

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur

Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur

Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée

Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées

Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée

Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées

Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque

Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées

Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur

Pages detached/
Pages détachées

Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)

Showthrough/
Transparence

Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur

Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression

Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents

Continuous pagination/
Pagination continue

Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la marge intérieure

Includes index(es)/
Comprend un (des) index

Title on header taken from: /
Le titre de l'en-tête provient:

Blank leaves added during restoration may appear within the text. Whenever possible, these have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas été filmées.

Title page of issue/
Page de titre de la livraison

Caption of issue/
Titre de départ de la livraison

Masthead/
Générique (périodiques) de la livraison

Additional comments: /
Commentaires supplémentaires:

Wrinkled pages may film slightly out of focus.

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below /
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	12X	14X	16X	18X	20X	22X	24X	26X	28X	30X	32X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

THE PEOPLE'S MAGAZINE, AND WEEKLY JOURNAL.

Vol. I.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1847.

No. 15

THE KING OF ARRAGON'S LAMENT FOR HIS BROTHER.

BY MRS. HEMANS.

[The grief of Ferdinand, King of Arragon, for the loss of his brother, Don Pedro, who was killed during the siege of Naples, is affecting'y described by the historian Mariana. It is also the subject of one of the old Spanish ballads in Lockhart's beautiful collection.]

There were lights and sounds of revelling in the vanquish'd city's halls,
As by night the feast of victory was held within its walls;
And the conquerors fill'd the wine-cup high, after years of bright bloodshed;
But their lord, the King of Arragon, 'midst the triumph, wait'd the dead.

He look'd down from the fortress won, on the tents and towers below,
The moon-lit sea, the torch-lit streets—and a gloom came o'er his brow;
The voice of thousands floated up with the horn and cymbal's tone;
But his heart, 'midst that proud music, felt more utterly alone.

And he cried, "Thou art mine, fair city! thou city of the sea!
But, oh! what portion of delight is mine at last in thee?—
I am lonely 'midst thy palaces, while the glad waves past them roll,
And the soft breath of thine orange-bowers is mournful to my soul.

"My brother! oh my brother! thou art gone—the true and brave,
And the haughty joy of victory hath died upon thy grave;
There are many round my throne to start, and to march where I lead on;
There was one to love me in the world—my brother! thou art gone!

"In the desert, in the battle, in the ocean-tempest's wrath,
We stood together, side by side; one hope was ours—one path;
Thou hast wrapp'd me in thy soldier's cloak—thou hast fenc'd me with
thy breast;
Thou hast watch'd beside my couch of pain—oh! bravest heart and best!

"I see the festive lights around;—o'er a dull sad world they shine;
I hear the voice of victory—my Pedro! where is *thine*?
The only voice in whose kind tone my spirit found reply!—
Oh, brother! I have bought too dear this hollow pageantry!

"I have hosts, and gallant fleets, to spread my glory and my sway,
And chiefs to lead them fearlessly;—my friend hath pass'd away.
For the kindly look, the word of cheer, my heart may thirst in vain,
And the face that was as light to mine—it cannot come again.

"I have made thy blood, thy faithful blood, the offering for a crown;
With love, which earth bestows not twice, I have purchased cold renown;
How often will my weary heart 'midst the sounds of triumph die,
When I think of thee, my brother! thou flower of chivalry.

"I am lonely—I am lonely! this rest is even as death;
Let me hear again the ringing spears, and the battle-trumpet's breath;
Let me see the fiery charger foam, and the royal banner wave—
But where art thou, my brother? where?—in thy low and early grave?"

And louder swell'd the songs of joy through that victorious night,
And faster flow'd the red wine forth, by the stars and torches light;
But low and deep, amidst the mirth, was heard the conqueror's moan—
"My brother! oh, my brother! best and bravest, thou art gone!"

FEMALE INFLUENCE AND OBLIGATIONS.

(Continued.)

Females exert a vast moral influence upon society at large. It is not your province to fill the chair of state, to plan in the cabinet, or to execute in the field; but there is no department of human life, and no corner of the world, where your influence is not felt. To say nothing of the indirect control which females often have over the great movements of society, by that influence which they possess with their husbands and sons,

with their brothers and other family connections, look at the ordinary scenes of social life; at the popular opinions and prevailing amusements of the world; and it must be seen, that they are intrusted with a moral power that hardly knows a limit. The practical virtue of the world, the tone of piety in the church, and the salvation of souls, are probably more affected by the current maxims and amusements of the day, than by either the form or administrations of civil government. And here female power is great indeed. In morals and religion, and in every thing with which morals and religion stand directly connected, your sex may do as much good or hurt, as men ordinarily effect in the politics and government of the world. What man would be a drunkard, if he were sure to receive universal female reprobation? What man would fight a duel, if the united female voice were to cry out murder upon the shameful deed? How long would the amusements of the theatre continue to corrupt our large cities, if no female would appear upon the stage, nor, on any occasion, take her seat in this great temple of vice? How long would the ball-room be crowded, and gay, and extravagant, and dissipating parties maintain an existence, if every female were to set her face against them, and resolve to go to no place where the voice of Christ and duty did not call her? If the whole female world were to revere the Sabbath, and were found in the house of God on this sacred day, what a happy revolution would soon be effected! The kingdom of God would come. The blessed reign of Christ would be established on the earth.

Females have it in their power to do much good among the children of affliction. Sin has rendered our world the abode of deep and dreadful suffering. The marks of God's displeasure may be every where seen. Disease, and poverty, and death, are moving on in their melancholy course, and making the earth desolate. It is the business of the philanthropist and the Christian to diminish the amount of human misery. If we would act for God and eternity, much of the employment of life must consist in relieving the wants of the needy, in administering to the sick, in imparting consolation to the afflicted, and in drying up the mourner's tears. And to these works of beneficence females are peculiarly adapted. Your native sympathies are cast into the proper mould for this sacred business. You easily enter into the interests and sorrows of others. Your social temperament disposes you to "weep with them that weep." You can often find admission, too, where the other sex would be excluded; and your entire habits of life prepare you to enter the scene of domestic affliction with the best prospects of doing good. Here, every power and every affection may find ample scope. In the house of poverty you may light up a blessed smile. In the chamber of disease, and by the pillow of death, the pious female is mercy's angel. In these scenes she may become the Saviour's advocate. Here, amidst groans, and wretchedness, and tears the Holy Spirit may bless her efforts, and impress heaven's image on the heart.

Sabbath Schools open a broad and delightful field for the exercise of female talents and virtues. These seminaries are making a new experiment of moral power and gospel truth upon the world. In their efforts to diffuse light and save the soul, we have a new and most interesting interpretation of the divine command to "preach the Gospel to every creature." Here the scheme of redeeming grace is brought down to the capacities of children, and the great truths of the Bible are made to operate upon the juvenile and infant mind. And for this labour of love, females are peculiarly fitted. You may here, under God, train up children for heaven. The little ones whom you take by the hand and instruct, and for whom you pray, are some of them without a mother to teach them or to pray for them; and not a few have mothers whose entire example and influence are

enlisted for their temporal and eternal ruin. What an office of mercy, like that of guardian angels, is it to throw yourselves between these little immortals and destruction! With the spirit of your Master—a spirit which is never more lovely or efficient than when it warms the hearts and inspires the exertions of females—you may here diffuse an influence which will tell upon the records of other generations; you may accomplish purposes of mercy which will receive their proper distinction on the annals of eternity. A vast amount of the good which Sabbath schools are destined to bring about, must depend on female effort; and a portion of this good can be done by none but your sex. You are the very person to collect the little female wanderers into Sabbath schools, and there, under your instructions, may be commenced and deepened, impressions which will make both earth and heaven glad.

This influence of females in our world, imposes a responsibility deep and fearful; and motives of no ordinary character call upon your sex to exert it in favour of Christianity. To do this is a duty which you owe to God. His hand made you, and continues to sustain you. Year after year, in this dying world, it has held you up from the grave, and preserved you from falling into everlasting ruin. All your rich and distinguishing privileges are his gift. Every talent entrusted to your care, is the property of your Maker, God. He formed your intellect and strung your heart. He has opened before you, in this world of effort and of hope, a broad field of usefulness, and directed you to enter and labor for him. Yes, the command of Almighty God is on you. And this command is of no doubtful character; it is of no difficult interpretation. The God that made you, and bestowed upon you all your capacities for serving him and doing good, requires your hearts and lives. He enforces his claims by all the authority of his eternal Godhead. Here, then, settle this simple question; whether you will obey God or not. Before you rise from the perusal of this Tract, make the determination to devote your whole self to the cause of Jesus Christ; your time, your talents, your influence, your prayers, and your efforts; bring them all, as the widow did her "two mites," and cast them into the treasury of the Lord. Or, if you will not do this, then remember that you are God's creature, that you live in this world, and that you must soon die: and remember, that you may not cherish a Christian hope while you are living and dying with the claims of God unconcealed, and the command of God disobeyed.

POPULAR VIEW OF EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.

The first thing that strikes an Englishman upon entering Scotland on an educational tour, is the noble appearance of the establishments dedicated to teaching. As soon as education becomes the theme of conversation, the animation and zeal with which the Scotch enter into the subject, prove to the stranger that it is one of their soul-absorbing studies; and, upon further investigation, he finds that it is not merely words and theories that engage their attention, but a vast practical system, carried out with a zeal and energy unknown in the greater part of England—not as an adjunct to a chapel or church, very well to be added if there is money enough for every other purpose, and dragged along as a burden, with a constant study of how little will maintain it; but as an integral part of Christianity, holding a high place in their affections, judgment, and heart; with a continual anxiety for its welfare and advancement. This solicitude for the progress of education is manifested by a liberality commensurate with the object contemplated: hence the character of the education imparted is very superior to that generally prevailing in England. These things have operated upon the mass of the population. They hearing continually from their pastors of the importance and value of education, and seeing by their actions they mean what they say, have imbibed the same spirit, and would rather undergo any hardships, and make any sacrifices themselves, than keep their children from school. The children are sent to school more regularly, and attend for a much longer period than the majority do with us. Another feature that stands out in relief, is, the religious character of the education imparted. The master of the school is not left alone in this great work; his hands are held up by the Scottish pastor, who, feeling a lively interest in the instruction of youth, leaves his manse and trudges

over mountain and glen, to visit the school, not as a spectator merely, but for the purpose of imparting religious information. The fruit of this is delightfully evinced by the affectionate esteem displayed by the children when the minister is spoken of; and the contrast is again manifest when you come into closer contact with the children. When crossing Ben Lomond and Ben Ledi, I had frequent occasion to take a boy as a guide, generally the child of a field-labourer, or shepherd; and not unfrequently did I find that the rudiments of learning were passed, and some of them were progressing with the mathematics, Latin, and Greek. One of my guides, a barefooted, ragged boy, not ten years of age, I found had got as far in mathematics as the cube root. Their Scripture knowledge also was extensive. The leading features of Scottish history and church history were deeply engraved on their hearts; and so solid a foundation had been laid in the earlier stages through their regular and constant attendance, and the quality of the instruction imparted, that the progress now was delightfully rapid. The effect of superior moral culture was very visible. Respect for superiors, politeness when spoken to by strangers, contentedness in their sphere, and deep love for their teachers, were not the least prominent characteristics. The tone of the education being good, and the value of it deeply felt, we were not surprised to find the parents willing to make sacrifices in paying for the children's schooling, which varies from 5s. to 10s. a quarter, and even higher, amongst a population of labourers and shepherds. Bright, indeed, will be the dawn of that day in England when such a spirit and such activity are manifested by the pastors and leading men in our congregations, and when the value of education is thus appreciated by the parents; then we shall find crime decrease, and a spirit of happiness and contentment reigning all around.—*English Tourist.*

THE MICROSCOPE AND ITS REVELATIONS.

Wherever we turn, within the precincts of our own homes, in meadow or moorland, hill or forest, by the lone sea-shore, or amidst crumbling ruins—fresh objects of interest are constantly to be found; plants and animals unknown to our unaided vision, with minute organs perfectly adapted to their necessities; with appetites as keen, enjoyments as perfect, as our own. In the purest waters, as well as in thick, acid, and saline fluids, of the most indifferent climates,—in springs, rivers, lakes and seas,—often in the internal humidity of living plants and animals, even in great numbers in the living human body—nay, probably, carried about in the aqueous vapors and dust of the whole atmosphere,—there is a world of minute, living, organized beings, imperceptible to the ordinary senses of man. In the daily course of life, this immense mysterious kingdom of diminutive living beings is unnoticed and disregarded; but it appears great and astonishing, beyond all expectation, to the retired observer who views it by the aid of the microscope. In every drop of standing water, he very frequently, though not always, sees by its aid rapidly moving bodies, from 1-96 to less than 1-2000 of a line in diameter, which are often so crowded together, that the intervals between them are less than their diameter. If we assume the size of the drop of water to be one cubic line, and the intervals, though they are often smaller, to be equal to the diameter of the bodies, we may easily calculate, without exaggeration, that such a drop is inhabited by from one hundred thousand to one thousand millions of such animalcules; in fact we must come to the conclusion, that a single drop of water, under such circumstances, contains more inhabitants than there are individuals of the human race upon our planet. If, further, we reflect on the amount of life in a large quantity of water, in a ditch or pond, for example,—or if we calculate that, according to many observers of the sea, and especially of its phosphorescence, vast tracts of the ocean periodically exhibit a similar development of masses of microscopic organized bodies,—even if we assume much greater intervals—we have numbers and relations of creatures living on the earth, invisible to the naked eye, at the very thought of which the mind is lost in wonder and admiration. It is the microscope alone which has enabled close observers of nature to unveil such a world of her diminutive creation, just as it was the art of making good telescopes which first opened to their view the boundless variety, and all the wonders of the starry firmament.—*Microscopic Manipulation.*

SHAKER FARM.

The present settlement of Shakers or United Brethren, at New Lebanon, was the first spot on which this sect ever located. They commenced here about forty years ago. The society consists at present of about 600 persons, more than half of whom are females. From small beginnings they have acquired large possessions, holding at this time not less than seven thousand acres of land, mostly lying contiguously. We spent a few hours examining various objects connected with this community.

Their buildings are all built in the most substantial manner, and are constructed with particular regard to convenience. One of their barns is considered in all respects the best contrived and the most perfect of any we have seen. It is one hundred and forty-one feet long, fifty feet wide, and twenty-five feet high in the walls. It consists of three stories. The basement is devoted to the stock and the storage of vegetables in winter, the second and third to hay and grain. The main entrance for produce is in the third story, which, from the barn being on the side of a hill, is nearly level with the ground. A floor runs lengthwise through the barn on this story, and the hay and the other articles are pitched downward into the bays on each side.—The barn is capable of containing two hundred tons of hay, and it is so disposed that scarcely any of it has to be raised higher than the wagon from which it is thrown. Only two hands are necessary to unload—one to pitch off, and one to keep the mow level, thus saving a great amount of labor, compared with what is required in barns of common construction.

The apartments for the cattle are complete.—The walls, which are of very solid stone-work, are plastered and though cool in summer, we should suppose they would be so warm in winter that no frost would be found there; windows in each side permit free ventilation. The fodder is thrown into racks for the stock from the "feeding floor" in the second story. In front of the racks are mangers to catch any straws that drop from the racks, as the fodder is pulled out by the animals. An open space is left between the racks and mangers, which allows the animals ready access to fresh air, prevents the hay in the racks from being made unpalatable by their breath, and gives room also to slip in boxes, when it is wished to feed with slops or roots.—The man who had charge of the stock said he could feed and take care of a hundred animals in this barn, with less labour than he could manage twenty in any other barn he ever saw. The cattle stand on a platform with a gentle slope, which renders it easier to keep them clean and dry. The cows are tied with chains around the neck, and are always milked in their stalls, summer and winter. They are milked exactly at fixed times. So punctual are the attendants to this, that a clock is kept in the apartment and the herdsman told us at what moment the cows would be in their places.

The barnyard is so contrived that none of the manure is wasted. It is kept littered with straw and such waste matters as can be procured, and the manure from the stalls is made into compost with that in the yard, mixed with muck, and is not used until it has become fine by decomposition.—*Am. paper.*

RESEARCHES ON MAGNETISM.

From the Westminster Review.

The nineteenth century is remarkable for triumphs of science, enterprise, and perseverance over great and acknowledged difficulties, and for the solution of problems, practical and theoretical, sought in vain, or despaired of in former ages. But rapid and triumphant as is the march of science, it is at the same time so gradual, so imperceptible, that we cease to wonder at facts, which, but a few short years back, would have been regarded as little short of miraculous. The steps by which we advance are so numerous, that we do not note the height to which we have climbed, until we turn to gaze behind us: the stone is hollowed, and we do not count the water-drops which have worn it away. Nor can the attentive observer of the advance of physical science in our day fail to remark the effect of this progress upon the human mind. The obstinate refusal to receive and acknowledge scientific truths decreases with proportionate rapidity, and the philosopher, who, in his laboratory, successfully interrogates Nature, is no longer listened to with incredulity, nor pointed at with scorn. If, indeed, any complaint can be made against the present tendency of public opinion in this matter, it is that the current has set in an entirely op-

posite direction,—it is that the reaction from the indifference and obstinacy of past ages carries us to the other extreme, and leads to the formation of great anticipations from trifling, insignificant, and insufficient data. But, comparatively speaking, this is of little importance—it is an error on the right side; time, the great leveller, will soon separate the grain from the husk; discoveries of real importance will remain as permanent additions to our knowledge, while ill-founded anticipations and theories will inevitably be buried in oblivion, or only be remembered as examples of human fallibility, "to point a moral, or adorn a tale."

Magnetism has, equally with other departments of physical science, been distinguished for this rapid onward progress. Scarcely a quarter of a century back, all magnetic instruments, with the exception of the mariners' compass, were but philosophic toys. Since that period, however, the correlation of the two forces, magnetism and electricity, has not only been clearly proved, but has likewise been taken advantage of in the construction of an instrument, certainly one of the wonders of the age, by which time and space are almost annihilated—we allude to the electric telegraph; and, more recently still, the persevering researches of our illustrious countryman, Dr. Faraday, have led to the discovery of the intimate connexion existing between this force and another of the imponderables—light; and shown to us, moreover, the real nature of the action exercised by magnetism over all matter,—a problem whose solution has been in vain attempted at different periods by the most distinguished philosophers. The new fields of science thus opened to us, promise an ample harvest of discoveries—discoveries the more likely to follow, from the eagerness with which the necessarily brief announcements in some of our public journals have been every where received, and the remarkable celerity with which the experiments have been tested and verified in all parts of the Continent.

The attractive power exerted by the loadstone over iron, appears to have been known in times of very remote antiquity. It is mentioned by Homer, Pythagoras, Aristotle, Euripides, and Pliny. The latter author, indeed, seems further to have been acquainted with the property of induction, or the power possessed by the loadstone of communicating its virtue to iron placed in its immediate vicinity; for he mentions the fact that an iron ring, supported by a loadstone, will in its turn sustain the weight of another. But although it thus appears clear that these two phenomena were known, yet its directive power or polarity, that is to say, its property of pointing north and south, seems to belong to a later date. True, it is generally asserted that the Chinese were acquainted with, and took advantage of, this directive power from a very early period. In a work entitled "General History of China," by P. Duhalde, the following passage occurs. Speaking of some ambassadors, the author says:—

"After they had their audience of leave in order to return to their own country, Tcheon-Kong gave them an instrument, which on one side pointed to the north, and the opposite side to the south, to direct them better on their way home than they had been directed in coming to China. The instrument was called Tchi-Nan, which is the same as the Chinese now give to the sea-compass; and this has given occasion to think that Tcheon-Kong was the inventor of the compass. This happened in the 22d cycle, more than 1040 years before the Christian era."

In further support of this assertion, Dr. Gilbert affirms that Paulus Venetus brought the compass to Italy from China, in the year 1260. But, unfortunately for this assertion, it is clear from many authors that the compass was in use in Europe in the twelfth century. Cardinal James de Vitri, who flourished about the year 1200, mentions the magnetic needle in his "History of Jerusalem," and he adds, that it was of indispensable utility to those who travelled by sea. In an old French poem, entitled "La Bible Guiot," still extant in the Royal Library at Paris, allusion is evidently made to the magnetic needle. Its author was Guiot de Provence, who lived at the latter part of the twelfth century. The passage is so remarkable, that we are tempted to subjoin a translation:—

"This (the pole) star does not move, and they (the mariners) have an art which cannot fail by virtue of the magnet—an ugly, brownish stone, to which iron adheres of its own accord. They look to the right point, and when they have touched a

needle, and fixed it on a bit of straw lengthwise, exactly in the middle, the straw keeping it up, the point turns straight and unerringly towards the star. When the night is so dark and gloomy that you can neither see star nor moon, they bring a light to the needle: may they not then assure themselves of the situation of the star by the direction of the point? Thus, the mariner is enabled to keep the proper course. It is an art which cannot deceive."

We think there can be no question, from the whole of this singular passage, that the compass is clearly referred to.

HE MISTOOK THE LIGHT!

Ah! that is strange! And what was the consequence? Why, the largest steamship in the world, with a rich cargo, and a company of three hundred souls on board, was wrecked, in a dark and stormy night, on the most dangerous part of the coast of Ireland! The noble ship, which cost upwards a million of dollars, left her port that very afternoon in fine trim, and with every prospect of a safe and speedy voyage, and at nine o'clock she was thumping upon the rocks—the sea breaking over her with terrific violence, threatening to send people, ship and cargo to instant destruction!

But how could they mistake the light? Were the captain and his officers on the lookout? Yes. Was the chart (or map of the coast) closely examined? Yes. Was the compass all right? Yes. And were the common precautions taken to keep the ship on her proper course? Yes; all this was done.

How then could she have met such a sad disaster? Why, because a light which was not noted on the chart, and the Captain was deceived by it! He mistook it for another light that was on the chart, and so when he supposed he was running out to sea, he was really running in upon the breakers! How great a mistake, and how terrible the consequences!

Every reader of the *Youth's Penny Gazette* is sailing on a more hazardous voyage than the Great Britain attempted, and has the command of a nobler vessel and a richer freight than hers. Yes, richer than all the treasures of the world! Thousands of plans are laid to mislead and divert him from his course. False lights are purposely held out to betray him, and tides and currents, of almost resistless power, set against him from every point of the compass? Will he steer clear of them all? Shall we see him push out into the broad sea, with a bright sky, a fair wind, and sails all set for the desired haven? Will he accomplish the voyage, and his fears and perils be all exchanged for the tranquillity and joy of a happy home?

It will depend on two things. 1st. Whether he has the true chart and takes good heed to it. It is shown as the Holy Scriptures and it lays down the position of every light on the voyage; and, he may be sure that any light that is not found on that chart is to be shunned. 2nd. Whether he commits himself and the whole direction of the voyage to Him whose footsteps are on the sea, and who rides upon the wings of the wind. No one ever put his trust in Him and was confounded.

Farewell then, young voyager! Be sober—be vigilant—keep your chart always spread out before you, and daily ask Him, to whose direction you have committed the voyage, what course He would have you this day to steer.—*Y. P. Gazette.*

DIFFERENCE OF RACES.

The boast of superior blood is one of the silliest forms of pride, and betrays no great consciousness of moral worth. Those who are prone to generalise rashly in favour of their prejudices, readily ascribe every virtue under heaven to their own happy temperament, to the credit of which they place the fruits of all other advantages. Surely the English people, to whom Providence has given, for its own gracious purposes, a predominant power in the earth, arising chiefly from their free institutions and scriptural religion, with their concomitants,—industrial habits and commercial prosperity—may well despise such childish vaunting. They are now a great and glorious people; but what were they once? It is wise for us occasionally to look back. Sir James Macintosh thus describes our ancestors in the eleventh century:—

"We gather a few particulars of the sufferings and degradation of the Saxons from a sermon by Lupus, a Saxon bishop. Such is their (the Danes) valour, that one of them will put ten of us to flight; two or three will drive a troop of captive Christians from

sea to sea. They seize the wives and daughters of our thanes, and violate them before the chieftain's face. The slave of yesterday becomes the master of his lord to-day. Soldiers, famine, flames, and blood surround us. The poor are sold far out of their land for foreign slavery. Children in their cradles are sold for slaves by an atrocious violation of the law.—We should more pity these miseries, if we did not bear in mind the previous massacre of the Scandinavians. . . . But in contests between beasts of prey, it is hard to select an object of compassion. Let those who consider any tribes of men as irreclaimable barbarians, call to mind that the Danes and Saxons, of whose cruelties a small specimen has been given, were the progenitors of those who, in Scandinavia, in Normandy, in Britain, and in America, are now among the most industrious, intelligent, orderly and humane of the dwellers upon earth." (History of England, vol. i. p. 60.)

Certainly the blood which, 800 years ago, tamely endured the basest bonds and the most maddening indignities, cannot be the cause of that superiority about which "*The Times*" commissioner has been lately venting such impertinent puerilities.

Among the circumstances which modify national character, climate is too much overlooked. Mountaineers have always clung heroically to liberty and independence; while in flat countries—where man's blood stagnates like their rivers—little has been done to win human rights or maintain them, except by commercial cities, where trade, flourishing only in freedom, naturally generates self-reliance. Take the most unresisting and phlegmatic Saxon population, who merely vegetate in a dull atmosphere on rich low lands, and place them among the Alpine, Caledonian, or Cambrian mountains, and think what the temperament of their grandchildren will become! Cold, wet and hunger, may in many cases, harden their features, and stunt their figures; plodding industry and the mechanical skill which results from always doing one thing, and thinking of nothing else, will undoubtedly give place to irregular exertions, impulsive movements, impetuous efforts, a love of boisterous pleasure and wild excitement, and the lazy habit of living for the hour, without pondering much on the rainy day. But then there will be the bold spirit of independent individuality, a temperament, poetic, mystic, enthusiastic, courageous, combined with that strong attachment to places, and to all the names, that, in past ages, made those places holy and renowned, which characterise the highlander of every country, and of every race.—*Eclectic Review.*

REMEMBER THE SABBATH.—The Atlantic steamboat, whose melancholy fate has been announced, was, on the Sabbath of the week in which she was lost, hauled up on the dry dock at New-York, and part of the consecrated day was spent in effecting some repairs; on the evening of the same day, in defiance of God's prohibition, she left New-York for Connecticut, and, in attempting to make her return passage she was lost, with a large proportion of her crew and passengers. Her owners, rather than lose a single trip, violated the Sabbath, and now the object of their pride will never again be the unconscious instrument of Sabbath desecration. We are not disposed to cry out "a judgement" on every calamitous event, but certainly the parties concerned would have had a better insurance for their property if they had been obedient to God's commandments.—*N. Y. Presbyterian.*

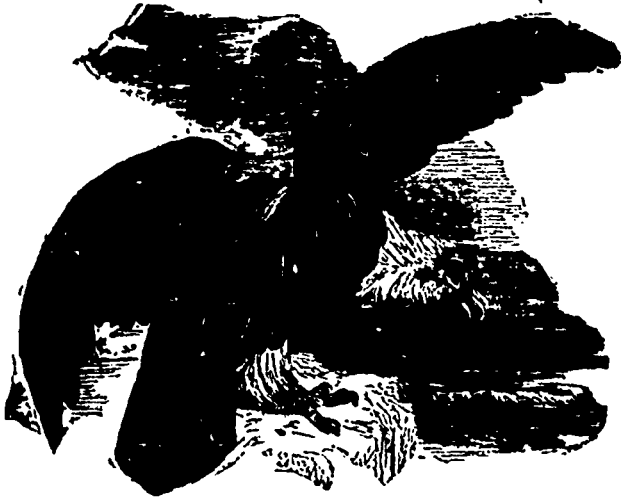
APPLES OF GOLD.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned. John iii. 16—18.

O that these truly precious words were ever warmly impressed on our hearts; that they were our last thoughts at night, and the first at our waking in the morning; and that they were improved in such a manner as to make our dying bed easy in the evening of our life, and to ensure our rising with gladness in the morning of the resurrection! And what more blessed and delightful meditations can I daily dwell upon than to think thus: God has loved me, even me, when I was his enemy; and so loved me, that he gave me his only Son! Bless me with faith in Christ, then Christ is mine, and all things are mine; 1 Cor. iii. 21; for "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all; how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" Rom. viii. 32. He will never suffer a believing soul to perish; he has passed his word for it. It is he that says, "I shall not perish, I shall not be condemned," but have everlasting life, if I believe. This will I build and depend upon to my last moments, as upon an immoveable rock. Amen and Amen.

Oh! for this love let earth and skies
With hallelujahs ring!
And the full choir of human tongues
All hallelujahs sing!

SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATION.



THE EAGLE.

The sight of the Eagle is extremely piercing and powerful, insomuch that the peculiarity has become proverbial. This great power of vision is necessary to enable it to spy its prey from the inaccessible mountain summits where it makes its nest, and the great heights to which it often soars in the air in order probably to obtain a wide field of view. It has even been affirmed that the Eagle can gaze steadily at the sun in his splendour; but whether truly or not, we cannot say. When the Eagle has marked his prey, he descends upon it with extreme rapidity, describing a kind of curved line in the air, which is said to be the direction of greatest velocity, and strikes it with unerring precision. His great strength enables him to carry off lambs and other small animals, and even in some cases children; and in defending his nest he manifests great resolution, striking with his wings so powerfully as even to break a man's leg by the stroke. There are many beautiful allusions to the Eagle in scripture, particularly that in Deut. xxxii. 11. The remarks on which we copy from the Pictorial Bible.

"As an eagle stirreth up her nest."—Deut. xxxii. 11.

This most beautiful figure obviously refers to the first attempts of the parent eagle to teach her young to fly. She rouses them early to exertion, and to the exercise of their energies; she watches and directs, with interest and care, the first efforts to fly; and, when finally assured that their powers are sufficiently matured, obliges them to leave the parent nest, and provide for themselves, in future. From this care of them while helpless, and to this careful training to exertion, the text takes its fine comparison, to illustrate the Lord's kindness to the Hebrews, his care for them, and the measures he had taken to raise them from that condition of religious, moral, and intellectual infancy into which they had fallen. Thus, to paraphrase the text, the eagle "stirreth up her brood" ("nest") from their inactivity and sloth—"fluttereth over her young," to incite them to try their wings—and "spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them, on her wings;" that is, assists by her wings their first faint and feeble efforts, until, stimulated by her example, and rendered confident by the success of their first attempts, they at last plunge boldly into the air, and, exulting in strength, return to the nest of infancy no more. We believe the expression, "beareth them on her wings," must thus be understood; for whilst the eagle may doubtless assist her young in their first efforts, and even support them with her wings when weary or in danger of falling, there seems no sufficient evidence for the story which states that the mother eagle takes the young upon her back, and, soaring up, throws them off in the higher regions of the air; where, if she perceives that they are unable to sustain themselves, she, with surprising dexterity, flies under them, and receives them on her wings to prevent their fall. That she does this literally, we may doubt; but unquestionably she does, in their first exercises, support and assist the young birds so remarkably as to afford some ground to the exaggerations which we find in the works of the old naturalists and travellers.

LOWER CANADA LUNATIC ASYLUM.

On Sunday last we visited the Temporary Lunatic Asylum at Beauport, in company with one of the medical attendants of the establishment, we arrived there while the inmates were at Divine Service. Without prejudice to our sane neighbours we must avow that a more attentive congregation we have never witnessed. The poor creatures seemed to be fully impressed with the solemn object of their attendance, and the restlessness of their disordered natures, was, throughout the period of the duration of worship, fully subdued. They knelt at the appeal to prayer, with one accord, and when the preacher called upon them to upraise their voices in sacred melody to the throne of grace all stood erect, and swelled the choir of harmonious praise.

The success of this establishment is worthy of remark. But fourteen months have elapsed since it first went into operation, and during that period no less a number than twenty-seven patients have been discharged, cured or greatly relieved. Of these two cases are particularly deserving of mention. They were madmen who had been transferred from the General Hospital to the Asylum. One of them had been in the former institution fourteen years, the other eleven, and, we understand that both have resumed their station in life. One is a school-master in a neighbouring parish, the other has become the supporter of his family, and works as a daily labourer.

This happy result is highly gratifying, both to those who humanely brought into existence so desirable an institution, and to the gentlemen under whose skilful auspices it has been the means of working such great good. By far the larger number of patients are confirmed maniacs; individuals long and hopelessly bereft of intellect. Had the cases been all of recent standing the success already attained would doubtless have been still more satisfactory.

The internal economy of the Beauport Asylum is of the most commendable character. The comfort of the patients is most carefully attended to, and their wants and fancies most sedulously provided for by the visiting physicians, ably aided by the excellent and kind-hearted superintendent, Mr. Wakcham, and his wife, the matron. Its cleanliness is most conspicuous, and an air of cheerfulness—such cheerfulness as can alone be looked for in an institution of the kind—is apparent throughout. The utmost liberty is allowed, consistent with a due regard to safety. The food is of the best description, and properly varied, and while a thorough ventilation is maintained, the most chilly visitor would not complain of want of heat.

During the summer season as much out-door exercise and promenading as the patients desire is granted to them under the surveillance of their keepers, and rarely has the confidence reposed in the poor creatures been abused. In the winter evenings they are encouraged to amuse themselves in dancing, and the enjoyment of music, and their Terpsichorean displays are to the full as joyous in their character and as pleasing to the performers as any *souree dansante* among our *haut ton*.

Institutions such as this are truly a credit to any country, and cannot be too strenuously supported.

The number of patients now at Beauport is 122.—*Quebec Mercury*.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTES.

We have great pleasure in calling the earnest attention of our readers to the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal, incorporated, during the last session, by act of parliament. This society, carried on by the exertions, for several years in succession, of a small number of the intelligent artificers of the city—to whom, for their untiring zeal, the thanks of the community are due—is now assuming such a position as will demand and obtain the support hitherto withheld, or but scantily supplied. Its numbers are rapidly increasing, its vital importance daily becoming more apparent; still, like all other institutions, it is but in its infancy; hence, as public journalists, we feel bound to urge upon all classes of the community, to foster its growth by subscriptions, by donations of books, instruments, specimens of art, or the natural productions of our country, and for the following, amongst many other cogent reasons. The day is not far distant when this country must manufacture. Is it not, then, necessary, to a successful commencement of such undertakings, that our mechanics should be well informed on all matters connected therewith? The railroad system of internal communication; is it not of the greatest importance that our engineers and persons connected with the charge of the locomotive engines and carriages, should have a thorough knowledge of the power they are directing and using? Need we now repeat, that owing to the absence of sound knowledge in these matters, hundreds of lives have been already lost, either on railroads or in steam boats? No, the cases are too numerous and too well established to require it. The Mechanics' Institute is the engineer's college; it is in the lecture room that the theory of his craft is explained to him, which, in the shop, he so happily learns to practise; it is, again we say, in the lecture room that he hears recounted the experiments on the features of his profession or business; he has explained to him, in language clear and concise, the causes of failure, and the incidents which led to the invention. The lecture room is, of all, the most popular medium of conveying information; at once the best adapted and most convenient for the wants of the particular class of persons for whom it is established. The mechanic, wearied with his day's work, has little time or inclination for deep study, but a lecture, illustrated by models and

experiments, attracts his attention and secures him the possession of much and highly prized information. Not only in this point of view is it valuable, but as a resource against idleness is it to be encouraged, as the good conduct or dissolute habits of the mechanics—the larger portion of a city's inhabitants—very materially affect the well being thereof.—*Gazette*.

CHEMICAL MIRACLES.

At the Court of the Duke of Brunswick, Professor Beyruss promised that, during dinner, his coat should become red; and, to the amazement of the prince and his other guests, it actually became of that colour. M. Vogel, who relates the fact, does not reveal the secret made use of by Beyruss; but he observes, that, by pouring lime-water on the juice of the beetroot a colourless liquid is obtained; and that a piece of cloth steeped in this liquid and quickly dried, becomes red in a few hours, simply by contact with the air; and further, that the effect is accelerated in an apartment where champagne and other wines are plentifully poured out. It has been proved, by recent experiments, that wool dyed by orchil of a violet colour, or stained blue by the acidulated sulphate of indigo, in a bath of hydro sulphuric acid, becomes colourless, yet resumes the blue or the violet colour on exposure to the free air. Either explanation applies to the modern fact, and indicates the possibility of reviving ancient prodigies; it also discovers the manner in which, amidst flaming torches and smoking incense, in the sanctuaries of Polytheism, the veil concealing the sacred things may have been seen to change from white to a blood-red hue, and which spectacle was considered as the presage of frightful disasters. Blood, boiling on the altars, or upon the marbles, or in the vases of the temples, was also indicative of peril and calamity. In Provence, in the sixteenth century, when a consecrated phial filled with the blood of St. Magdalene, in a solid state, was placed near her pretended head, the blood became liquid, and suddenly boiled. The same phenomenon was exhibited in the cathedral of Avellino, with the blood of St. Lawrence; and also at Bissegia, with that of St. Pantaleon, and of two other martyrs. In the present day, at an annual public ceremony at Naples, some of the blood of St. Januarius, collected and dried centuries ago, became spontaneously liquefied, and rises in a boiling state to the top of the phial that encloses it. These phenomena may be produced by reddening sulphuric ether with orcanette (*encosma*, Linn.), and mixing the tincture with spermaceti. This preparation, at ten degrees above the freezing point (centigrade) remains condensed, but melts and boils at twenty. To raise it to this temperature, it is only necessary to hold the phial which contains it in the hand for some time.—*Dr. A. T. Thomson's Philosophy of Magic*.

BIBLE READING OF PUBLIC CHARACTERS.

Lord Kenyon, who understood law rather better than the Gospel, closed one of his charges to a jury as follows: "Finally, gentlemen, I would call your attention to the example of the Roman Emperor Julian, who was so distinguished for the practice of every Christian virtue, that he was called Julian the Apostle."

But we need not leave our country (remarks Cist's Advertiser) for similar examples. Among our legislators we find Mr. Hoge, a member of Congress from Illinois, in the course of debate, quoting the following lines as coming from the Bible:

"While the lamp holds out to burn,
The vilest sinner may return."

And Col. Benton, in the Senate, spoke of our Saviour having cast seven devils out of a certain man, and of the devils taking possession of the swine who ran violently into the sea and perished. Two members of a State Legislature, at the close of the session, addressed a circular to their constituents: "We hope the course we have pursued, and the votes we have given, will meet your approbation. We hope you will say to us, as Nathan said to David, 'Well done good and faithful servants.'"

"Mr. Speaker," said a member of a legislative body, earnestly opposing a measure before the house, "Mr. Speaker, I would no more vote for that measure, than I would fall down and worship the golden calf that Abraham made."

"Mr. Speaker," said another member, "it was not Abraham that made the golden calf, it was Nebuchadnezzar."

An editor of one of our newspapers, when giving an ordinary notice of a worthy man, remarked, "we may say of him, as the

holy Scriptures have so beautifully expressed it—an honest man is the noblest work of God."

One of our own city editors, *himself a clergyman, too*, refers to Daniel as having persecuted the saints before he became a Christian.

The last case I shall give is taken from Waddy Thompson's recollections of Mexico, in which, speaking of the hospital of Lazarus, he says: "The inmates would have rivalled, in sores and rags, the brother of Mary and Martha."

How many of these men read their Bible?

THE POWER OF KINDNESS.

At the London Sunday School Union Anniversary, one of the speakers said:—

The governor of the Reformatory in the Isle of Wight, told me that there came into that prison a boy that had been convicted fifteen times, and as often committed to jail. He found that

"Law and terrors do but harden
All the while they work alone."

The governor remarked: "When he came to my room I said, 'My boy, I am your friend from this moment, I will take you to the chaplain, and he will be your friend;' and together they prayed for that boy's conversion. He never displayed, during the two years he was in confinement, the slightest opposition to the will of the governor, who had thus acted kindly towards him. See what kindness can do! The time of his imprisonment was over, and the governor told him that he had no longer power to keep him—that the doors were open. The boy stood at the door from morning till night, and said, 'let me entreat you to keep me in prison.'" So great had been the power of Christian kindness over him.

I will mention another case, relating to a poor girl in a ragged school; and I trust that it will not be thought improper to refer to myself in corroboration of a fact. When I went to visit the poor girl, the neighbourhood in which she lived was so thoroughly bad, that it was imprudent to go without a friend. That girl, however, was one of the first-fruits of Christian kindness in the ragged school. She joined the Church of Christ and under deep affliction was taken to one of the hospitals. On her leaving it, the sister of the ward remarked to a friend, "I am sorry that Mary is going to leave us." On inquiring the reason, she replied, "When the ward door was shut at night and no one permitted to come in, Mary read the Bible, and then knelt down and commended us all to the goodness of God. She went to every dying person, and tried to point them to the Saviour." There have been girls in the school, who, when they first entered, would put one arm around your neck, and then, with the other hand, have abstracted a coin from your pocket; and yet they have been reclaimed.

DANGERS OF GUN COTTON.—The *Manchester Guardian* says—"The simple and inexpensive means by which cotton—an article of which any boy in Manchester may get a handful for asking—may be converted into a dangerous explosive substance, has led many young men in this town to try experiments with it, in ignorance of some of its peculiar and most perilous qualities, and we are, therefore, desirous to caution such persons against trying experiments with it until they are more familiar with its singular properties. The other day we noticed the bursting of a gun with a charge of eighty-three grains of gun-cotton, and we mention an experiment tried in this immediate neighbourhood the other day, showing that one-fourth of this weight of the gun-cotton is an ample charge for an ordinary fowling-piece. Twenty grains of gun-cotton (which is about equivalent in bulk to an ordinary charge of gunpowder) in a gun of the usual construction and average bore, drove the ball at a distance of fifty-yards, through three boards, each an inch in thickness, and also through a three-inch plank—(these planks being reared up together)—and the ball was quite flattened against a brick wall about three inches behind the last plank. This shows the tremendous projectile force of the gun-cotton, when properly prepared; and the danger that must result from what, though a small quantity and weight of the cotton, is still an over-charge. Another peril should be mentioned as a caution to youth. The cotton does not need actual contact of flame, or even with a spark, to ignite it, but explodes on reaching a comparatively low temperature, as may be ascertained by placing a small quantity on the warm hood of a grate, out of the influence of the flames. In one instance, an experimenter in this town held some of the prepared cotton in his hand before the fire, and it exploded and burned his hand. The same result attends the holding a piece of the cotton at a considerable height above a gas-light. It explodes when held more than a yard above the top of the flame. It may even be spun into calico, and yet retain its explosive power.

A WASTEFUL FOLLY.—It is estimated that the amount expended in New-York city, annually, for cigars alone, is not less than \$730,000.

SELECTIONS.

ROOKS FOND OF MAN.—The desire for nearness to human habitations is sometimes singularly manifested by the rook. Some have been known to build on the tops of the weather-cocks, as was the case in Newcastle, in Welborne, and other places. Vast numbers of rooks made their dwellings in the ancient walls of Windsor Castle, trusting to the immunities secured by the vicinity of royalty, and laying under contribution the wide domain of that rich part of Berkshire. The extensive repairs undertaken by George IV. led to the expulsion of the rooks from their castellated homes, though large rookeries are yet abundant in the vicinity of the castle. These rookeries are not increased by the influx of birds from other settlements, the laws of these republics being most rigid in the exclusion of foreigners. No sooner does a stranger attempt to settle in an old colony than he is furiously attacked and beaten by the natives. A rook wishing to change his home, must, therefore, retire into solitude, construct a lonely nest, and become the founder of a new colony. No opposition is ever made to the settlement of the young broods in the rookery, but these frequently depart in flocks to form small rook states in the neighbouring trees. The fondness shown by the rooks for their nests does not keep the birds to their lofty homes through the year; after the young have flown, the rookery is for a time deserted, both old and young preferring the freedom of the fields and woods to the limits of their settlement. In this respect we may liken the rooks to those wild Indian tribes who pass one period of the year in their wigwams, and the remainder in the hunting-grounds.

LIBRARIES.—The famous Bodleian library of Oxford contains between 400,000 and 500,000 volumes. Five of the great English libraries are entitled to receive a copy each of all the publications entered at Stationers' Hall. Some others once enjoyed the privilege, but now receive instead a stipulated sum from the government, in some cases as much as \$3000 per annum. Still so much trash is accumulated that the gift of books is regarded rather as a burden than a favour; sometimes the wish is expressed that no new books may be offered, or money to purchase books, so much are the library edifices straitened for room. The Directors of the British Museum have ordered the purchase of every American book and publication of every kind, including pamphlets, sermons, school books, childrens' books, &c. Sir Walter Scott's library of 15,000 volumes at Abbotsford remains unembarrassed and undisturbed as the property of his heirs; a catalogue has lately been published in two volumes. It is now extremely difficult to procure his autograph, and a volume containing it would be eagerly purchased.—*Cong. Jour.*

A late number of Hunt's Merchants' Magazine, an American periodical, contains an interesting memoir of the Late Gideon Lee, from which we derive the following anecdote, illustrative of his own fair dealings, and of the usual effects of trickery in trade. No man more thoroughly despised dishonesty than Mr. Lee; and he used to remark "no trade can be sound that is not beneficial to both parties: to the buyer as well as to the seller. A man may obtain a temporary advantage by selling an article for more than it is worth, but the effect of such operations must recoil on him in the shape of bad debts and increased risks." A person with whom he had some transactions, once boasted to him that he had, upon one occasion, obtained an advantage over such a neighbour, "And to-day," said he "I have obtained one over you." "Well," said Mr. Lee, "that may be, but if you will promise never to enter my office again, I will give you that bundle of goat-skins." The man promised, and took them. Fifteen years afterwards, he entered Mr. Lee's office. At the instant on seeing him, he exclaimed, "You have violated your word; pay me for the goat skins." "I am quite poor, and have been very unfortunate since," said the man. "And you will always be poor: that miserably desire for over-reaching others, must ever keep you so," said Mr. Lee.

THERMOMETERS IN SCHOOL-ROOMS.—A thermometer should be kept in every school-room, and hung on the cool side of it. The proper temperature should be determined by unchangeable laws, not by the variable feelings or caprice of any individual. Without a thermometer—if the teacher be habituated to live in the open air; if he be healthy, vigorous, and young; if he walk a mile or several miles to the school; and especially if he keep upon his feet during the school-hours—the scholars will be drilled and scolded into a resignation to great suffering from cold. If, on the other hand, the teacher lead a sedentary life, if his health be feeble, or if he step into the school-room from a neighbouring door, he will perhaps unconsciously create a little summer about himself, and subject the children to a perilous transition in temperature whenever they leave his tropical regions. In this way a child's lungs may get a wound in early life which neither Cuba nor the South of France can afterwards heal.—*American Report on the Subject of School-Houses.*

DEATH.—The life of man is the incessible walk of time, wherein every moment is a step and pace to death. Even our growing to perfection is a progress to decay. Every thought we have is a sand running out of the glass of life. Every letter that I now write is something cut off from the measure of my being here. When the affections are glued to the world, death makes not a dissolution, but a fracture; and not only separates the soul but tears it away. So the pain and the hazard are more. He is a happy man that lives so, as death at

all times may find him at leisure to die. It were a shame for me, being a Christian, and believing Heaven, to be afraid of removing from earth. In resolving this I shall triumph over other casualties. All things that we fear here, we fear as steps that descend us towards our graves, towards nonexistence and deprivation. When we get the victory over this great terror, all the small ones are conquered in it. Great cities once expunged, the dorps and villages will soon come in of themselves.—*Feltham.*

BISHOP JEWEL.—When Bishop Jewel, by his laborious course of life, had much impaired his health, his friends, who could not but observe a sensible alteration in his appearance, endeavoured to prevail on him to relax from his incessant application, and to desist for a time, at least, from pulpit services. He only replied to their friendly remonstrances, by saying that "a bishop should die preaching." These words were almost literally fulfilled in his own case; for, a short time before his death, having promised to preach at Lacock, in Wiltshire, he was determined to go; although a friend, who met him on the way, strongly urged him to return home, telling him, that the people had netter lose one sermon than be altogether deprived of such a pastor. The bishop could not be prevailed upon to return, but proceeded to the place appointed, and there preached his last sermon, from Galatians v. 16. "Walk in the Spirit," which he was not able to finish without great difficulty. He died a few days after.

INTERESTING ANECDOTES.—A colporteur had left Aix, in Provence, with the intention of visiting a little village at some distance, where he had succeeded in establishing some depots for bibles and tracts, and found some persons well disposed towards the gospel. Imperfectly acquainted with his route, he travelled for some time without knowing where he was, till he reached the centre of a forest, and knew not whether to direct his course. He mounted a slight elevation, and saw a thatched cottage, to which he went to inquire his way. He found a woman and some children, and offered them a New Testament. The woman inquired what book that was? He replied, it was the Word of God, and began to read some verses. Her heart was speedily touched by the truth which she heard from the sacred volume. She asked him for a copy, declaring that she wished to read it to her family. He gave her what she wished, and accompanied it with several controversial tracts, designed to destroy those prejudices which still linked her to the Church of Rome, and departed, believing, from what he had seen, that God had sent His truth home to her heart. "Some days ago," writes a colporteur, "I saw a woman who, not being able to read, yet always carries the New Testament with her under her arm, and asks every one she meets with to read a portion of it to her. Another woman, eighty-five years of age, gave me, the other day, ten francs for the work of colportage. This woman is very poor. She watches the cattle in the fields, and feeds on nothing but black bread during the day. She reads in the book of God the words of pardon, and the story of the love of her Divine Master, and her faith is great."—*Edinburgh Witness.*

EFFECTS OF THE ABSENCE OF SUN AND AIR.—Dr. Moore, the eloquent and amiable author of "The Use of the Body in Relation to the Mind," says—"A tadpole confined in darkness would never become a frog, and an infant, being deprived of heaven's free light, will only grow into a shapeless idiot, instead of a beauteous and reasonable being. Hence, in the deep dark gorges and ravines of the Swiss Valais, where the direct sunshine scarcely reaches, the hideous prevalence of criminalism startles the traveller. It is a strange melancholy idiocy. Many critins are incapable of any articulate speech; some are deaf, some are blind, some labor under all these privations, and all are misshapen in almost every part of the body. I believe there is, in all places, a marked difference in the healthiness of houses, according to their aspect with regard to the sun, and that those are decidedly the healthiest, *ceteris paribus*, in which all rooms are, during some part of the day, fully exposed to direct light. It is a well-known fact, epidemics attack the inhabitants of a shady side of a street, and totally exempt those of the other side; and even in edemics, such as ague, the morbid influence is often thus partial in its actions.

FAMINE IN ENGLAND IN 1316.—Several periods of great scarcity have occurred in England, but the most severe dearth that we find recorded was that which happened in 1316. It began to be severely felt in May, 1316, and proceeded to the utmost extremity until after the harvest in 1316. In July, 1316, the quarter of wheat rose to 30s. (equal to 22. 10s.) and in August reached the enormous price of 40s., or 30l. the quarter. A loaf of coarse bread, which was scarcely sufficient to support a man for a single day, sold for fourpence, equal in value to 5s. now. Wheat rose in Scotland at one time to the enormous sum of 100s., equal to 75l. the quarter of the present currency. This dearth continued, but with mitigated severity, until after the harvest of 1316; but great abundance returned in 1318. This famine occasioned a prodigious mortality among the people, owing to the want of proper food and the unwholesome substitutes. The rain set in so early in 1315, and continued so violently that most of the seed of that year perished in the ground; the meadows were so inundated that the hay crop of that year was almost utterly destroyed.

The next Presidential candidates ought to be interrogated in regard to the length of their messages. No man should be elected whose message would exceed three or four columns.—*Lowell Courier.*

NEWS.

In the absence of arrivals from Britain we are of course destitute of Transatlantic news.

The American Congress has now been five weeks in session without doing anything important. The two chief objects at present before them are the manner of conducting the war, and the raising of the ways and means. In the former question no progress has been made; in the latter, the only thing decided is, that the house will not tax tea or coffee according to the President's recommendation.

From the theatre of war there are no news of consequence. The American forces are said to be concentrating on Victoria, and Santa Anna is said to be moving on Saltillo. Revolutions are reported in some of the southern provinces of Mexico.

Our domestic news are not of importance. The weather, though colder than for some weeks previous, continues remarkably mild—and Indian and Canadian predictions are not wanting that we are to have no winter at all, at least in the Canadian sense of the term.

The funeral of the Rev. C. Strong took place on Wednesday last, and was attended by a very large body of mourners, among whom were nearly all the Protestant ministers of this city. The services in the American Church upon the occasion were attended by a very crowded and deeply affected congregation. We trust the touching description then given of the departure and dying testimony of this good man, will be embodied in some more permanent form than newspaper paragraphs.

One of the most respectable meetings ever held in Quebec, passed spirited resolutions, on Thursday last, in favour of forming a company forthwith to construct a telegraphic line from Quebec to Halifax. We heartily wish this patriotic undertaking success.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DEATH FROM INTEMPERANCE.—On Monday, an inquest was held on the body of a young girl named Campagne, 16 years of age, living in the Quebec Suburbs. It appears that she was the night before somewhat intoxicated in company with a young man. Immediately after rising yesterday morning she drank a small quantity of liquor, and then went again to bed, where she was found in an hour after quite dead. The verdict was, "Death from intemperance."—*Pilot*.

CRIME.—Statistics of crime in Montreal during the past year show that 4376 offenders have passed through the hands of the City Police. Of these a large proportion were for light offences. There is a decrease since last year of 901.—*Id.*

A HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY has been established in Montreal, of which Mr. Justice Day has been elected first President.

INQUEST.—An inquest was held this morning on the body of Ellen Davis. The deceased was found this morning, about 5 o'clock, in a yard in Artillery street, half covered with snow, by the police, who were attracted to the spot by her cries. They immediately procured a carriage, and removed her to the station in the Parliament Buildings, which place she but just reached when she expired. The Jury returned a verdict of—"Died from drinking and exposure."

On Thursday the 17th instant, Mr. William Johnson, senr., in Down, aged something over 70 years, went to the bush for the purpose of chopping wood, and not returning at evening, search was made for him, when he was found lying dead upon his face, his axe standing near him. The Coroner's Jury came to the conclusion that he died of apoplexy.—*Chatham Gleaner*.

MURDER.—A cool and deliberate murder was perpetrated in the township of Harwich on the evening of the 21st ultimo. It appears that a number of coloured persons and others met for the purpose of enjoying themselves by dancing, &c., at the house of the deceased Austin Jefferson, a coloured man, to celebrate the wedding of a young couple who had been married on the Sunday previous, and whilst the party were amusing themselves, Austin Jefferson tuning his violin, having just finished playing, was shot by a ball from a rifle and instantly expired. The shot it appeared was fired at the said Austin Jefferson by one Peter Davis, also a coloured man. The ball entered near the nipple of the right breast, and passing through the pericardium of the heart, entered the back bone. The shot was fired from the outside through the window. Peter Davis then fled; two of the party inside followed, and one of them saw him hastily attempt to draw a staple at the door of his house, which was fastened, and then, as the door did not yield quick enough, Davis ran to the window; on this the party called him by name, when he immediately fled through the woods. An inquest was held on the body of Austin Jefferson on the 22nd, and adjourned to the 23rd, before P. P. Lacroix, Esq., Coroner; verdict of the jury, wilful murder against Peter Davis.—*Id.*

RESERVED ACTS.—The *Canada Gazette* contains a Proclamation announcing Her Majesty's assent to the following reserved Acts, passed during the last Session of the Provincial Legislature:—"An Act to incorporate a Company to extend the Great Western Railroad from Hamilton to Toronto;" "An Act to amend an Act passed in the eighth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled an Act to amend an Act passed in the sixth year of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled, an Act to incorporate the City of Toronto and Lake Huron Railroad Company;" "An Act for erecting a Suspension Bridge over the Niagara River at or near the Falls of Niagara;" "An Act to restore the rights of certain persons attainted for High Treason;" "An Act to incorporate the Wolf Island, Kingston and Toronto Railroad Company;" "An Act to incorporate the Peterboro' and Port Hope Railway Company;" "An Act to incorporate the Montreal and Kingston Railway Company.—*Economist*.

THE CANADA COMPANY.—The Canada Land Company have resumed their system of disposing of their lands on lease. They considered at one time, says the *Montreal Gazette*, that they were parting with their lands too rapidly, and accordingly suspended it for about nine months, returning to the old system of cash instalments and the payment of the balance

within five years. The result was that, after having doubled the population of the Huron District during the four years the leasing system was in operation, a return to the old one completely arrested the progress of settlement, and produced a complete stagnation in the district.—*Economist*.

THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.—The old Emperor (says the correspondent of an American paper) is very feeble, and preparations are making for an extensive native insurrection at his death. A native Chinese Emperor is desired by the masses of the people, and the English are said to be looking up a legitimate successor to the native dynasty of Ming, which was overthrown by the invasion of the Tartars in 1619, after having existed two hundred and eighty-one years.—Tuon Kwang, the name or number by which the present Emperor is known, is the sixth Tartar sovereign of his dynasty, which has existed one hundred and ninety-seven years. He has several hundred children, and the *Peking Gazette*, the court journal, occasionally contains accounts of riots or disturbances at the palace, arising from disputes among the heirs as to who shall be the next Emperor. One of the Emperor's sons was exposed in the *Gazette* lately, for attempting to obtain the Crown by bribery. It seems there is an electoral college, similar to the College of Cardinals at Rome, by which the Emperor is chosen by ballot, and the young Tartar Prince was attempting to buy over the votes of the members of this college, in anticipation of his father's death. His exposure in the *Gazette* is a striking evidence of the freedom of the press in that country. The *Gazette* is the oldest paper in the world, and is supposed to have been commenced several hundred years before the discovery of printing in Europe.

The United States brig of war "Somers," was capsized and sunk in a few minutes, in a heavy squall from the north, on the 8th Dec., P.M., off Green Island; there were 80 persons on board, of whom 23 perished; eight men went ashore on hen-coops, near Vera Cruz, after having been in the water 30 hours, and were taken prisoners by the Mexicans. Great credit is due to the officers and crews of the English, French, and Spanish ships of war lying at Sacrificos, had it not been for them all hands of the "Somers" would have been lost.

J. B. GOUGH.—Every day we hear favorable reports from the labors of Mr. Gough in our city. The happiest effects certainly were produced. The tough-skinned old wine-drinkers, numbers of them got quite stirred up—some signed the pledge, others were half inclined to, and at any rate hauled up for a time. The young ladies are determined to follow Gough's advice, to have no wine on the water at New Years, but to have the pledge spread out, so that every young man as he comes in must look it full in the face? That is not bad, is it?—*All. Patriot*.

MONTEREY, Dec. 1st.—The Kentuckians and Mexicans are amusing themselves with private warfare; a great number of Mexicans are said to have been killed. At Monterey at least 120 Amc. soldiers and volunteers have deserted and gone over to the enemy. The son of the Alcalde is in prison and heavily ironed, awaiting his trial by General Taylor, for tampering with the United States soldiers, and volunteers. Accounts have been received from General Worth up to the 27th Nov.—all was quiet in that quarter.

DREADFUL SCENE.—The "Natchez Courier," in giving an account of the sufferings of the wounded by the collision of the steamers "Maria" and "Sultana," says:—"One man would pray to the doctor to cut his throat, another that he might be pierced to the heart and relieved of his excruciating pain, another that he might be dispatched in any way, to quell the incalculable agony that was consuming him. Shrieks, groans, sobs, most piercing, agonizing howls, were heard on every hand, from the 22 sufferers to whom he was ministering. 'Will I live, doctor?' said one man, from whom nearly all the skin was peeled. 'You will die, sir.' 'It is perhaps my duty to tell you that you will die in an hour.'—'Well, I am sorry for it,' said he, 'for I have a wife, and aged mother, and several children.' In an hour he was dead, and such were the suffering of every one of the poor victims.

INDIAN JUSTICE.—An Indian was recently found near the plantation of W. C. C. Martin, of Rapides, lying on his back. On examination, it was found that he had received four stabs, in or near the heart. No marks of a rencounter could be seen, and it appeared evident that the poor fellow made a voluntary surrender of his life. As the tale runs, says the *Alexandria Democrat*, the Indian killed formerly resided in Avoyelles. At a ball play there, he killed one of his tribe, and was persuaded to fly from justice. He was pursued by a relative of the one he killed, and traced to the spot where his body was found. When overtaken, it is said, he made no resistance, but, with Roman fortitude, bared his bosom to his unrelenting pursuer, and received the fatal knife without a murmur! When the assassin finished his work, he mounted his pony and rode away, with the *sang froid* of Murat when returning from a victorious field.

There being few transactions in imported goods or produce, and no change to note since our last, we omit the usual prices current.

TERMS OF THE MONTREAL WITNESS:

The "Montreal Witness" is published every Monday afternoon, for the Proprietor, John Dougall, by R. D. Wadsworth, Exchange Court, Montreal.

Annual Subscription, exclusive of Postage, 17s. 6d.—Do., if paid in advance, 15s. Shorter periods in proportion.

To Agents or Clubs remitting in advance for five copies the price will be 14s. per copy.

To enhance the value of the "Witness" for preservation, an index will be given at the end of the year.

All orders and remittances are to be addressed to the Publisher, Mr. Wadsworth. All literary communications to the "Editors of the Montreal Witness,"—in both cases, post-paid.

THE PEOPLE'S MAGAZINE AND WEEKLY JOURNAL is Published for the Proprietor, JOHN DOUGALL, every Wednesday Morning, at 5s. per Annum, payable in advance. Orders to be addressed, post paid, to Mr. R. D. Wadsworth, No. 4, Exchange Court.