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THE  
**Federation Spider's Web;**

A SERIO-COMIC, POLITIC

**ODE,**

SUITED TO THE TIMES.

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BY DOROTHEA DOGGEREL,

SPINSTER.

EDITED BY HERSELF.

*Cum privilegio of her sex.*

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FEBRUARY, 1865.

811  
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29733

THE  
NEW BRUNSWICK  
MUSEUM

*Call 1st. Adm.*

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My. 24  
4611

THE

MUSEUM OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON  
BOSTON, MASS.

## THE FEDERATION SPIDER'S WEB.

---

" Will you walk into my parlor?  
" Said a spider to a fly;  
" 'Tis the prettiest little parlor  
" That ever you did spy.

" The way into my parlor  
" Is up a *winding stair*,  
" And I have many pretty things  
" To show when you are there."

" Oh! no! no!" said the little fly,  
" To ask me is in vain;  
" For who goes up your winding stair,  
" Can ne'er come down again!

—MARY HOWITT.

---

### I.

There is a little scattered place  
In Canada the West,  
'Tis called in Indian, "*Ottawa*,"  
And't has been greatly blest.

### II.

Nature has been most bountiful  
In everything that's grand,  
And art is now contributing  
With no unsparing hand.

### III.\*

Oh! little "*Bytown*!" favored spot!  
Why seek'st thou to combine  
These happy Colonies in one,  
To worship at thy shrine?

## IV.

Is Canada so ill at ease  
 She needs a *Doctor's* skill?  
 Must, too, a *Druggist* her attend,  
 To aid him with a pill?

## V.

To her four sister Colonies  
 In haste, for help she flies;  
 Such nurses, and such treatment prompt,  
 A *desperaté* case implies—

## VI.

A *sovereign remedy* they've found—  
 A plaster famed, they say,  
 Which for a time at least, 'tis hoped,  
 The hæmorrhage will stay—

## VII.

A Federation *sugared pill*,  
 "Good both for man or critter,"  
 Till dosed "*ad nauseam*," she'll find  
 The sweet, but coats the bitter.

## VIII.

Search classic lore, and there portrayed  
 The God of Healing find;  
 A wand, the emblem he displays,  
 With serpent round entwined.

## IX.

A Serpent our first tempter was—  
 Beware its subtle ways;  
 Trust not to politicians, or  
 Their "*cure-all*," of our days.

## X.

Why should we be the *Styptic* made  
 For Canada's old sores ?  
 Why should we send our "*choicest men*"  
 Far from our sea-girl shores ?

## XI.

For old sores, as we all well know,  
 Do oft break out afresh ;  
 A limb is lost, life ebbs away,  
 Take warning by "*Secesh.*"

## XII.\*

But onward ! onward ! still resounds  
 The cry from far and near,  
 For Federation all run mad,  
 And think they've nought to fear.

## XIII.

Tho' Federation's paths are steep,  
 And up a "*winding stair*"—  
 Led by *ambitious* bands of men,  
 We'll triumph ! ne'er despair.

## XIV.

"*Great Statesmen*" then, we all will prove,  
 With "*Tilley*" to the fore,  
 And lord it too, in famous style,  
 Our sway from shore to shore.

## XV.

Then hie away to "*Ottawa* !"  
 The scheme's both grand and vast,  
 Such an "*expanded field*" we'll have,  
 For old, and young, and *fast*.

## XVI.

Our Governors we then can choose  
 From our own fire sides ;  
 Free from all party influ'nces—  
 Such feelings and such guides.

## XVII.

"Tuppers" there are, and "Tilleys" too,  
 With "Grays," "Browns," and "M'Gees,"  
 And lots of other leading minds,  
 You and I, sir, if you please.

## XVIII.

The article's abundant—raw,  
 Tho' 'tis Colonial stuff ;  
 'Tis cheaper than imported far,  
 Of which we've had enough.

## XIX.

It wants a little rubbing up,  
 Some scraping, and some *filling*—  
 A little polish of the French—  
 Some furbishing, and drilling.

## XX.\*

When, too, a "Fisher" we send charged  
 With Homeward bound despatches ;  
 He'll ne'er again be placed, I hope,  
 On ship board under hatches.

## XXI.\*

"George Brown," they say, without *his bag*,  
 "*Red whiskers, or moustaches,*"  
 Was treated like a "*Statesman great,*"  
 Not made to feed on ashes.



## XXII.\*

When he, with *Section Sixty-Seven*,  
Was sent across the seas,  
To fix for Canada's defence,  
Such sum as *she* might please.

## XXIII.

These *Delegations*, apropos !  
Have, it would seem, become  
An "*Institution*" of the land,  
But 'tis expensive fun.

## XXIV.

Some two pounds ten, per day, 'tis said,  
(*Should the accounts be found*)  
For bluenose boys when on the spree,  
As statesmen "*bobbing round*."

## XXV.

Our *Judges* too, will then be raised,  
In salary and Rank ;  
Why should they not talk politics,  
E'en while they sit in "*Banc*."

## XXVI.

New courts for Lawyers, with new fees,  
Expands their field, 'tis true ;  
But Farmers, and Mechanics skilled,  
What is held out to you ?

## XXVII.\*

*Taxation*, is your only boon,  
In "*Wilmot's*" parlance chaste,  
"*Raw head and bloody bones*," 'tis called—  
This is your dainty feast.

## XXVIII.

For be assured, you can't compete  
 In products of the soil,  
 Or manufactured articles,  
 With all your skill, and toil.

## XXIX.

Canada, more prolific is—  
 Her climate less severe ;  
 Wheat, Beef, and Barley, Butter, Pork,  
 She exports every year.

## XXX.

She has the capital in hand,  
 With factories employed ;  
 The raw material abounds—  
 Compete, and you're destroyed.

## XXXI.

On their materials from abroad,  
 They've placed their duties high,  
 To foster all these factories,  
 Whose goods we'll have to buy.

## XXXII.

*Per cent., one hundred, on imports*  
 Of liquors, sound and old,  
 While whiskey of domestic make,  
 For *thirty cents*, is sold.

## XXXIII.

If we could only get it now  
 To carry to the polls,  
 What strength we'd find in Union there,  
 And oh ! what jolly souls !

## XXXIV.

Let's go for *Federation*, Boys!  
 And *temperance without laws*;  
 "P. W. P's," and all would find  
 Strength given to the cause.

## XXXV.

Molasses pays, as you will find,  
*Five cents, with ten ad val.*;  
 "Tax poor man's sweet'ning?" was the cry,  
 Here, on *two cents per gal.*

## XXXVI.

Our country's Maidens drink their tea,  
 At four cents on the pound;  
 Canadians pay full six cents more,  
 As by their Tariff's found.

## XXXVII.\*

"*Union is strength*," th' Archbishop says,  
 But 'tis an Irish Bull;  
 His Grace's logic's out of joint,—  
 His promises are null.

## XXXVIII.

Hist'ry he cites, and for his "*proof*,"  
 After a deal of trouble,  
 Goes to *Geneva*, but it wont  
 Stand *testing by the "bubble."*

## XXXIX.

His taste is good, his cellar too,  
 (The premises I'll name),  
 Water, and Rum, or Whiskey, take,  
 And victory I claim.

## XL.

To water add, but good old Rum,  
 And Union's strength, no doubt ;  
 Reverse the case, water the rum,  
 Its weakness soon crops out.

## XLI.

The verdict " Ex Cathedra" give,  
 As at your ease you sip ;  
 " In *vino veritas*" 'tis said,  
 Precludes a lying lip.

## XLII.\*

Hear what in Canada, " Galt" says,  
 " Oh ! we'll have lots of pelf ;  
 " And as to Lower Provinces,  
 " Let each take care of self."

## XLIII.

From twenty, down to fifteen pounds,  
 Their Tariff they reduce ;  
 The balance must be paid I ween,  
 Pray tell us " *how the Deuce.*"

## XLIV.

Ours must be raised, as all admit,  
 Tho' differing in amount ;  
 Odds bobs ! says Villikins ! what of that ?  
 The Railway's tantamount.

## XLV.

The Railway to be built ? Indeed !  
 But when ? and where ? I'd know,  
 Will you e'er hear its whistle should  
 It plough through Northern snow ?

## XLVI.

The Railway to be built? Indeed!  
Oh! yes sir! in a trice,  
Has Canada before played false?  
They've bilked us twice or thrice.

## XLVII.

Western necessity, pray mark!  
Reduces cost two thirds;  
This but reminds me of the cast  
"Of chaff, to ancient Birds."

## XLVIII.

Should we be caught with such a bait,  
Our rights and Rev'nues lost,  
For Western works, we then would pay,  
More than a Railway'd cost.

## XLIX.

And when in Wedlock's bands we're yoked  
Like shamrock, rose, and thistle,  
Too late you'll find, we'll have to pay  
Too dear for Railway "whistle."

## L.

Let's have the Railway, if we can,  
But count the cost and pay,  
Rather than take it as a bribe,  
And throw our all away.

## LI.

Or better far to bide our time,  
Till Canada's alarms,  
Brings her to sue for right of way  
Through our New Brunswick Farms.

## LII.

But should e'er war's alarms be heard  
 Round Canada's broad skirt ;  
 New Brunswick's sons will ever be  
 Found ready and alert.

## LIII.

Our purse, resources of all kinds,  
 We'll gladly throw them all,  
 Into a general fund, and fight,  
 At the Canadians call.

## LIV.

But freedom still we will maintain,  
 No serfs or slaves are we ;  
 We roam in freedom o'er the land,  
 And fearless o'er the sea.

## LV.\*

" Forget ! forgive ! all party feuds,  
 " Cries Brown," till object's gained ;  
 " And after Union, what betides,  
 " Who cares, when all's obtained."

## LVI.

His charity is great, no doubt,  
 For Canada ; but here,  
 We view things in a different light ;  
 He but excites our fear.

## LVII.\*

To section *Forty-Six* next turn,  
 Two languages you'll find  
 In Legislative Halls and Courts,  
 " *Ad lib.*" to be combined.

## LVIII.

Discordant concord the result,  
The French will "*Parlez-vous*,"  
While English, jealous of their rights,  
Will spout their native, too.

## LIX.

Here is the Leaven of the Lump,  
With fermentation charged ;  
'Twill burst the bands, no matter how  
Our borders be enlarged.

## LX.

With elements discordant, then,  
Can you expect cohesion ?  
You're treading on a powder mine—  
A spark will cause explosion.

## LXI.

To gravitation you must add  
Attraction's equal power,  
If you the system would prolong  
Beyond a fleeting hour.

## LXII.

My *hour* is up, my tale's not told,  
I could prolong the thread,  
But you will tire, should I spin out  
This Federation web.

## LXIII.

Adieu ! kind reader, but before  
We part, to meet no more,  
Let us return to "*Ottawa*"—  
I'll ask it not *encore*.

## LXIV.\*

Trace "Ott'wa's" surging waters there,  
 Fit emblem of this scheme ;  
 This turbid river's confluence note  
 With "Hochelaga's" stream.

\*  
LXV.\*

*Disunion* marks its *Union* with  
 St. Lawrence's azure tide ;  
 For miles they, sep'rate rivers, run  
 Distinct, as on they glide—

## LXVI.\*

Mark this same bounding river, where  
 It takes its mighty leap ;  
 A boiling cauldron seethes and foams,  
 And from its bottom deep

## LXVII.

A subterraneous passage leads,  
 To some deep dark abyss—  
 Never again to life is brought,  
 Whate'er may plunge in this.

## LXVIII.

Take warning then, in time, I pray,  
 And from experience reap  
 This lesson, for your guidance now,  
 To "*look before you leap.*"

DOROTHEA DOGGEREL, *Spinster.*



## NOTES ON THE SEVERAL STANZAS.

\*(3). "Bytown." The former name of "Ottawa."

\*(12). "*For Federation all run mad.*" This seems prophetic. Miss Doggerel, who is a bit of a gossip, has since perused a phonographic report of the proceedings in the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia, headed, "*Address, Confederation, Hospital for Insane,*" in which the Hon. Mr. M'Cully, in remarking upon Section 23 of the Lieut. Governor's Speech, expresses his regret to hear "that the accommodation in the Hospital for "the Insane at Halifax, was inadequate for the increased number of "patients. He was not aware that any *great calamity* had recently overtaken the Province, to increase its *Insane Population*; and regretted to "hear that this unfortunate class of people was increasing so rapidly."—Unconscious, of course, (being one of them) that he, in a great measure, was responsible for this sad state of affairs.

"These same *mad dogs* had *other dogs* to bite 'em,  
"And so it goes *ad infinitum.*"

\*(20 and 21). In a late speech on Confederation, this delegate complained that a "*Red-whiskered*" bearer of despatches from Washington, was treated, on ship board, with much more attention, and allowed to land, with *his bag*, in the mail-tender, on their arrival at Liverpool; while he had to wait, and trudge to the Custom House. He would not yield the palm for intelligence; and as for looks, if a Jury of the Fair Sex were to sit upon them, he had no doubt of the result.

\*(22 and 57). Resolutions of Conference.

\*(27). See his *political address* to Grand Jury.

\*(37). The Letter of His Grace of Halifax.

\*(42 and 55). Reports of speeches in Canada.

\*(64). The "Confluence" of the "Ottawa" with the "St. Lawrence," at "Montreal," Canada East. "Hochelaga," an Indian name of Canada.

\*(65). The refusal of this Western river, the Ottawa, to mingle its waters with those of the St. Lawrence, flowing thence through Canada East, is a fit emblem of English and French amalgamation.

\*(66). The Chaudière Falls, on the Ottawa, adjacent to the City.

N. B.—The authoress trusts that her sentiments regarding Union, will not be construed as evincing a repugnance to all alliances. Notwithstanding her rejection of the present offer, she is open to a more eligible one; better calculated to ensure domestic happiness.

She is no misanthropic old maid, looking with affected horror upon matrimony as an unpardonable sin; nor is she devoid of those softer feelings of her sex, which render them so attractive; and as to age and looks,

D. D.