

Carleton Place

VOL. XV.

CARLETON PLACE, C.W., OCTOBER 5, 1864.

No. 4.

Falling Down.

The melancholy days of gloom,
The leaves are falling down,
And Nature's face of late so gay,
Is darkened by a frown;
The meads, the hills, the vales and hills,
Have put their sackcloth on,
And there in deepest grief they mourn,
All desolate and lone.

So Summer died in peace serene,
Then Autumn came to reign,
And though she smiled to fields and woods,
They smiled not back again;
Then frosts with sacrilegious hand
Laid all their beauties low;
And now to view the once fair land,
With thoughtful steps I go.

Ye vales, ye hills, how sad your look,
How sudden your decay!
And though your songs, murmuring brook,
How sad thy song to day!
And O ye woods, ye meadows,
How sad ye look to day!

O, of your sweet, deep solitudes
No vestige now remains.

Of all I view your loneliness,
My heart grows lonely too,
And thinks of friends whose fond caress
Once caused soul-joys to flow;
Of all that band of other years
But one or two I know.

The rest—back, back ye bitter tears—
Are lost to earth and me.

Man! take thou up a fallen leaf;
A message 'tis to thee;
Read, read and learn thy life is brief,
There learn of thy decay;

Thou'rt falling down, that fleety lead
Will soon be laid below;
Yes, man, that long and dreary road
Must soon be thine to go.

A little sleep must nature take,
But spring will come again,
And with reviving song will wake
To light and life the plain;

So man must sleep, so man must wake—
Must rise with him to reign,
And once in that blissed paradise,
We shall not fall again.

GIRLS SHOULD LEARN TO KEEP HOUSE.

"No young lady can be too well instructed in anything which will affect the comfort of a family. Whatever position in society she occupies, she needs a practical knowledge of household duties. She may be placed in such circumstances that it will not be necessary for her to perform such domestic labor; but on this account she needs no less knowledge than if she was obliged to provide personally for the cooking and the pantry. Indeed, I have often thought that it is more difficult to direct others, and requires more experience, than to do the same work with our own hands.

"Mothers are frequently so nice and particular that they do not like to give up any part of the care to their children. This is a great mistake in their management, for they are often burdened with labor and need relief. Children should be taught to make themselves useful; to assist their parents every way in their power, and to consider it a privilege to do so.

"Young people cannot realize the importance of a thorough knowledge of housewifery; but those who have suffered the inconvenience and mortification of ignorance can appreciate it. Children should be early induced in their disposition to bake, and experiment in cooking in various ways. It is often but a troublesome help that they afford; still it is a great advantage to them.

"I know a little girl who at nine years old made a loaf of bread every week during the winter. Her mother taught her how much yeast, and salt, and flour to use, and she became quite an expert baker. Whenever she is disposed to try her skill in making simple cakes or pies she is permitted to do so. She is thus, while amusing herself, learning an important lesson. Her mother calls her little housekeeper, and often permits her to get what is necessary for the table. She hangs the keys by her side, and very musical the jingling is to her ears. I think before she is over her teens, upon which she has her year to cook, that she will have some idea how to cook.

"Some mothers give their daughters the care of the housekeeping, each a week by turns. It seems to me a good arrangement, and a most useful part of their education.

"Domestic labor is by no means incompatible with the highest degree of refinement and mental culture. Many of the most elegant, accomplished women I have known have looked well to their household duties, and have honored themselves and their husbands by so doing."

Economy, taste, skill in cooking, and neatness of the kitchen, have a great deal to do in making life happy and prosperous. The charm of good housekeeping is in order, economy, and taste displayed in attention to little things; and those little things have a wonderful influence. A dirty kitchen and bad cooking have driven many a one from home to seek comfort and happiness somewhere else. None of our exacting girls are fit to be married until they are thoroughly educated in the deep and profound mysteries of the kitchen.—*Presbyterian.*

An autograph mania has, in Paris, taken the place of the recent postage-stamp fever. The publication issued there, devoted to the collection of the handwriting of eminent people, has a wide circulation, and contains many letters of a literary value, which are not simply curious for the evidence they afford of mere penmanship. How characteristic is this anecdote of Casimir Delavigne. A poor literary man wrote to him in 1832, begging for a loan of money. It unluckily happened that the day the letter fell into Delavigne's hands they were empty; so he replied, stating the circumstances which prevented him from relieving an unfortunate brother.—He signed his name and proceeded to fold the letter, when his conscience appealed to him in charity. He wrote to the poor man empty-handed. He took his pen again and added this touching postscript:—"Sir, I cannot resist the painful emotion I experience. I send you the only object of value I possess. It is a repeater watch, which I beg you will use in any way you may please. You will not please me if I shall not use it again; it would remind me every hour of the day that an unhappy man appealed to me in vain, when I still possessed the means of being useful to him."

THE SPIDER AND THE BEE-MOTH.

From the days when Virgil sang of bees,
The spider has been numbered among the enemies of the honey bee.

Is common with most bee-keepers, I was called to the large numbers of bee-moths often found suspended in its web. From that time I looked upon it with a friendly eye, satisfied that while it feasted upon many an unfortunate bee, it was entitled to the same favorable regard with the insectivorous birds, which claim a share of the fruit of their industry has helped to protect.

Within the last two years, however, I have found it to my interest to cultivate a still more friendly acquaintance with this detested insect; as I am now able by its help, to preserve all my empty combs from the ravages of the bee-moth. Let me tell you readers how I came to make so useful an acquaintance.

Two years ago I placed a small hive, containing an Italian queen from which I was raising other queens, upon an empty old box-hive, which being laid on its side, furnished convenient stand for my nucleus. Putting some frames with the empty combs for a few days in the box-hive, where they were protected from the sun and weather, and were convenient for replacing frames of brood removed from the nucleus, I noticed a spider soon upon her web among them, and that in a few days she had several bee-moths. During the season I used this place as a receptacle for empty combs, and never saw any indication that the bee-moth had deposited eggs among them.

Last year I used the box in the same way, with similar results. Encouraged by this success, I left early last spring a number of empty combs in frames unoccupied by bees, and found them, after repeated examinations, protected by spiders, and as free from the depredations of the larvae of the bee-moth as though they had never been without protection of the strongest colonies of bees.

Those who have kept pace with the progress of improved bee culture, have long ceased to regard the bee-moth as a very formidable enemy to the successful rearing of bees. Populous and well provisioned stocks suffer only trifling injuries from it, while those which fall a prey to it, usually queenless, or in such a condition as to be worthless without the aid of an experienced bee-keeper. The presence of the bee-moth is most to be deplored in the apiaries of the skillful, because of the great difficulty of protecting empty combs from the ravages of its offspring.

The use of movable comb hives enables the bee-keeper to turn to advantage every piece of good comb taken from colonies which are broken up, or to which any accident has happened, if such combs can be preserved from the only insect known to live upon wax.

But a single female moth gains access to these combs after they are removed from the bees, or if only a few eggs are deposited in them before their removal the worms, as soon as they hatch, begin to eat the combs, and so rapid is their increase in hot weather that in a short time such combs are rendered entirely useless.

Both in Europe and this country many plans have been devised for the safe keeping of empty combs, but all of them require more skill than bee-keepers usually have at their disposal. One committed, however, to the faithful guardianship of the spider, which, like any empty comb, or a movable comb, placed in empty hives, or in any special depository made easily accessible to these watchful insects.

I found the spiders at all dilatory in taking possession, I should put their egg bags early in the season into the receptacles where they were to be deposited, and capture and introduce some full grown specimens; but thus far any hive or box placed on the ground, and having sufficient opening has been tenanted as early in the season as I could wish.

L. L. LANGSTROTH.

Oxford, Butler Co., Ohio.

COCK-FIGHTING AT MATAMORAS.

In Matamoras Sunday is the grand gala day. After morning mass the male portion of the attendance, which is never large, proceed to the Plaza de Gallos, either to engage in the cock-fighting, or to witness the understanding, it would seem, being that on chapel service being concluded, the other entertainment, being the next on the programme, is to immediately commence.

A cock-fight under any circumstances is a most revolting sight, but under Mexican auspices it appears doubly cruel and disgusting. Around the pit—a circular brick wall two feet in height and one hundred in circumference—are gathered the owners of the future combatants, and others who challenge and make bets freely on the fighting qualities of their various favorites, while at the same time the master of the ceremonies is engaged in selling off the natural spurs of the game-cock and affixing, as a substitute, a steel scyth-shaped knife, about two inches in length, glittering like, and as sharp as a razor. All being ready, the owners of the pair which is to fight step into the ring; the signal is given, the birds make to peck at each other a few times in order to enrage them, their preliminaries having been gone through, the fight commences. A few minutes generally decide the combat, while quite frequently a cock is killed by the first thrust from his adversary, when all is over, until new bets are arranged for a new pair to repeat the same cruel scene. Sometimes the fight terminates like the famous engagement of the "Kilkenny cats," both of the birds falling victims to their too full possession of game, and on one occasion the writer witnessed such a circumstance, when both the noble birds having fought desperately for an unusual length of time, and having each given and received many bloody wounds, lay down together in the agonies of death. Various means were used to resuscitate them, but all seemingly without success, but, just as the betters were determining on a drawn game, and as the life was leaving both, the smaller of the two made a effort, threw himself on his legs, gave a crow of victory, and dropped dead across the body of his vanquished enemy.

Who finds all the umbrellas everybody loses? Every man who meets the umbrella man, but he says, but we never get acquainted with the man that finds them. Can any one answer the question before the next rain?

"The man who raised a cabbage head has done more good than all the metaphysicians in the world." "Then," cried a way, "your mother ought to have the premium."

Speech of the Hon. G. Brown.

Mr. Brown spoke substantially as follows: * * * * * "We are about to amend our constitution, and before finally doing so we invite you to enter with us frankly and earnestly into the inquiry whether it would be for the advantage of all the British American colonies to be embraced under one political system.—Let us look the whole question steadily in the face—if we find it advantageous let us set upon it, but if not let the whole thing drop." This is the whole story of our being here—this is the full scope and intention of our present visit. But, there is another objection raised. It is said that the debt of Canada is very great, that our taxation is heavy, and that we seek to throw a portion of our burdens on the shoulders of our neighbors. Now, I belong to the party of economy in Canada—the party that has raised the debt of the colonies to a minimum.

And has lately complained of their rapid advance—both large as our debt and taxation undoubtedly are for a young country, the people of Canada are clearly able to bear it all and much more without assistance from any quarter whatever. Were our burdens much greater than they are, we would have but to stand still in our extraordinary expenditure for a few years, and the rapid increase of our population, industrial energy and wealth, would easily enable us to overcome it all. And if gentlemen who make this suggestion will look narrowly into the finances of their own Provinces and having regard to the populations of the respective countries, will compare them with ours, I fancy they will find no great disparity between our respective burdens. Sir, it ought not to excite any surprise that the federation of all the British North American Provinces is at last presented to us as a practical question. The subject has often and again been discussed in the press and in Parliament, but at no time has any Provincial statesman ever expressed a doubt that the future of these colonies was to be united under one Government and Legislature under the sovereignty of Great Britain. Two questions always present themselves in considering so great a movement—the colonies yet gained such strength as to warrant their undertaking such a change?—and could such terms be agreed upon which such a constitution be framed as would be acceptable to the whole of the Provinces? These questions are as serious and needful to be met at this hour as they ever were in the past. It is no light matter to change the whole political and commercial relations of any country, and to do so, we must be governed, we have enjoyed great advantages under the protecting shield of the mother country. We have had no army or navy to sustain, no foreign diplomacy to maintain—our whole resources have gone to our internal improvement—and, notwithstanding our position as a British colony, and our position, we have enjoyed a degree of self-government and generous consideration such as no colonies in ancient or modern history ever enjoyed at the hands of a parent state.

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Additional Particulars of the Seizure of the Parsons.

STATEMENT OF THE PILOT.
Alfred Campbell, pilot of the *Parsons*, makes the following statement: Early on Monday morning, two men came to the boat and enquired at what time the boat would start. Capt. Atwood replied at 8 o'clock. The two men took passage, and on stopping at Sandwich, four or five others got on board. At Middle Bass, about 11 o'clock, when on Lake Erie, one of the pirates came into the pilot-house and asked Campbell what course he was steering. The reply was the regular course from Bar Point to North Bass, Ireland. He then requested the loan of the spy glass, which was granted. When within six miles of Middle Sister, the same man enquired what course the steamer was on.

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