant I may never die at Naples!

While we were recovering from our disgust, the old man lifted the stone from the pit destined to receive the dead of the following day. We looked in. The bottom was strewn with bones already fleshless and dry. He wished us to see the dead of several previous days; but my stomach was already tried to its utmost. We paid our gratuity, and hurried away. A few steps from the gate we met a man bearing a coffin on his head. Seeing that we came from the cemetery, he asked us if we wished to look into it. He set it down, and the lid opening with a hinge, we were horror-struck with the sight of seven dead infants; the youngest was at least three months old; the eldest, perhaps, a year; and they lay heaped together like so many puppies, one or two of them spotted with disease, and all wasted to baby skeletons. While we were looking at them, six or seven noisy children ran out from a small house at the road-side and surrounded the coffin. One was a fine girl of twelve years of age, and, instead of being at all shocked at the sight, she lifted the whitest of the dead things, and looked at its face very earnestly, loading it with all the tenderest diminutives of the language. The others were busy in pointing to those they thought had been the prettiest, and none of them betrayed fear or disgust. In answer to a question of my friend about the marks of disease, the man rudely pulled out one by the foot that lay below the rest, and, holding it up to shew the marks upon it, tossed it again carelessly into the coffin. He had brought them from the hospital for infants, and they had died that morning. The coffin was worn with use. He shut down the lid, and, lifting it again upon his head, went on to the cemetery to empty it like so much dross upon the heap we had seen.—*Willis' "Pencilings by the Way."*

A WORD TO THE YOUNG.

The time of life which is now passing over you is of immense and inconceivable importance. I cannot think of your entering on the busy scenes and numerous temptations of the world without feeling for you the greatest solicitude. Every step you take is decisive—every action you perform is critical—every idea you form is likely to become a principle, influencing your future destiny: God knows the consequences and results. You remind me of what I have often witnessed with inexpressible delight in the days of my youth—a fine vessel launched upon the waters, its streamer waving in the wind, acclamations rending the air as it passed triumphantly along, expectation and delight beaming from every countenance. But who could tell its future story—the storms that were to pass over it, the rocks that were to endanger it, or the unknown sighs and lamentations that were to fill the minds and awaken the solitudes of its inhabitants? And often have I heard of the wreck of the very vessel which I had seen launched: others have returned shattered and almost wrecked by the dangers which they had encountered. Of such thoughts and anxieties it is natural to be possessed on the present occasion. You, my young friends, are just launched; the gale of hope swells your sails; you are looking forward to years of happiness and delight. Oh, let me ask you a few questions of infinite moment to your peace. Who is your pilot? What is your chart? How will you steer your course? What is your destined haven? You would deem him ill fitted to superintend maritime or nautical concerns who was not possessed of all skill, and foresight, and prudence—who did not anticipate what was likely to happen, and aim to make suitable preparation. What, then, must be the folly of that youth who is thinking only of the passing moment, only of immediate provision—the delight of the day which is floating over him! who manifests no anxiety in reference to the future—the eternal concerns of his soul!—*Fletcher*.

The Swedish Government, in order to put a stop to the increasing progress of drunkenness in Norway, has appointed a Missionary for each of the four provinces of that kingdom, to travel through them, preaching forbearance from strong liquors, and promoting the establishment and extension of temperance societies. Compensation is again offered to all such distillers as shall resign their licenses for making brandy, and entirely relinquish their business.

WEEP NOT FOR ME.

When the spark of life is waning,
Weep not for me.
When the languid eye is straining,
Weep not for me.
When the feeble pulse is ceasing,
Start not at its swift decreasing;
'Tis the fettered soul's releasing,
Weep not for me.

When the pangs of death assail me,
Weep not for me.
Christ is mine, he cannot fail me;
Weep not for me.
Yes, though sin and doubt endeavour
From his love my soul to sever,
Jesus is my strength for ever,
Weep not for me.

MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL RAILROAD.

(Second Notice.)

In 1828 preparations were made for the erection of the great viaduct over the Sankey valley. About two hundred piles, from twenty to thirty feet long, were driven firmly into the foundation-site of each of the ten piers. It is a massive, but handsome structure, consisting of nine arches, each having a span of fifty feet: the height of the viaduct is seventy feet above the Sankey canal. The structure is chiefly of brick, with stone facings: the breadth of the railway between the parapets is twenty-five feet.

One of the most difficult parts of this line was that over Chat-Moss, a huge bog, comprising an area of twelve square-miles, so soft as to yield to the foot of man or beast; and in many parts so fluid, that an iron rod laid upon the surface would sink to the bottom by its own weight. It varies from ten to thirty-five feet in depth, and the bottom is composed of sand and clay. On the eastern border, for about a mile and a-half, the greatest difficulty in the construction of the road occurred. Here an embankment of about twenty feet above the natural level was formed, the weight of which resting on a soft base pressed down the original surface: many thousand cubic yards gradually and silently disappeared, before the desired level was attained: but, by degrees, the whole mass beneath, and on either side of this embankment, became consolidated by the superincumbent and lateral pressure, and the work was finally completed. Hurdles of brushwood and heath are placed under the wooden sleepers, which support the rails over the greater part of this moss; so that the road may be said to float on the surface.

On the 1st of May, 1830, the Rocket steam-engine, with a carriage full of company, passed over the road-way, along the whole extent of Chat-Moss, thus affording the first triumphant proof of the possibility of forming this much-contested road.

The company, up to the time of the completion of the line, had not decided upon the means of transporting the carriages, whether by horses, by stationary steam-engines, or by locomotive engines. Numerous schemes were proposed to the directors, recommending improved powers or improved carriages; and these schemes came from persons of all classes; from professors of philosophy, down to the humblest mechanic; all were zealous in proffering assistance.

The directors offered, in the spring of 1829, a prize of five hundred pounds for the best locomotive engine, and appointed the following October, for a public trial of the claims of the competitors. The conditions of the prize were, that the engine should produce no smoke, that the pressure of the steam should be limited to fifty pounds on the square-inch; that the engine should draw at least three times its own weight, at the rate of not less than three miles an hour; that it should be supported on springs, and not exceed the height of fifteen feet.

In the following October three engines competed for the prize:—the Rocket, constructed by Mr. Stephenson; the Sanspareil, by Mr. Hackworth; and the Novelty, by Messrs. Braithwaite and Ericson. Of these engines, the Rocket gained the prize. A line of railway was chosen for the trial, on a level piece of road, about two miles in length, near Rain-hill: the distance between the two stations was a mile and a-half; and the engine had to travel this distance backwards and forwards ten times, thus making the journey thirty miles. The Rocket

performed this journey twice; the first time within two hours and a-quarter, and the second time within two hours and seven minutes. Its speed varied at different parts of the journey: its swiftest motion being rather above twenty-nine miles an hour; and its slowest pace about eleven miles and a-half an hour. This was the only engine which performed, in complete style, the proposed journey; the others having become disabled from accidents, which occurred during the contest.

We come now to the time when the railroad approached its completion. Little more than three years had been occupied in this work; in which more than ordinary difficulties had been met and overcome. The total cost, from the commencement, to the time when warehouses, machinery, and carriages were completed, and the railroad ready for active operations, is estimated at £820,000.

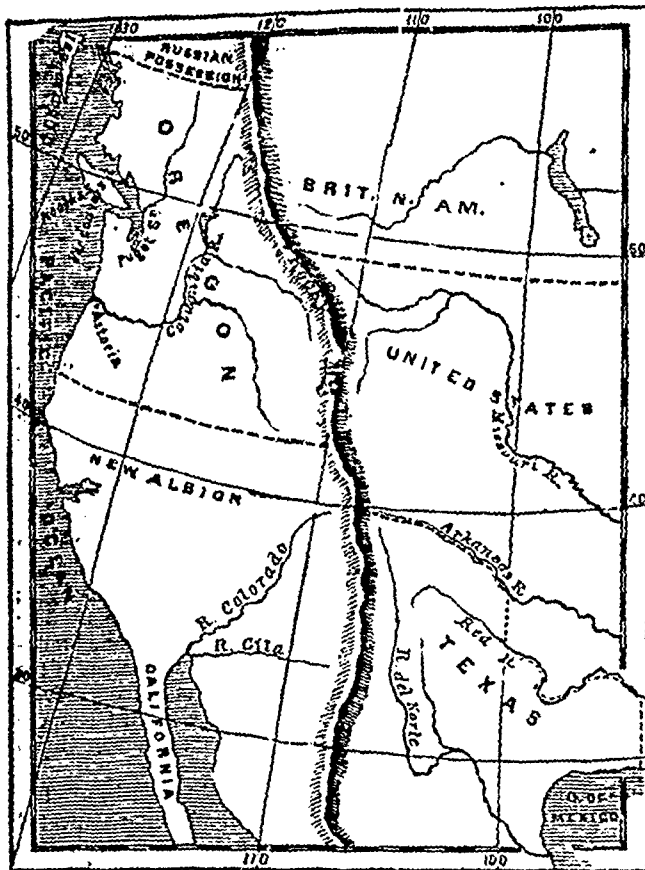
Previous to the 15th of September, 1830, extensive arrangements had been made for the important ceremonial of opening the railway on that day. Each engine, and its train of carriages, had distinguishing flags; and the number of these locomotives was eight; the Northumbrian, the Phoenix, the North Star, the Rocket, the Dart, the Comet, the Arrow, and the Meteor. All these engines were built by Messrs. Stephenson, of Newcastle. Messrs. Stephenson's engines had been repeatedly and successfully tried several weeks before.

The ceremony was honoured with the presence of the Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel, and many other distinguished individuals. The Northumbrian was appointed to take the lead of the procession, drawing a splendid carriage appropriated to the Duke and Sir Robert, and about thirty other eminent men. Each of the other locomotives drew four carriages, containing between eighty and ninety persons; thus making the total number of individuals, accommodated with seats in the procession, to be about six hundred.

At twenty minutes to eleven o'clock, the procession commenced its progress towards Manchester, the Northumbrian taking exclusively one of the two lines of rail, and the rest of the engines the other. A periodical writer of the day, who was present, states that the brilliancy of the procession,—the novelty of the sight,—and considerations of the almost boundless advantages of the stupendous power about to be put in motion,—gave to the spectacle an unparalleled interest. On every side the tumultuous voice of praise was heard; and countless thousands waved their hats, to cheer on the sons of enterprise in this their crowning effort. The engines proceeded at a moderate speed toward Wavertree-lane; when, increased power having been added, they went forward with great swiftness, and thousands of people then fell back, whom all the previous efforts of a formidable police could not move from the road. Numerous booths and vehicles lined the various roads; and were densely crowded. After passing Wavertree-lane, the procession entered the deep ravine at Olive Mount, and the eye of the passenger could scarcely find time to rest on the multitudes that lined the roads, or admire the various bridges thrown across this great monument of human labour. Shortly afterwards, Rain-hill-bridge was neared, and the inclined plane of Sutton began to be ascended, at a more slackened pace. The summit was soon gained, and twenty-four miles an hour became the maximum of the speed. About noon the procession passed over the Sankey-viaduct. The scene at this part was particularly striking. The fields below were occupied by thousands, who cheered the procession, in passing over this stupendous edifice: carriages filled the narrow lanes; and vessels, on the water, had been detained, in order that their crews might gaze up at the gorgeous pageant, passing far above their mast-heads. At Parkside, seventeen miles from Liverpool, the engines stopped to take in a supply of water and fuel; and many of the company having alighted in the interval, were walking about, congratulating each other on the truly delightful treat they were enjoying, all hearts bounding with joyous excitement, and every tongue eloquent in the praise of the gigantic work now completed, and the advantages and pleasures it afforded.

At this point of the proceedings occurred the sad accident which we are about to relate, and which threw a dark cloud over a day, devoted to honourable triumph and well-earned festivity.—(To be continued.)

THE OREGON TERRITORY.



EXPLANATIONS.

1. The dotted line running along the 49th parallel of latitude is the undisputed boundary between Britain and the United States, so far as the Rocky Mountains. From thence America has always insisted that it should be continued along the same parallel to the sea, but formerly was willing to concede to Britain the free navigation of the Columbia River. Great Britain, on the other hand, claimed that River for the boundary, from the point where it is intersected by the 49th parallel of latitude. The space enclosed by these proposed boundaries, will, from a reference to the map, be at once obvious; and this district was the whole matter in dispute prior to President Polk's claim to the exclusive right of navigation on the Columbia.
2. A line, running from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean, by way of the Red River, Arkansas, Rocky Mountains, and the 42d parallel of latitude, as traced on the map, was the boundary of the United States, until the annexation of the great and fertile region of Texas, which they claim as far as the Rio del Norte. There were recently some hints also that they intended to claim, from the feeble Government of Mexico, the country, called New Albion, or Upper California, as far south as the Gila.

RESULTS OF EMANCIPATION.

The following extract, from an important document recently issued by the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, will be read with interest:—

"We contemplate once more the vast blessing which has been conferred on upwards of 700,000 human beings, by the great act of emancipation. The whip no longer sounds in their ears, as the stimulant to labour and the instrument of torture; the fetter no longer galls their limbs; the market-place no longer beholds them submitted for sale, in lots to suit purchasers; the anguish of forcible separation is no longer felt or feared; instruction is no longer interdicted; the preaching of the Gospel is no longer forbidden. Masters of their own persons and their own labour, the emancipated slaves can now bestow it when and where they please, as may best suit their taste—serve their interests—the marriage-tie hallows and blesses their unions—the relations of parents and children exist, and cannot be severed by the caprice or will of slave-masters—the chastity of woman can no longer be violated with impunity, nor the hearts of mothers lacerated by the base and degrading uses to which their offspring were devoted. These are some of the precious fruits of emancipation. And let it be remembered, that the liberty, with all its present and future privileges and blessings, which has been conferred on the existing generation, will be transmitted to their children, and their children's children, to the remotest generations. It were to view this great subject in its lowest and most sordid light, to make the measure of its necessity and value depend on the amount of ex-

portable produce raised in the British Colonies. Yet, even in an economical sense, what was sound in morals, has been found wise in policy. What would have been the condition of the West India body at this time had not the abolition of slavery taken place? In 1832, they were on the verge of ruin, their credit in the money-market utterly gone, and their slaves decreasing at the rate of 5,000 per annum. They had stimulated production by the most cruel means to its utmost limit to cover the interest due to mortgagees and merchants in the mother-country, and to meet the current expenditure of their estates; and with what effect, let Lord Stanley say, 'In all the islands there had been a general increase in the production of sugar, and a corresponding decrease in the amount of the labouring population.' His Lordship illustrated his statement by facts, drawn from official records; for instance, the medium slave-population, in Jamaica, during the three years ending June, 1826, was 334,393, and the average quantity of sugar raised was 1,354,448 cwts. The medium population during three years ending June, 1832, was 327,464, the average amount of sugar raised, 1,410,026 cwts. Demerara showed a more frightful result. For the first period referred to, the slave-population was 72,722, the quantity of sugar raised, 652,336 cwts.; for the second period, the population had decreased to 67,741, and they were compelled to produce 606,120 cwts. of sugar! Now what did emancipation do when it arrested in its course this murderous system? Did it complete the ruin of the West India body? No! It restored their lost credit. It took from them the weapon with which they were destroying themselves, and we venture to say, that were the alternative placed before them this hour, of returning to the system which has been abolished, they would utterly refuse it on the mere ground of pecuniary gain. But slavery has been abolished throughout the British Colonies, and the songs of freemen have succeeded the wailings of slaves. The rights of humanity have been vindicated—the demands of justice have been met—and the claims of religion have been regarded; the person, the liberty, the property of the late slave have been rendered inviolable; and now under the protection of impartial law, he can sit as a free man beneath the shade of his own palm-tree, 'none daring to make him afraid.'

THE BENEFITS OF WAR.—At the close of the American Revolution, George the Third issued a proclamation, appointing a day of thanksgiving for the return of peace. A shrewd country clergyman in Scotland, upon reading the proclamation, immediately proceeded to England, and having arrived at the royal palace, solicited a personal audience with the king. Being admitted, with some difficulty, to the royal presence, after making his humble obeisance to the sovereign, he said, "May it please your majesty, I have received your proclamation and wish to comply with its requisitions; but I have come all the way from Scotland to ascertain what we are to give thanks for. Is it that your majesty has lost thirteen flourishing provinces?" The good-natured king, perceiving the humour of the man, replied, "No, not at all." "Is it, then," said the Scotchman, "that your majesty has sacrificed the lives of a hundred thousand of his loyal subjects?" The king again replied, "No, nothing of the kind." Again the Scotchman inquired, "Is it that your majesty has added a hundred millions to the national debt?" The king again answered, "No, for none of these things." The Scotchman then said, "Will your majesty condescend to inform me explicitly for what we are to give thanks?" The king replied, "Why, then, manifestly for this, that matters are no worse with us than they are." The good man returned home entirely satisfied, and preached an excellent thanksgiving sermon on Isaiah xxvi. 18.

YOUNG MEN, BEWARE.—Mr. Potter, of Yale College, in a temperance address lately at New Haven says: "My heart bleeds as I remember the fate of three of my early companions who started in life with myself. One of them possessed the finest mathematical mind I ever knew. He would take the ledger and go up with three columns at a time with perfect ease. He was the first man in America that beat the automaton chess player, and he told me that he had every move in his head before he entered the room. That man filled a drunkard's grave. Another, who was an excellent accountant, and could command almost any salary, met the same melancholy fate. Another possessing the same brilliant capabilities, has gone down—not to the grave, perhaps, but is sunk clear out of sight amid the mire and filth of intemperance."

THE OREGON TERRITORY.—The name of Oregon is derived from Oregon, the Spanish word for wild marjoram, the *Organum vulgare* of Linnæus, which grows abundantly in the western parts of the American continent, particularly in the disputed territory.

FOREIGNERS IN NEW YORK.—A writer in the Evening Times says of our city: The small grocers are all changing; not one in five who kept a store five years ago is now in business. A majority of the tailors are now Europeans, who have arrived here within four years. The sugar and bread bakers are Germans. Of the carpenters, half are Dutch, Alsatians, and Swedes. The French take a large share of shoe making. The porters are all foreign; the stevedores the same.

CULTIVATION OF FLOWERS.

There is no taste the exercise of which is so innocent and healthful, and affords so pure a source of pleasure as that for the cultivation of plants and flowers; and there is scarcely an individual whether poor or rich, but that has within his reach facilities for its gratification. How pleasant, in passing through the country, to observe the neatly kept garden, with here and there a plot of beautiful flowers; and even in town the sight of a window of carefully tended plants just budding forth is a cheering and pleasant sight, and we often think the fair hands to whose gentle care and nursing we are indebted for these displays are deserving the thanks of the community. There is a degree of attraction and even fascination to those who have once paid any attention to the cultivation of flowers. The sowing of the seed—the first bursting of the germ through the loose earth—the gradual growth of the green delicate stem—the putting forth of the foliage—the first appearance of the bud, and its expansion into the beautiful flower—the variegated colours—the fragrant perfume, are such sources of pure unmixed enjoyment, that no one who was once a partaker of it would ever relinquish the pursuit. Besides what more appropriate place to the devout mind for meditation than the flower garden. We are led to look up and adore the wisdom and power of that Being who, while He called into existence the universe, also formed the delicate flower, and gave it the beautiful colour and rich perfume which so delights the senses.

In selecting a spot for a flower garden, be careful to choose a sheltered site; the ground should be properly prepared, by being well broken and slightly manured. The following description of the mode of laying out is from an old gardener. Generally speaking, a flower garden should not be on a large scale; the beds or borders in no part should be broader than the cultivator can reach without treading on them. In small gardens where there is not space for picturesque delineations, neatness should be the prevailing characteristic. A variety of forms may be indulged in, provided the figures are graceful and neat, and not in any place too complicated. An oval is a form that generally pleases on account of the continuity of its outlines; next, if extensive, a circle, but hearts, diamonds, triangles, &c., seldom please. A simple parallelogram divided into beds, or running lengthways, or the large segment of an oval, with beds running parallel to its outer margin, is always graceful to the eye. The first flowers are the Crocuses, Hyacinths, Tulips, Anemones, Ranunculus; all of which are propagated by roots. The best mode of cultivating annuals is to sow in a hotbed, or in boxes within the house during the month of April, and when the plants are sufficiently strong, transplant carefully into borders during the rainy weather, or make up for the weather by frequent watering and protecting the plants from the sun. Some seeds, from the thick husk, require to soak in water for a few hours before sowing, such as Nasturtiums, Lupins, Sweet pea, &c. The Cypress vine requires warm water to dissolve the mucilage with which it is covered. In forming a border for a garden, we would recommend on the inside a row of such small plants as the Venus looking-glass, Mignonette, Petunia, Lobel's catchfly, Coreopsis, Scarlet verbena;—next Balsams, Clarkias, (a delicate pretty flower), stocks (of which there are twelve varieties), Asters, Schizanthus, Gilias, Columbine, Fox-glove; and third in order, Larkspur, Zinias, Marvel of Peru, Beneplant, &c.

Biennials are those which flower the second year after sowing; they may be sown at the time with the others, and selecting the strongest plants allow them to remain. In transplanting, plenty of earth should be taken up with the plants. The weeds should be carefully removed, and the earth greatly loosened around them. The seeds should be sown about half an inch deep, and the kind should be marked by a label; this is easily made, by painting thin strips of pine of an inch wide, and five or six long, with white lead made thin, and marking the name with a black lead pencil before the paint becomes dry.

Those flowers we have noticed, as presenting a fine appearance, are the Phlox Drummondii, varieties of Clarkia, Jacobea, Schizanthus, Portulaca Splendens; this latter is surpassingly beautiful; it opens with the morning sun, presenting the most brilliant colours, but like all things earthly, soon fades, it however continues to put forth flowers during the season.

Although our climate is not adapted for many of the more tender plants, yet those which are suitable have a most vigorous growth; and we have never seen more brilliant displays of flowers in any country than in Canada.

Montreal, April, 1846.

L.

THE WONDERS OF NATURE.

From a Voyage Round the World, by C. Darwin.

PHOSPHORESCENCE OF THE SEA.

While sailing a little south of the Plata on one very dark night, the sea presented a wonderful and most beautiful spectacle. There was a fresh breeze, and every part of the surface, which during the day is seen as foam, now glowed with a pale light. The vessel drove before her bows two billows of liquid phosphorus, and in her wake she was followed by a milky train. As far as the eye reached, the crest of every wave was bright, and the sky above the horizon, from the reflected glare of these livid flames, was not so utterly obscure as over the vault of the heavens.

On two occasions I have observed the sea luminous at considerable depths beneath the surface. Near the mouth of the Plata some circular and oval patches, from two to four yards in diameter, and with defined outlines, shone with a steady but pale light; while the surrounding water only gave out a few sparks. The appearance resembled the reflection of the moon, or some luminous body; for the edges were sinuous from the undulations of the surface. The ship, which drew thirteen feet water, passed over, without disturbing these patches. Therefore we must suppose that some animals were congregated together at a greater depth than the bottom of the vessel.

Near Fernando Noronha the sea gave out light in flashes. The appearance was very similar to that which might be expected from a large fish moving rapidly through a luminous fluid. To this cause the sailors attributed it; at the time, however, I entertained some doubts, on account of the frequency and rapidity of the flashes. I have already remarked that the phenomenon is very much more common in warm than in cold countries; and I have sometimes imagined that a disturbed electrical condition of the atmosphere was most favourable to its production. Certainly I think the sea is most luminous after a few days of more calm weather than ordinary, during which time it has swarmed with various animals. Observing that the water charged with gelatinous particles is in an impure state, and that the luminous appearance in all common cases is produced by the agitation of the fluid in contact with the atmosphere, I am inclined to consider that the phosphorescence is the result of the decomposition of the organic particles, by which process (one is tempted almost to call it a kind of respiration), the ocean becomes purified.

SHEPHERD DOGS.

While staying at this estancia, I was amused with what I saw and heard of the shepherd dogs of the country. When riding, it is a common thing to meet a large flock of sheep guarded by one or two dogs, at the distance of some miles from any house or man. I often wondered how so firm a friendship had been established. The method of education consists in separating the puppy, while very young, from the mother, and in accustoming it to its future companions. A ewe is held three or four times a day for a little thing to suck, and a nest of wool is made for it in the sheep-pon; at no time is it allowed to associate with other dogs, or with the children of the family. . . . From this education it has no wish to leave the flock, and just as another dog will defend its master, man, so will these the sheep. It is amusing to observe, when approaching a flock, how the dog immediately advances barking, and the sheep all close in his rear, as if round the oldest ram. These dogs are also easily taught to bring home the flock, at a certain hour in the evening. Their most troublesome fault, when young, is their desire of playing with the sheep; for in their sport they sometimes gallop their poor subjects most unmercifully.

The shepherd dog comes to the house every day for some meat, and as soon as it is given him, he skulks away as if ashamed of himself. On these occasions the house dogs are very tyrannical, and the least of them will attack and pursue the stranger. The minute, however, the latter has reached the flock, he turns round and begins to bark, and then all the house dogs take very quickly

to their heels. In a similar manner a whole pack of the hungry wild dogs will scarcely ever, (and I was told by some never) venture to attack a flock guarded by even one of these faithful shepherds.

BREAKING-IN WILD HORSES.

One evening a "domidor" (a subduer of horses) came for the purpose of breaking-in some colts. I will describe the preparatory steps, for I believe they have not been mentioned by other travellers. A troop of wild young horses is driven into the corral, or large enclosure of stakes, and the door is shut. We will suppose that one man alone has to catch and mount a horse, which as yet had never felt bridle or saddle. I conceive, except by a Gaucho, such a feat would be utterly impracticable. The Gaucho picks out a full-grown colt; and as the beast rushes round the circus, he throws his lazo so as to catch both the front legs. Instantly the horse rolls over with a heavy shock, and whilst struggling on the ground, the Gaucho, holding the lazo tight, makes a circle, so as to catch one of the hind legs, just behind the fetlock, and draws it close to the two front legs: he then hitches the lazo, so that the three are bound together. Then sitting on the horse's neck, he fixes a strong bridle, without a bit, to the lower jaw: this he does by passing a narrow thong through the eye-holes at the end of the reins, and several times round both jaw and tongue. The two front legs are now tied closely together with a strong leathern thong, fastened by a slip-knot. The lazo which bound the three together, being then loosed, the horse rises with difficulty. The Gaucho now holding fast the bridle fixed to the lower jaw, leads the horse outside the corral. If a second man is present (otherwise the trouble is much greater) he holds the animal's head, whilst the first puts on the horsecloths and saddle, and girths the whole together. During this operation, the horse, from dread and astonishment at thus being bound round the waist, throws himself over and over again on the ground, and, till beaten, is unwilling to rise. At last, when the saddling is finished, the poor animal can hardly breathe from fear, and is white with foam and sweat. The man now prepares to mount by pressing heavily on the stirrup, so that the horse may not lose its balance; and at the moment he throws his leg over the animal's back, he pulls the slip-knot binding the front legs, and the beast is free. Some "domidores" pull the knot while the animal is lying on the ground, and, standing over the saddle, allow him to rise beneath them. The horse, wild with dread, gives a few most violent bounds, and then starts off at full gallop: when quite exhausted, the man, by patience, brings him back to the corral, where, reeking hot and scarcely alive, the poor beast is let free. Those animals which will not gallop away, but obstinately throw themselves on the ground, are by far the most troublesome. This process is tremendously severe, but in two or three trials the horse is tamed. It is not, however, for some weeks that the animal is ridden with the iron bit and solid ring, for it must learn to associate the will of its rider with the feel of the rein, before the most powerful bridle can be of any service.

FEMALE NOBILITY.—A writer in *Chambers's London Journal* thus beautifully paints true female nobility:—"The woman," says he, "poor and ill-clad as she may be, who balances her income and expenditure,—who toils and sweats in unrepining mood among her well-trained children, and presents them, morning and evening, as offsprings of love, in rosy health and cheerful cleanliness,—is the most exalted of her sex. Before her shall the proudest dame bow her jewelled head, and the bliss of a happy heart shall dwell with her for ever. If there is one prospect dearer than another to the soul of man—If there is one act more likely than another to bend the proud, and inspire the broken-hearted—it is for a smiling wife to meet her husband at the door with his host of happy children. How it stirs up the tired blood of an exhausted man when he hears the rush of many feet upon the staircase,—when the cry and carol of their young voices mix in glad confusion,—and the smallest mounts or sinks into his arm amidst a mirthful shout."

DEMOLISHING THE CAUSE.—An invalid sent for a physician, and, after detaining him for some time with a description of his pains, aches, &c., he thus summed up:—"Now, doctor, you have humbugged me long enough with your good-for-nothing pills and worthless syrups; they don't touch the real difficulty. I wish you to strike the cause of my ailment, if it is in your power to reach it." "It shall be done," said the doctor, at the same time lifting his cane and demolishing a decanter of gin that stood upon the sideboard.

It is not so generally known as it ought to be that pounded alum possesses the property of purifying water. A pailful containing four gallons may be purified by a single tea-spoonful.

GOD'S UNSPEAKABLE GIFT.

This gift must transcend all others; but how far? As far as the Creator transcends the creature; and that none knows: for none perfectly knows the Father but the Son, or the Son but the Father; and there is not a better answer to that question. But to strengthen this consideration we must, at the same time, observe the manner in which He is given. The perfection of God's works consists partly in a variety by which some of them excel others. The least blade of grass is an effect of infinite power: but not the highest effect of it. So the least degree of grace or glory, may be made evident from the peculiar manner in which Christ, who is God, is given in that work.

In the work of grace Christ makes us to be born of God, and to be sons of God; in the work of redemption He is born of a virgin, and becomes the Son of Man. In the former, He gives us the likeness of the holy God; in the latter, He takes on Him the likeness of sinful flesh. In the one, He gives us His strength; in the other He bears our infirmities. But this is not all. In the one, He heals us; in the other, He is wounded for us. In the one, He enables us to do our duty; in the other, He bears our sins. In the one, He gives us life, health, honour, joy; in the other, He suffers for us shame, pain, sorrow, death.

When He gives us heaven, He raises us to His royal palace; in redemption He descended to our polluted cottage. There He manifests His glory for our happiness; here He veiled it for our relief. There He receives us to a place of many mansions; here He had no place where to lay His head. There He gives the waters of life; here He drank for us the cup of wrath. There He makes us see God face to face; here He was forsaken of God for us. There He gives crowns of glory; here He wore a crown of thorns for us. There He incorporates us into the company of holy angels; here He was numbered with transgressors. There He makes us sit on thrones; here He died on the cursed cross for us. These instances, which might easily be multiplied, are sufficient to show that, though the gift of Christ in his incarnation and sacrifice, and the gifts of grace and glory, be bright manifestations of the same love, yet the first is the chief gift; yea, it is in the first that, in the most proper sense, a Divine person can be said to be given for us. —*Maclaurin's Sermon on God's Chief Mercy.*

CONDITION OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN ENGLAND.—I live in the midst of a population as to whom I scarcely know how they exist. (Hear.) That is the question which has disturbed more men's minds than mine. Sir, hon. gentlemen, my colleagues, have thought, and thought painfully on these things. They have said, 'I don't care what change you make, I defy you to make their condition worse.' I am not one of those who would say, as hon. gentlemen opposite would, that this state of things is the effect of the protective system. But, at the same time, although it may not have been the cause of these things, it does not follow that a change in this respect may not help to remove them. I will read to the House a letter I received to-day from a man of great intelligence, who farms what is called 'high farms,' who manures his land highly, and is thoroughly master of the subject:—"I am quite sure that if the Wiltshire hills were farmed as they ought to be, and as under the proposed measure I hope they will be, you would not find a labourer unemployed in the whole county. Light-land farmers attach too much importance to their wheat crops; they grow corn on too large a proportion of their farm, and do not consume half enough on their land by stock—viz., they ought to produce more beef, mutton, and pork, and less grain.' I can, Sir, give you an example how far good and high farming permanently improves the soil. There was a common field in Berkshire which was occupied by several persons—one of whom was a baker who had three acres in different parts of the field. He used to fatten a great many pigs, which made much very rich manure; this he applied very liberally to his land—and, although it is ten years since the field was divided, yet the baker's acres may be discovered at this day by the most casual observer from their increased and surpassing fertility,—thus proving, not only the advantages of this high system of cultivation, but the necessity of a long tenure to enable the farmer to obtain such a full return as his energy and capital so well merit. By compliance with the conditions I have above mentioned, the landlords' rentals will not be decreased, but their tenants will be prosperous and their labourers employed at good wages.—*Speech of Hon. Sydney Herbert on the Corn Laws.*

EXPENSIVE WORSHIP.—The Chinese expend annually \$360,000,000 for incense to burn before their idols; about one dollar for every man, woman and child in the empire. [The people of Britain expend annually £50,000,000 Sterling; or about ten dollars a-head for libations to one of their idols.—*Ed. Wtr.*]

THE DYING MOTHER TO HER INFANT.

My baby, my poor little one, thou'rt come a winter flower,
A pale and tender blossom, in a cold unkindly hour;
Thou comest like the snow-drop, and like that pretty thing,
The power that calls thy bud to life, will shield its blossoming.

The snow drop hath no guardian leaves, to fold her safe and warm,
Yet well she bides the bitter blast, and weathers out the storm;
I shall not long enfold thee thus, not long, but well I know
The everlasting arms, my babe, will never let thee go.

The snow-drop how it haunts me still, hangs down her fair young head,
So thine may droop in days to come, when I have long been dead,
And yet, the little snowdrop's safe; from her instruction seek;
For who would crush the motherless, the lowly and the meek?

SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATIONS.

"The sheep follow him: for they know his voice."—John x. 4.

It may be here desirable to observe that the word rendered "voice," has a much wider meaning, being applicable to any kind of sound whatever; and when thus applied to a shepherd leading his flock, may, if it be considered preferable, mean not only a call in the natural voice, but any call, such as by a pipe or whistle. Another observable point is, that here, as everywhere else in Scripture, the shepherd is said to *lead* his flock, not to *drive* it, as our own customs might lead us to expect. The first point explains the latter, showing that the Hebrew shepherds did not, like ours, follow their flocks, driving them along; but attracted them to follow by their call; the animals knowing the person of their shepherd, and being aware what his call intimated. The same custom is still observed in the East, and in some parts of Europe, in application to herds as well as flocks. It exists in Spain, having probably been introduced by the Arabs; and is also found even in Russia, in the villages of which we have often, of a morning, seen a peasant marching through the street playing on a pipe, on hearing which the animals came forth from their various cottage homesteads, following him to the pastures. They are brought home in the evening, and called to be milked, in the same manner. A vocal whistle, or any peculiar sound of the human voice, might, and probably often did, answer the same purpose.

"They know not the voice of strangers."—John x. v.

Polybius, writing of the island of Corsica, at the beginning of his twelfth book, has a passage which might be quoted as a striking illustration of this, as well as of the point to which the preceding note refers. He observes, that the island is rugged and rocky, and also covered with woods, so that the shepherds are not able to follow their cattle into the places in which they are dispersed; but when they have found a suitable pasture, and are desirous to bring them together, they sound a trumpet. Upon this signal, the whole herd or flock immediately run together, and follow the call of their own shepherd, never mistaking one for another. Thus it happens that when strangers come upon the island, and attempt to lay hold of the goats or oxen which they see feeding by themselves, the cattle, unused to the approach of strangers, immediately take to flight. And then, if the shepherd, perceiving what has happened, at the same time sounds his trumpet, they all run towards him with great haste. "That the cattle should be thus obedient to the sound of a trumpet," adds the historian, "is no very wonderful thing. In Italy, those who have the care of swine never inclose them in separate pastures, nor follow them behind, as is the custom among the Greeks, but go always *before* them, and from time to time sound a horn. The swine follow and run together at the sound; and are so taught by habit to distinguish their own proper horn, that their exactness in this respect seems almost incredible to those who never heard of it before."

FAMILY WORSHIP.—I confess with shame that even now the families amongst whom domestic worship is established in France, form but an imperceptible minority. What blessings do we thus put away from us! What peace, what brotherly union, what holiness which might reign beneath our roof, do we thus refuse, by refusing to assemble together daily all who dwell beneath it; masters and servants, relations and strangers, round the same Bible, and at the footstool of the same God! There are few things more touching than to see, in England,

busy members of Parliament, statesmen, whose lives one would think were wholly engrossed by political agitation, regularly devoted to the inspired Word, within the narrow circle of their households, a voice that the crowd hears with admiration, beneath the vaulted roofs of Westminster. Domestic worship is the most solid basis of the Church. It is also the closest bond between the diverse classes that compose it; for it alone gives to the important connection between masters and servants, the character which it ought to possess. It is by family worship that we rightly appreciate the importance of community of faith, and the inconvenience there always will be in compromising it, by inviting beneath our roof unbelievers or members of different communions. It is by kneeling together, that we feel ourselves truly equal, with the Christian equality, that takes nothing away from subordination and respect, but that creates affection and restores to the word "family" its broad, its patriarchal signification.—*Compte de Gaspari*.

QUEEN VICTORIA AT OSBORNE HOUSE.—Her Majesty and the Prince are out in all weathers. Let any one conceive to himself a country squire and his lady, after a London season, once more back into the country, to their own pet place—their "turtle dovery," if you like—that they are having some alterations made in the shrubberies and grounds—that they are superintending them—that the squire or the Prince, has a spade in his hand, (not made for show but use, the same as the gardeners and labourers use,) and is digging a hole in the pleasure grounds to plant a shrub in—that his lady, or the Queen, plants the shrub, and holds it while he treads it in. This may daily be seen at Osborne by all persons having business at the house; and no more notice is taken of the parties or of the children who are playing near them, than of a squire and his lady. A piece of ground is being laid out and planted, to screen the view of the stables from the house and grounds. One gentleman sent one-hundred curious evergreens, and quantities have been sent from Windsor, &c.; and we know instances that, where the land has not been dug deep enough, and a certain person cannot send the spade so far into the gravelly soil as it ought to go, we know he can make the pickaxe turn it up. The work being completed, the lady takes his arm, and with one child on each side, away they trudge together across the park to admire the views, or observe the progress of some improvements, like an old English squire and his lady.—*Boulogne Gazette*.

NEWS.

To such an extent has the schism among the London Jews gone, that the chief Rabbi, Dr. Adler, has refused to allow the marriage ceremony to be performed between a member of the Western Synagogue and the daughter of a member of the reformed body. Some of the most eminent of this body are among the seceders.

The fortifications of Paris are now completely finished. The fosses and ramparts are sowed with grass seed. Six years have been spent in this gigantic work.

There are now in the environs of Paris, 16 plantations of water cresses, producing annually 1,350,000 dozens of bunches, valued at £37,000.

The standing committee of the Society of Friends have addressed Sir Robert Peel and the Earl of Aberdeen in favour of a peaceful settlement of the dispute existing between this country and the United States of America, with respect to the Oregon territory. They pay a just tribute of approbation to the conduct of the Government hitherto.

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