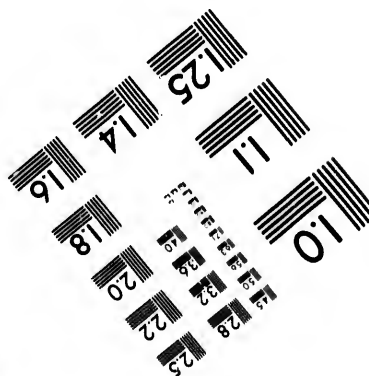
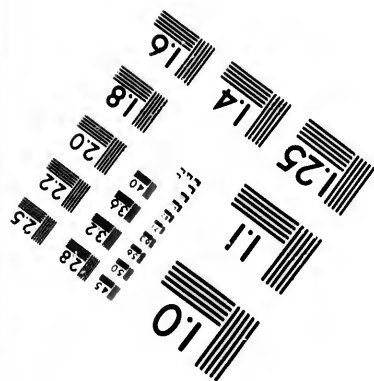
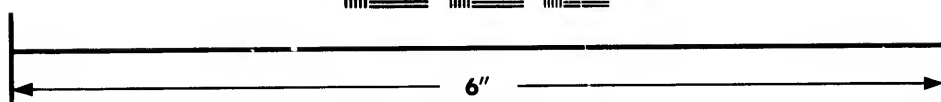
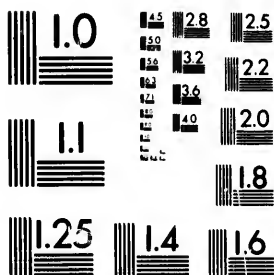


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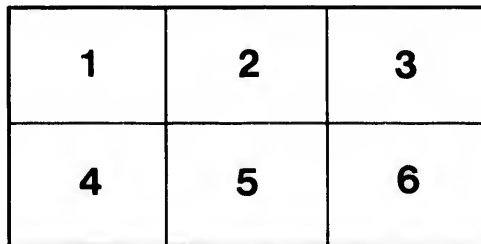
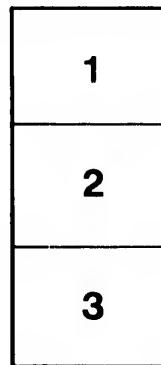
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**JOURNAL**  
OF A  
**VOYAGE TO QUEBEC,**  
**In the Year 1825,**  
WITH  
**RECOLLECTIONS OF CANADA,**  
DURING THE LATE AMERICAN WAR,  
**IN THE YEARS 1812-13.**

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**BY P. FINAN.**

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**Newry :**  
PRINTED BY ALEXANDER PEACOCK,  
*Telegraph-Office.*

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1828.

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## P R E F A C E.

ALTHOUGH it has been said by the Wise Man, that "of making of many books there is no end," I little thought prior to, and even while scribbling the following pages, that *I* should ever be a contributor to the general stock. I can affirm, without the least exaggeration, that I did not entertain the most distant idea of intruding them upon the public notice, until, upon my return from Quebec, I was stimulated to it by many of my acquaintances, who, upon hearing I had kept notes of my voyage, insisted upon seeing what they honored with the name of my Journal.

This circumstance will account for the scarcity of *descriptive* matter which the reader will observe in this little work. As an account of Canada was not my object, but merely a few reflections, for my own amusement, upon the various incidents that might come under my observation, I permitted the opportunity to pass, unim-



proved, which I possessed of gleaning many particulars respecting the country, that might have recommended a Journal to the attention of the curious : and on that account I hesitated to commit my memorandums to the press, finding it difficult to entertain the idea that *my* humble, simple thoughts could be worthy of publication ; and, still suspecting the opinion of *friends* to be too favourable, it was not until a few highly respectable *strangers*, who honored the MS. with a perusal, so late as the latter part of the year 1827, recommended and encouraged me to it, that I determined finally to submit them, with all their imperfections, to the eye of the public.

Although I have no doubt of the existence of numerous defects in style, composition, &c. yet they are such as, perhaps, not to be easily detected by a *mere novice* in the art of writing : and as my object in publishing them is not to enter the lists of fame with those who *deserve the name* of Author, but merely to comply

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with the wishes of a few respected friends ; and as it is most probable I shall never resume the task, should the critic, in scanning my humble pages, refuse the lenity which, from these considerations, I could hope for from him, his envenomed shafts will fall harmlessly to the ground.

Upon coming to the determination of publishing my remarks during my voyage to Canada, I resolved, in order to render the work as acceptable as possible, to subjoin an account of a few incidents which I either witnessed, or had from good authority, upon a former occasion, in that country. These I have introduced under the title of Recollections, &c. ; and as I was very young at the time of their occurrence, while travelling in Canada, I could venture upon but little description of the country ; however, as I could probably add but little under this head to what has been already supplied by many competent individuals, this deficiency will not, perhaps, appear very great.

*Newry, March, 1828.*

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# Journal

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## VOYAGE TO QUEBEC, &c.

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TUESDAY morning, 19th April, 1825, I left home to embark on board the *Lord Wellington*, lying at Warrenpoint, for Quebec. The fondness for travelling which is natural to an enquiring mind, the object I had in view, and the expectation of an early return, enabled me to part with my family, and take a last look at "sweet home," the seat of "all my joy and care," just before it faded on my sight by the interposition of a hill which the progress of the car brought between it and me, with very different feelings to those I must have experienced had it been the last time I hoped ever to have seen it.

The gratifying circumstances under

which I left home, however, did not exclude from my mind the probable cases of many who had either crossed the western main before me, or were about to be my fellow passengers to that land beyond it, which had excited pleasing hopes in their minds, and, in idea, promised them joys they had hitherto been strangers to. An aged pair, perhaps, who, after a long life spent in labour and toil, and at a period of it, of all others the most unfit for such an undertaking, find themselves compelled by imperious necessity to quit their peaceful habitations, once dear to them, as possessing all that made life desirable—their rising offspring smiling around them, bidding fair to become the support of their declining years, and to recompense them in their age, for the anxious days and sleepless nights which they caused them in the bloom and vigour of life; as much of the necessaries of life, the reward of their constant labour and exertion, as was requisite to meet their real wants, and those of their family; a

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few friends and obliging neighbours, whose society beguiled away the long winter evenings with their conversation, while seated around the cheerful fire: these, and many other charms, endeared their humble cottage to them, and rendered it the happy retreat of comfort and peace—but *now*

“ All these charms are fled !”

Their sons, arrived at man's estate, have sought, in distant climes, a relief from the griping hand of poverty, which their own country was found incapable of affording. Their daughters—some, perhaps, have listened to their brothers' request and ventured upon the stormy sea; exposed themselves to the hardships of a long journey through the wilds of America, and are now enjoying the reward of their toil: sometimes, indeed, they look back with terror upon the dangers they narrowly escaped, but in a moment their fears are lost in the more pleasing idea of the comforts they have obtained by venturing, and only wish their parents could partake of them: others

are married, and living at such a distance that it is impossible to see them often: their own years are increasing, and with them the infirmities natural to age: they find themselves incapable of managing or working as formerly: the friends and companions of their early years yielding to their frail nature and sinking into the grave: a new generation rising around them, in whose society they can have but little satisfaction, and who, perhaps, are but little interested in their welfare: these considerations, with the desire which is natural to men, to see their families comfortably settled in life before they themselves resign it, induce them to yield to the frequent solicitations of their children; and they resolve, with the venerable Patriarch of old, to "go and see them before they die."

A young man, perhaps, who impatient of the yoke of poverty, and disheartened by the prospect before him; after having spent several of his best years in hard labour, for which he considers him-

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self but ill repaid, resolves on trying to better his condition in America, where he has heard of many of his acquaintances succeeding well, and in some cases beyond their expectations. He feels necessity urging him, yet there are ties, strong, endearing ties, to be broken. He looks forward to the hardships he is sensible he must encounter, with manly fortitude; they weigh light on his mind; the prospect of an ample reward causes him almost to overlook *them*; but when his thoughts recur to the *sacrifice* that must be made, — a home that has been the peaceful seat of all his pleasures, a father and mother who have cherished and protected him through infancy and youth, and “led him up to man;” brothers and sisters, who have participated in his satisfactions, and sympathized with him in his troubles; friends and companions of his youth, whose society has contributed to his enjoyments; from all these (and what more can be necessary to happiness?) he must tear himself; he



must resign them all, and become a stranger in a strange land ! Then he feels the nature of his situation ; then do sorrow and regret find access to his breast, and in the bitterness of his soul he cannot refrain from deploring his hard fate. A young woman, perhaps, allured by the prospects which her brothers, who have gone before, hold to her view, resolves to go. Her parents, who have no very flattering hopes for her here, desire to see her do well, yet recoil at the idea of parting with her.— Their hearts yearn within them, but the hope of her situation being materially improved obliges them to stifle their feelings and yield to the voice of wisdom. Dreary must be the moment that parts them, probably for ever, from a child they have long cherished and loved with parental fondness ; poignant must be her feelings when she gives the parting embrace to her kind parents whom she may, perhaps, never see again. These, and several other cases, presented themselves to my mind, and did

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not fail to excite in my breast a feeling of gratitude to that beneficent Being, who, in his infinite mercy and goodness, has been so kind to me above thousands of my fellow creatures, and has made my burden so much lighter and easier to be borne.

Among the passengers that came on board during the day, there was a poor girl who appeared to be in great affliction.— She had been in Canada some time before, and had returned to this country at the request of her father; but the latter having subsequently got married, she had found it impossible to live with her stepmother, and, therefore, had resolved on going out to Canada again. To this her father had consented, and promised to provide her with the means for that purpose: but after having engaged her passage, and the vessel about to sail, he had changed his mind, and refused to do so. Her whole stock, now consisted of but two pounds, which were deposited as part of the passage money, and she could not raise the re-

mainder. When her case was made known to the passengers, two of them immediately commenced raising a collection among the rest, who, to their honour be it said, although leaving their country under circumstances not the most propitious ; their pockets not groaning with the weight of their golden store, generously contributed what their scanty funds could afford, and, in a short time, the deficiency was more than supplied. I was exceedingly pleased with this striking instance of the native generosity and sympathy of the Irish, and the promptitude with which they obey the call of humanity. It strengthened my attachment to my country ; I felt an honest pride in having it in my power to call that country mine, though, at the same time, sincere regret at the idea of her not being able to afford provision and encouragement for men possessed of such warm and feeling hearts ; but that she must exile them to a foreign land, to wield, perhaps, in a future day, those energies to her pre-

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judice, which, at this time, they would have gladly devoted to her service.

Wednesday—The vessel removed from her anchorage, down the harbour, near Carlingford. Here I witnessed many an affecting parting scene. During the whole day boats continued to come along side, with passengers, or their friends, who came to take a last look of, and bid farewell to, their sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, relations, friends or acquaintances, whom, in most instances, they had little or no hope of ever seeing again.

One case, in particular, I shall notice: it was that of an old man, whose hoary, flowing locks, dangling, in easy negligence, about his drooping and contracted shoulders, "proclaimed his lengthened years," proclaimed also, that he, too, must shortly emigrate—not to Columbia's golden shores, not to that imaginary *paradise* into which the fruitful fancy has converted the different countries of the new discovered world, not to that distant earthly region whither

poverty, in anxious hope, repairs in quest of a comfortable asylum ; where the enterprising genius seeks a congenial and extensive field in which to shake off its cumbrous trammels, and give full scope to its expanding powers ; and where crime and guilt, with downcast eye, and quaking breast, flee as to a city of refuge—but to that mysterious, unknown, incomprehensible “bourne, whence no traveller e’er returns.” Previous to his arrival alongside, the Captain had found it necessary to direct that no more people should be allowed to come on board, until some, already in the vessel, should leave it : the poor old man was, therefore, among others, forbid to ascend ; but his extreme anxiety to see his son, who was about to sail with us, urged him to make the attempt, in doing which, owing to his being, as the sailor’s termed it, “about half seas over,” or, in plainer terms, rather intoxicated, and, perhaps, to a little resistance from above, he happened to let the *man-ropes* go, and the

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boat having *sheared* off a little from the ship at the moment, he soused over head and ears into the water. His hat remained floating on the surface, and, in a short time, his bald and polished crown appeared emerging from the briny deep. After considerable exertion and struggle he was got into the boat, when, being requested by some of the crew to come on board, his indignation overcame his other feelings, and in stretching himself, very deliberately, along the bottom of the boat, the recollection of other days flashing across his mind and adding nerve to the expression, he contemptuously exclaimed, "I'll not thank you for going into your *dung boat*, I'm an old man-of-war's man, I've sailed on board the *Orpheus*, and be d—d to you." His son soon appeared, with whom he had an affecting interview, and when about to part, conscious that he was taking a final leave—a long farewell of him, he wept and sobbed aloud, recommended him fervently to the care of Heaven, and his last and oft-repeated adieu

of "Oh Johnny, Johnny, my dear, dear Johnny! God be with you, Johnny!" died at length upon the breeze, as the boat glided gently over the soft expanse, towards the village of Carlingford.

Sunday—Weighed anchor. While beating towards the bar, a boat put off from Carlingford with some of the passengers who had gone on shore early in the morning. The wind being very strong and the tide still flowing, they experienced considerable difficulty in overtaking the vessel. During their struggle, one of the passengers on board the ship went to the pilot, and, with a countenance expressive of much anxiety, said to him, "ah, pilot! I've a brother and two cousins in that boat, I—" "What do I care," said the pilot, interrupting him, "do you think I'm going to run the ship ashore for you or them either?" "Arrah man," returned the poor fellow, "sure I know you could not, but I'm *only telling you.*" Cast anchor near the bar, the tide not answering to go over it.

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Monday morning—Sailed at six o'clock, with a fair and strong breeze. In the evening saw the coast of the County Wicklow.

Thursday—Lost sight of land ; and as our vessel spurned the foaming spray before her, as if indignant at the obstruction it appeared to offer to her progress, and proudly dashed through the yielding element, a solemn thought presented itself to my mind. The land, at which I have been casting a “lingering look,” has vanished from my sight ; my country, my family, my friends, are lost to my view : I am now suspended, as it were, between earth and heaven ; and though death is always at hand, on land or sea—on land we may lose sight of it amidst the apparent security that surrounds us, but here I am constantly reminded that I am on the brink of eternity ; only separated from it by a single plank. The starting of a nail—a gust of wind—the least touch against a rock, and several other incidents, which on land would not be of the least conse-



quence, are *here* sufficient to snatch me from this world in a moment, and hurry the soul into the presence of its Maker, to give an account of the deeds done in the body. Oh then, my soul! "seeing these things are so," it becomes you to answer the important question, "what manner of man ought you to be?" Now, *while you have the opportunity*, attend to the affectionate invitations in the Scriptures, and "cease to do evil, learn to do well. Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." "This moment is thine, the next is in the womb of futurity, and thou knowest not what a moment may bring forth." You are now in possession of a treasure which the unhappy souls who, in another world, are reaping the fruits of their evil doings in this, would give worlds to obtain; the opportunity of acquiring the favour of a just and holy God, by believing on his Son, and displaying that faith by a constant walk in the paths of holiness and virtue.— Make, then, a good use of that treasure—

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improve it to the best advantage, that you may not be added to the number of unprofitable servants, who received talents from their Lord but buried them in the ground ; that you may escape their just sentence “ to be cast into outer darkness, where is weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

I have now lost sight of land, and every day, for some time, will be removing me farther from it. Before me lies the great Atlantic Ocean, on which I am to be exposed to a thousand perils of different kinds ; a poor, helpless worm, not capable of averting or defending myself from the least of them. I am now, as at all times, in the hands of that Almighty Being whose voice the winds and the waves obey ; my fate is in his hands ; and, whatever may be his will respecting me, I *must* submit, for none dare say to Him, “ what dost thou ? ” I am in search of another earthly shore, but cannot assure myself I shall ever reach it : perhaps He may determine that the next shore I land on may be that of eternity !—

If it should, my soul, how could you expect to be received? awful consideration!—Surely it should be sufficient to enforce the duty which is incumbent upon all, to have your lamp burning and supplied with oil, “ready to meet the bridegroom when he cometh.”

Friday evening—While walking the deck I heard a poor woman ask another if she had any coffee—she was answered in the negative. “Oh that I had a little, what would I give for two spoonfulls of coffee!” exclaimed the poor creature, who had been exceedingly sea sick all day, and, from her languid situation, evidently stood in need of some refreshing nourishment. I was touched by the pitiful accents with which she uttered the expression, told her to stay a short time, and in a few minutes brought her some, for which she expressed herself very thankful. The gift was insignificant, and, of itself, not worth noticing, though, under the circumstances of the moment, it afforded her relief, and a corresponding

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degree of real satisfaction to me. I merely mention the circumstance in order to remark, that, as an article of such trifling value, when judiciously bestowed, is found capable of affording a considerable degree of pleasure in return, what a large proportion of real, solid enjoyment the great, the wealthy, and the powerful, have within their reach, in the means which they possess of diffusing relief and comfort among their poor fellow-creatures; of protecting and providing for the fatherless, and making the widow's heart "sing for joy;" but which, in too many instances, they forego for fancied, imaginary pleasures, which, while at a distance, hold out alluring promises and flattering prospects, but, when obtained, are found to be delusive!

In these, ere triflers *half* their wish obtain,  
 The *toiling pleasure* sickens into *pain*;  
 And ev'n while fashion's *brightest* arts decay,  
 The heart, distrusting, asks, if *this* be JOY.

Sunday—Captain Maxwell requested me to read the morning service of the Church

to the ship's company, and such of the passengers as were Protestants, to which I most willingly assented, and was happy to find that all who were assembled were not only willing, but manifested an anxious desire to fulfil, as far as possible, the commandment of the Great King of Kings, to keep holy the Sabbath Day, and wait upon him in his Ordinances. The Roman Catholics, also, collected together at the forepart of the vessel, and one of them read the morning prayers of their Church. In the afternoon we assembled again in the cabin, and after we had sung a psalm, I read a sermon, and the Captain prayed, and read for an hour to the people. I felt very much gratified at the conclusion to hear a girl exclaim, "thank God for that, I did not expect to hear that much good until we should have arrived at the other side!"

Wednesday—During the night I was awakened by a great noise upon deck—heard the Captain cry, with a voice that

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indicated much anxiety, "let go the top-sail halyards!" I listened a few moments and heard the wind howling dreadfully: the whistling noise it made through the rigging, and the orders of the Captain, which were given in quick succession, soon informed me of what was transacting on deck. I arose immediately, dressed and ran up, when an awful scene presented itself. The moon, which was thickly enveloped with clouds, afforded but a dim light, only sufficient to display the horrors that surrounded us. The sea, roaring in a terrible manner, was raised to a tremendous height by the fury of the tempest: while our vessel appeared to be made the mere sport of the foaming billows; for, as David beautifully expresses it, she was "carried up to the heaven, and down again to the deep; she reeled to and fro, and staggered like a drunken man." The foresail (a large sail at the fore part of the ship) was ordered to be taken in; I ran to afford what trifling assistance was in my power, and,

while hauling one of the ropes, the light in the binnacle, which enables the seaman at the helm to see the compass, was extinguished, and he, from this accident, not knowing how to steer, the vessel deviated from her right course, which caused her to *ship* a great sea just where I was standing. I happened to let the rope go, and, as the vessel was rolling at a dreadful rate, I fell down among the sailors' feet, and was, for a minute or two, sliding about the deck before I could recover myself. At this time the scene was of the most appalling description; the sailors running about the deck in hurry and apparent confusion; some calling out as they hauled the ropes, while the sound of their voices, bursting with intense solicitude upon the gale, was only answered by the dismal howl of the pitiless tempest, whose increasing violence seemed to mock their active exertions to escape its fury; some of the sails flapping about with a frightful noise; while the women in the steerage who heard

the wave flying down at the instant she struck the pier and cries. when another came dashed redoubled "mamma!" "kiss me before the sails were blown away" came more

Thursday was necessary. In the morning who lay near the deck, she exerted her strength enough to *tie the ship* and left us

Friday—altogether, storm the

the wave striking against the ship, and flying down among them, and supposing at the instant that she was sinking, sent forth piercing, and heart-rending shrieks and cries. A very few moments elapsed when another wave, greater than the first, came dashing in, which caused them to redouble their shouts. "Où mamma, mamma!" cried a little boy, "kiss me, kiss me before we go!" Shortly afterwards, the sails were taken in and the vessel became more easy.

Thursday—The gale continued, and it was necessary to *lay the vessel to* all day.—In the morning, when one of the women, who lay near the hatchway, observed most of the sails furled, and heard no noise upon deck, she exclaimed, "Oh, we're done *now* sure enough, the Captain and sailors have *tyed the ship by the head*, gone in the boats, and left us to our fate!"

Friday—The wind and sea subsided altogether, which, contrasted with the storm the day before, afforded a grand



specimen of the almighty power of that Being whose doing it was — On Thursday, the ship was quite divested of her sails, and lay exposed to the fury of the wind and waves : the passengers, oppressed by sea-sickness, and destitute of almost every comfort, were apparently unconcerned about their fate, and, in consequence of the violent rolling and pitching of the vessel, remained below.

Now hostile elements tumultuous rise,  
 And lawless floods rebel against the skies ;  
 While hope expires, and peril and dismay  
 Wave their black ensigns on the watery way.

Friday presented a complete change ; all was calm and serene ; the ship's masts were crowded with sails, and, notwithstanding, she scarcely moved : the passengers who, but yesterday, had exhibited terror and dismay in their countenances, now recovered from sickness, and, happy in their escape from the awful dangers that had recently surrounded them, came again upon deck : some were busily occupied at

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the *cambouse* cooking, others working, and others amusing themselves in various ways : the countenances of all seemed brightened by the cheering idea that “there yet was hope.”

Friday, 27th May—We were near the Banks of Newfoundland, and scarce a day had elapsed, since we left Warrenpoint, in which we did not either *speak* or see one or more vessels : a few going our own way, but the great majority returning to Europe from distant countries. Some bearing the treasures of the West Indies to the shores of England : the appearance of these naturally recalled to the mind some circumstances connected with that trade. Many of the luxurious sons of England are pampered and enriched by it ; almost all her inhabitants enjoy the fruits of it : but while the rich man is revelling in the luxuries it affords him, and while the man in middling circumstances, and the poor man, are enjoying the necessaries of life which it supplies, do they give one passing

thought to the *manner in which they are produced*? Do they remember that the plants that yield the greater part of them are cultivated by a number of their fellow-creatures, once their equals, as enjoying that great birth-right of man, liberty—liberty, after which the soul of man thirsts, as essential to his existence; as one of the most desirable objects he can possess in this life,—since, “with it to smile upon him as he eats his crust, the swain is happier than the monarch, from whose court it is exiled:” for which he does not hesitate to risk his life, and every thing he holds most dear: in the cause of which, nation has risen against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and lavished their best blood and treasure in great profusion:—but whc, being robbed of that invaluable treasure, by those who have no other right to deprive them of it than that which they assume, and are enabled to exercise by means of those superior advantages that Providence, in his great wisdom, has be-

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stowed upon them for nobler purposes, are now degraded to a level with the beasts of the field? That, like these, they are led to the field by a driver, and their only stimulus to work is the whip: like them they must suffer many an unmerited lash at the hand of their cruel overseer, without exclaiming against his injustice, as if they possessed no power of speech to make their grievances known; they must be passive under the heavy burden of their oppressions! If they excel in diligence or attention the advantage is not theirs: when, like brutes, they are exposed for sale in the public market, their masters may obtain a larger sum on account of their good qualities, but they themselves profit but little by them. —In many cases, as a remuneration for their toil, under the burning heat of a meridian sun, they are allowed a small spot of ground, which, when properly cultivated, is only sufficient to afford them a scanty subsistence: they are allowed two days in the week (Saturday and Sunday) to

labour it, which, being scarcely sufficient, necessity obliges them to devote to that purpose : therefore, it may almost be said, they live without God in the world ; and in a land, which, being subject to England, the day-star of Gospel, as well as scientific light, should afford them "great light," they sit too much in the gloom of darkness.

Do the people of England think of these things? Yes—to their high honour be it spoken, *some* in the highest walks of life, who, uncontaminated by the detestable doctrine that the African slave trade is not incompatible with humanity and good policy, have taken the lamentable condition and circumstances of the poor negroes into consideration, and have exerted their well deserved influence in the councils of the nation to abolish the odious traffic ; and to ameliorate, to a very great degree, the condition of those whom prudence would not permit altogether to emancipate. And when the historian transmits to pos-

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terity, with honour and applause, the names of Wellington, Hill, Beresford, &c. for their glorious achievements in emancipating Europe from the yoke of slavery, which the great scourge of mankind, in the nineteenth century, had imposed upon a great part of her ; surely he will not omit to hand down, with equally verdant and glorious laurels, the names of Pitt, Fox, Wilberforce, and several other benevolent individuals, who, in the genuine spirit of philanthropy, humanity, and every kind and amiable feeling of the human heart, have extended their powerful arm to perform the same kindly office to the poor, helpless, illtreated and unoffending African. England has exerted herself towards the abolition of the slave trade, and she has succeeded to a great extent : her noble example has been imitated by the United States of America : these enlightened and generous nations have united in the benevolent cause, and have decreed that their respective subjects, detected in the traffic, shall be con-

sidered guilty of piracy, and punished accordingly. England has treated with the other nations of Europe, engaged in the trade, upon the same subject: these were not sufficiently destitute of shame to refuse to *listen* to her; they even promised to use their endeavours towards effecting the abolition among their people: but cruel, unfeeling Monarchs, unworthy of the power entrusted to them—cruel, dissembling Ministers—cruel, depraved nations, for which they have all dearly suffered of late; they are deaf to the loud calls of humanity: they tolerate and engage in the hateful and inhuman trade, and still sport, without remorse, with the sufferings of their fellow-creatures!

Others, from the United States, were hastening to England, to lay at her feet the treasures of their western world, and to receive, in return, her highly improved manufactures. New ideas were excited in the mind at the appearance of these. The vast extent of country which now consti-

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tutes the Republic of the United States was formerly possessed by Great Britain : though separated at an immense distance from it, she defended it from all the encroachments of her enemies, and derived great advantage from the possession of it. The inhabitants revered the mother country, and looked up to her for protection and direction : they acknowledged her sovereignty, and received and obeyed the laws she imposed upon them, while they were just and mild ; but, in an evil hour, *pride*, the bane of its possessor, " that sin by which *angels* fell," separated America from England, and deprived the latter of one of the most valuable of her foreign possessions.

Sunday, 29th May—We arrived on the Banks of Newfoundland, where we saw several vessels lying at anchor, fishing. I went, with the mate, on board of one, which proved to be the *Angelique*, a French brig, from Havre de Grace. The master treated us very politely, but made us pay



pretty high for it in the price of some fish we purchased from him ; although he had taken six hundred that day. On my expressing some surprise at his people attending to their business on that day, "oh!" said he, "you English pay a great deal of respect to this day; we French think but little of it here."

The storms and tempests, and furious contention of the elements, are not the only astonishing works of the Lord, which, as David says, "they see who go down to the sea in ships, and occupy their business in great waters:" for, as "at his word the stormy wind ariseth and lifteth up the waves thereof, and causeth their soul to melt away because of their trouble," and afterwards, "maketh the storm to cease, so that the waves thereof are still; and maketh them glad because they are at rest;" so, at his word also, the banner of war is unfurled, and hostile squadrons ride, in dreadful array, upon the face of the great deep. Then do storms, even of a

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more dreadful and appalling description than those occasioned by the elements, arise, with terrible sound, more direful effects: from the latter, all exposed to their fury may escape; but to the former some *must* fall victims. Then, those on board a solitary trading vessel hear, with dismay, the unwelcome sound, "a strange sail!" While they are unaware of her kind, or the country she belongs to, every expedient that can be used is resorted to, in order to evade her; not daring to approach to ask the question (sometimes a very important one), "What is your Longitude?" Then trade is heavily shackled, to the great disadvantage of the whole community: mercantile vessels are frequently detained a considerable time, waiting for the ship of war appointed to convoy them to their destined port; and, in numerous instances, sustain serious loss or disadvantage from that circumstance. But when gentle peace extends her olive branch o'er the contending empires—when He, whose

awful voice is heard and obeyed from shore to shore, says to the angry nations, "peace, be still!" What a wonderful change does His word produce! "The fiery fight is heard no more," the storm of war ceases to blow: the fleets, which had previously pursued each other with inveterate animosity, from harbour to harbour, and had been constantly endeavouring to hurl each other to destruction, by means of their awful engines of war, now anchor in the same port without distinction, and associate harmoniously together. The trader, now at liberty to choose his own time for sailing, tempts the dangerous main, without any other dread than what arises from the elements; and instead of endeavouring to shun every vessel that appears in sight, least he should encounter an enemy, he now hails it with joy, bears down to it with pleasure, certain of meeting a friend who is willing to assist him, if in necessity of any kind; and has the satisfaction of ascertaining, in a great measure, the correctness of his reckoning.

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These are some of the benign, the salutary effects of peace ; and when to them we add those important ones of navigation, and the discovery of the magnetic attraction (which, like all the other astonishing works of creation, though simple in principle, is amazing in effect), uniting countries that had been previously separated by the then insurmountable barrier of ocean : when we consider the unspeakable advantages that mankind, in general, derive from the power these afford them of mutually exchanging the produce and manufactures of their respective countries ; we must acknowledge the great obligations we lie under to that kind Providence who, in His infinite mercy, has been so indulgent to his unworthy creatures ; and we are constrained by gratitude to exclaim, “ Bless the Lord, oh ! my soul, and forget not all his benefits ! ” And where is the subject of the united kingdom, whose bosom does not glow with a lively satisfaction, when he finds, by their means, the poet’s prediction completely fulfilled.—

The time shall come when, free as seas or wind,  
 Unbounded Thames shall flow for all mankind ;  
 Whole nations enter with each swelling tide,  
 And seas but join the regions they divide—  
 Earth's distant ends our glory shall behold,  
 And the new world launch forth to meet the old.

Friday, 3d June—A quarrel arose between two of the passengers, who appeared extremely anxious to terminate the affair by *force of arms* ; or, at least, made all that boisterous and *valiant* display of the desire which is frequently assumed, when there is every reason to believe it will not be permitted to be indulged in ; and as the Captain had been frequently tormented by similar disputes, he resolved to allow them to settle this in their own way. The quarter-deck was therefore cleared, and they stripped. While preparing for the combat, the wife of one of the parties, in taking his coat, &c. under her charge, animated him as much as possible to “mind what he was about—fight like a man, and not let that scavenger beat him ;”

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while the secret desire of her heart, as she afterwards acknowledged, was that he might get a good *trouncing*, by way of enabling him to form some idea of *what it was*, as he was rather too much in the habit of exercising discipline towards her, for the purpose, as he professed, "of keeping her in *orthur*." When *ready for action*, the hesitation they evinced at commencing almost reminded me of the hostile parties of Agincourt; but an attentive observation of their countenances and gestures brought another fighting scene more immediately to my recollection; for, if I might be allowed to judge of their secret feelings from external appearances, the idea of the one, while hastily retiring a few paces from a rather advanced position, which he had *inadvertently* taken up, appeared to correspond with that of one of the bold antagonists in the duel-scene in *Miss in her Teens*, "I must not approach *too near at first*;" while the other seemed perfectly to coincide in sentiment with his adversary,

“I wish a constable would come, and *take us both up* :” however, as the wish was vain, no constable being at hand, he was compelled to *set to* ; and I must confess, when they *did* begin, the onset was very violent on both sides. It was shocking to behold too human beings, almost naked, rush at each other with all the fury and animosity of wild beasts, contending for the superiority, and nearly in the same way ; for as neither was acquainted with the *elegant science* of pugilism, they bit and pulled the hair, kicked and wrestled about for a considerable time, without, however, doing each other much injury.

And was this the amusement the brave and refined Romans and Grecians delighted in ! Can it be possible that those people, certainly entitled, in many respects, to be styled great and noble, generous and humane, could resort to the theatre and public games, for the purpose of being entertained with the detestable sight of two of their fellow-creatures using their skill and

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utmost exertions to destroy each other!— That even the females, in whose soft and tender bosoms we might expect to find the finest feelings of our nature, should have felt delight in listening to the dying groans, and witnessing the agonies of an expiring wretch, who, in risking his life for a trifling reward, or a mere honorary garland, without any other cause for hostility, encountered his antagonist and received death at his hand!

We might, perhaps, be inclined to say, those were barbarous times: true, in this respect; but when will civilized times exist? Do we not find, even in our enlightened and improved day, that Britons, whose name is famous in every part of the globe for every quality that adorns and ennobles mankind, tolerate and encourage this inhuman, barbarous practice? How often do we hear of foolish men being carried lifeless from the ring, even in England,—refined—enlightened England! and hurried into the presence of an awful God, who



cannot approve of such wicked proceedings, at a time and under circumstances ill suited to that solemn event, to answer the all-important question, "how have *you* passed *your* life?" But are those Britons who encourage this practice—they who have supported and increased the glory of the British name by their more laudable achievements? No, surely. It may be said that among them are to be found noblemen and gentlemen; this, I am aware, is a melancholy fact: but, because they are men in the highest rank of society, and consequently termed by the multitude *noble* and *great*, it does not follow that they *really deserve* those appellations. Some, however, are Legislators—yes—though to our great advantage very few are such: but of what description are they? They may, sometimes, fill a seat in Parliament, and give a vote; but their thoughts are, to all appearance, so much engaged with *prize-fights*, and other *amusements* of a similar nature, that they seldom turn upon

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the affairs of the nation ; for we never hear of them having said one word more than "aye," or "no," for its benefit. They are among those whom Providence has endowed liberally with worldly advantages, for the noble purpose of administering to the comforts and necessities of their fellow-creatures, and other laudable actions ; but, oh, how they pervert them to the worst uses ! to their own destruction and infamy, and those of their fellow-men ! These are unworthy of the dignified, the honorable name of Britons ; a term that conveys the idea of every thing great, noble, and manly : these are they who bring a stigma upon their countrymen, and afford their enemies the satisfaction of finding *one* blot in their character.

Saturday, 4th—In the evening *spoke* a vessel from Liverpool, bound to Quebec.—The master informed us he had seen land the day before, and had been boarded by a boat from Louisbùrg, in Cape Breton.—The name of Louisburg sounded with plea-

sure to my ear, as with it was so honourably associated that of the immortal Wolfe, who there acquired well-deserved laurels—there displayed his exalted military talents—his capacity for leading his troops to victory, and his title to that confidence which his grateful country afterwards reposed in him.

Sunday—The ship was enveloped in a thick fog, with a light wind. In the morning, Captain M. and I were walking the deck, when he suddenly exclaimed “hallo, what’s this!” and immediately to the helmsman, “put the helm up!” I looked and saw, as I supposed, an immense water-spout in the fog, but, in a moment, as it approached, it proved to be a vessel in full sail, bearing down upon us, about a minute’s sail off. The Captain *hailed* her as loud as possible, and succeeded in making himself heard by those on board, just in time to enable them to bear up, and the two vessels passed each other so close that a man might have almost leaped from one to the other.

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Monday—We were again surrounded by a very thick fog, which now proved a formidable inconvenience, for we were certain of being very near land, but could not possibly see it. Lest we should approach too near, Capt. M. directed the bell to be constantly sounded, in order that the people on shore (if there should be any) might have an opportunity of apprising us of our situation. Even now, I think, I hear the solemn sound addressing its warning voice to the giddy, and, I fear, unthinking throng that heard it. “Most of you are at this moment in the vigour of life, in the enjoyment of health and strength; and, while possessed of these, do you rest in security, and suspect no danger nigh? are you unmindful of the various perils which, at this moment, encompass you? Ah! heedless, simple people, it is my duty to inform you that, although you are now apparently safe, a few, very few minutes, may make a serious, awful change. Why this sound?—Do you forget that it is with a view to avert,

if possible, danger that is apprehended; and are you certain it may not be your funeral dirge? Not for an instant—If the awful mandate should be issued from on high, the swelling tide that has borne you thus far upon its bosom, and the treacherous rocks which it conceals, are ready to obey, to close this terrestrial scene upon you, and in a moment put an end to all the pleasing prospects that have been fondly playing before your eyes.”

“Where are we *now*, do you think?” said one of the passengers to another.—“The d—l a know do *they* know (alluding to the Captain, Mate, &c. who were all engaged in looking out for the land,) where we are.” “By my *soul* it’s long since they were *that way*,” said a third.

The watchful Captain, always alert and at his post in the time of emergency, took his stand at the bow, resolved not to leave it until he should see the land or hear the breakers. Although many eyes were directed to the place where we expected to

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see it, his were the first to discern it, which he announced by the fearful, yet welcome cry, "*there's* the land—put the helm up!" The fog, just then, cleared away, and enabled us to obtain a view of the top of the great promontory Cape North, in Breton Island, about five minutes' sail from us. Here the kindness of Providence was manifested towards us in a high degree; for the fog was so thick, until that moment, that we could not possibly have seen the land previous to our being so near as not to be able to avoid it. The fog cleared away from the lower part also, for a minute or two, and remained only upon the middle of it. At this time it had a grand and imposing appearance: its bold and lofty head, towering above the clouds, immediately over our heads, seemed the monarch of the ocean, and appeared to look down, with disdain, upon its foaming waves, which exhausted their rage and fell, powerless, at its feet. It recalled, very forcibly, to my mind Goldsmith's beautiful

comparison of the country Clergyman :—

As some tall cliff that lifts its awful form,  
Swells from the vale, and midway leaves the storm :  
Though round its breast the gathering clouds are spread,  
Eternal sunshine settles on its head.

It is a most singular fact that the vessel was scarcely put about when the fog gathered again instantaneously, and the land was lost to our view as suddenly as it had appeared ; so that we were just informed of our situation when (like the kind Angel, who, relieving Peter from prison, appeared for a few minutes, and upon placing him out of danger vanished from his sight,) the mountain, after it had, by its appearing, warned us in time of our danger, and directed the course we should steer, as if too dignified to be gazed upon by our unworthy eyes, wrapped its majestic form in its silvery mantle, and disappeared in a moment.

About twelve o'clock the fog cleared away, when we were gratified with a full view of Cape North, Cape St. Laurent,

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and the coast of Breton Island, for a considerable distance.

None but those who have been at sea can form any idea of the rapture with which those hail the sight of land who have been absent from it for a considerable time, buffeting about upon the trackless expanse of ocean, opposed by contrary winds, perhaps distressed by sea-sickness, disheartened by a long protracted voyage, anxious to see the place of their destination ; in fact, even though not *sea-sick*, yet heartily *sick of the sea*. Then, the most inattentive observer of the beauties of nature feasts his eyes with a sight of the land, and can discover beauties in it which he never thought of before : then, is a desert a paradise in his idea, and the wild uninhabited mountain, Cape North, is discovered to be an "elegant one, with a fine valley at its foot," and "*such beautiful trees!*" "Thank God!" exclaimed one of the passengers, "I have seen land again!" "God prosper you, Captain,"



cried another, "you have brought us to a pretty country; long life to you."

When I considered the numerous perils we had been exposed to during a long passage across the great western ocean, and our safe arrival on this side of it, the sight of land was well calculated to inspire me with sentiments of gratitude to the great "Father of all," who, in his infinite mercy had been so kind to me, in common with the rest of the passengers and crew, in preserving us from the melancholy fate of many of our fellow-creatures, who, on the same voyage, the preceding year, became a prey to the devouring element, and were never heard of more. The sight of this land, in particular, was well calculated to teach us a lesson of thankfulness, and cause our hearts in rapture to exclaim, "praise God, from whom all blessings flow;" for, two years before, it had proved the scene of dreadful calamity to the crews of two vessels which, on their return to Europe, were driven on shore and dashed to pieces upon the rocks—those

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very rocks that might have proved equally fatal to us, "had not the Lord been on our side."

About two o'clock we saw St. Paul's Island, situated in the entrance into the Gulph of St. Lawrence, and about midway between Newfoundland and Breton Island.

In the afternoon, I was very sorry to observe the method that some of the passengers adopted to express their joy or gratitude at the sight of land: they got quite intoxicated, came upon deck, and exhibited the wonderful change that spirits are capable of effecting upon weak, frail man. One had been a very decent man a short time before, but then how altered! Previously he had held a respectable rank among his fellow-men; then, degraded to a level with the brute! his actions, words and gestures, how indecorous, how absurd! how unlike those of the same man when sober! The day before, he assembled a part of the people upon deck, and, with the greatest propriety and decorum, read prayers to them, and went over the Morn-

ing Service ; upon this occasion, he was to be seen at the same place, but, ah, in what an altered manner ! Those eyes that, yesterday, were soberly directed to the skies, apparently in devout and humble supplication, now, wildly rolling, or stupidly blinking, were merely expressive of good-natured folly ; and those limbs which, so lately, had bended reverently and, perhaps, in the sincere intention of devotion, before his God, now, as if ashamed of their ignominious burden, refuse their wonted office of bearing him on his way, and cast him, in rude prostration, before the voluptuous god of wine : for, while his watch went flying, in *divisions* and *subdivisions*, into the scuppers on one side of the vessel, he himself, by a similar sort of movement, though not without many an intervening stagger and stop, went plunging headlong into the other.

And bringing themselves into this disgraceful state, I believe, is called by men *enjoyment* : destroying their constitutions,

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wasting their substance, reducing themselves and their families to poverty and disgrace, and rendering themselves odious in the sight of God, is *enjoyment!* Depraved and wretched mortals! how mistaken are you with respect to that principle—How unacquainted with what is truly so! You are entire strangers to it—you grasp at a very deformed shadow and seem pleased, but allow the substance to escape. Well might the Spartans of old make their slaves drunk, and, during their riotous and disgraceful *enjoyment*, exhibit them to their children, in order to create in them a horror and disgust at the abominable vice; for surely, to a rational mind, the sight of a drunken man should be sufficient to deter its possessor from becoming so.

But are the above-mentioned consequences of inebriety *all* that accrue from it? by no means.—Numerous and dreadful as they are, others, of a still worse kind, frequently follow in its train. How many instances have occurred of men who, un-

der its influence, have been guilty of murder, robbery, and every crime that man is capable of, and thereby brought themselves to an ignominious, untimely end, who, in their sober moments, would have shuddered at the idea of them, and cried, "far be it from me!"

One, that once came under my own observation, may not, perhaps, be misplaced here, in order to prove that this is not a mere idle chimera, a dream of *my* imagination.

In my school-boy days, while at Montreal, I was present at the trial of a soldier of the 60th regiment, who had been guilty of murder. The prisoner was in the bloom of life; and nature had promised him, in the gifts of health and vigour, a long series of revolving years. How did my young heart tremble, and how were my sympathies awakened, when I heard it proved in evidence, that the rash, the fatal act, no less than stabbing, with his bayonet, his own comrade—his associate, and, I may

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be allowed to add, even his bosom friend, had been committed upon the *very first* occasion on which this young, handsome, and prepossessing soldier had been surprised by this awful, this sense-destroying vice, while in the regiment; and, according to his own subsequent declaration, during his whole life! In reply to the solemn question, "Can you give any reason why sentence of death should not be passed upon you?" the prisoner handed a memorial to the judge, which, on being delivered to the clerk of the court, was read aloud. It merely urged the circumstance, in *his* opinion a very palliative one, of the deed having been perpetrated while he had been, for the very first time, the subject of this odious, dangerous practice; and his uniformly good conduct, while in the regiment, to which testimony had been borne; as a plea for a sufficient respite to enable him to receive an answer to a petition that he proposed forwarding to the then Prince Regent, praying a reprieve.

In the mind of the court, however, no such lenity could be exercised towards him, since not merely one, but two, crimes were involved in the revolting transaction.—drunkenness, and, in this case, its dreadful concomitant, murder!—Hope, that consoling and animating companion of poor, weak man, under the adverse and trying circumstances to which he is subjected in this weary pilgrimage, now forsook her airy throne, and left it, in quiet possession, to dark and fell despair.

In imagination I could conceive myself brought back to former days, then long *gone by*, when the stern, yet weeping, Manlius, torn by conflicting feelings of paternal compassion and magisterial duty, sat full before my view: and while the pearly tear of pity stood glistening in his eye, then stole, in grief, away, I heard the venerable judge close his energetic and sympathetic reply with that heaven-descended, irreversible decree—“Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed.”

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But three days more, and the jolly brows of Bacchus were, by this sacrifice at his shrine, adorned anew with the laurel wreath of VICTORY!

Saturday, 11th June—We were off Cape Chat, in the River St. Lawrence: met eleven or twelve vessels from Quebec, homeward bound. The wind was quite fair for them, and their lofty masts, crowded with swelling sails, gave them a very grand and beautiful appearance. Their crews, no doubt, were elate with their good fortune, and congratulated themselves upon the prospect they entertained of soon seeing their country, their families, and friends: every thing appeared, at the moment, to justify the expectation; but how foolish, how absurd, to build their hopes upon the inconstant winds!—we had now been taught the folly of it. At one time the masts may be crowded with canvass, and the ship gliding triumphantly through the “watery way;” the next half hour may find her divested of all the



extra\* sails ; and, instead of pressing forward in her direct course, in all the pomp of majesty, she may, dejected and forlorn, be wandering up and down, contending with adverse winds, and rude, howling waves, which, very unceremoniously, dash their "angry foam and salt spray" over her side, as if to shew their contempt and scorn for the very body that, but a short time before, they appeared to feel delight in bearing in triumph upon their swelling bosom. And happy would it be for mankind ; many a pang would they be spared, if this inconsistency were only to be found among the troubled waves of ocean : but how generally do we find men, men possessed of reason and reflection, act the same unnatural part ! When fortune smiles upon her favorites, and loads them with her benefits, how do they press round them ; and, with offers of kindness and professions of friendship, court their acquaintance and society ; but let the wheel take a

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turn or two in the opposite direction, and these summer friends, like birds of passage, take their flight; and not content with the accumulation of sorrows which those experience who, but a short time before, they were happy to call their friends, they add to the number by their unkind deportment towards them; and, too frequently, by propagating unfavourable and malicious reports, deepen the wound that honour and humanity would require them to use their endeavours to heal!

Tuesday—In the afternoon we had nearly reached Green Island;\* and as no pilot had come on board, and the Captain did not wish to venture any farther without one, he lay the ship to, fired a gun, and hoisted the usual signal. In a very few minutes we observed a pilot-boat, in full sail, leaving the shore and making for us. The wind was blowing from the vessel to the land, consequently the boat had a directly contrary wind; and as the men appeared to be scarce on board, the Capt.

\* 40 leagues below Quebec

sent his boat with a few to the assistance of the pilot, who was found quite *alone*, in a large one, with *four sails set*. In a short time he came along side the ship, to the great satisfaction of all on board ; and his presence appeared to diffuse confidence and contentment among the people, and to dispel all apprehension from their minds with respect to the remainder of the passage.

If, then, the appearance of a coarse, rough, weather-beaten Canadian was found capable of affording so much satisfaction, on account of his knowledge of the rocks and shoals that lay in our way to our destined port ; and the acquisition of whom was of so much consequence as to induce us, in order to take him on board, to stop short during the existence of a very favourable breeze, which, from having had a long passage, occasioned by contrary winds, we had learned to appreciate ; what must be the feelings of those who, after having been buffeted about and tossed upon the

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raging billows of this world for a long time ; deficient, perhaps, of those spiritual resources which alone are capable of affording consolation ; and destitute of the cheering prospect of a happy issue to all their toils and hardships ; when, from a conviction of their forlorn and desperate situation, and of their own incapacity to act any longer for themselves, they have recourse to that Saviour who, in pity to their situation, descended from the blissful regions above, to relieve them from all their cares and fears, and guide them in the way they should go. The instant his ever-watchful eye beholds the first sign their convicted minds display, of their want of, and desire for him, he flies to them on wings of love, and is soon with him. Then what joy, what inexpressible delight, must be diffused through their souls by the appearance of him who is all-powerful and most anxious to save ; at the arrival of Jesus, " a man of *singular* beauty, surpassing the children of men ;"

who is a skilful pilot, and thoroughly acquainted with all the rocks and shoals that lie concealed in their way, under the deceitful surface, and which, without his guidance, would hurry them to inevitable, unspeakably dreadful, even eternal destruction. Then do they look forward with contentment and satisfaction to the remainder of their hitherto tempestuous voyage, contemplate the dangers they are yet to be exposed to with composure, conscious that he is capable of conducting them in safety to the haven where they would be.

Loud roaring the billows now nigh overwhelm,  
 But skilful 's the pilot who sits at the helm :  
 His wisdom, his power, his faithfulness stand  
 Engaged to conduct them in safety to land.

In whatever light we consider this glorious Pilot, how infinitely superior does he appear, when compared with an earthly one! The latter is a weak, frail mortal like ourselves, and therefore cannot arrive at perfection in his occupation ; con-

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sequently we are still liable to meet with accidents, and encounter difficulties, although we possess the advantage of his direction and advice: the former is not only perfect in the knowledge requisite to lead us clear of the rocks and quicksands that obstruct our way, but having the elements at his command, can protect us from all the storms and tempests, and every other peril to which we may be exposed, in our dangerous voyage through the troubled sea of life. It is the duty and high interest of the one to use all his exertions and watchfulness to guide the ship safe into port: pure love, of the most disinterested nature, is the only stimulus to the other: many earthly pilots are necessary for one port, only one is requisite to that heavenly country: there can be but one, but he is all-sufficient, and capable of serving *all* who require his assistance, for "there is no other name, under heaven, given among men, whereby we *can* be saved."

Wednesday—Saw a vessel ashore on Green Island. It was a new one that had been built in Canada, had made one voyage to London, and, on her return to Quebec, struck, and could not be got off. All the rigging had been taken from her, and nothing remained but the hull and lower masts. Her head was next the river, the stern towards the land, and she lay there exposed to the violence of the boisterous winds and raging waves: a striking example of the uncertainty of all things here below, and a melancholy monument of fallen greatness. A short time before the accident, she rode majestically over the foaming billows, and seemed to defy their rage; her masts were decked with spreading canvass, which, swelling to the breeze, carried her, with the swiftness of an eagle, through the watery element; the limits of her progress were only those of ocean itself; she was the support of her captain and crew; her owner looked to her for many of the comforts he enjoyed,

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and she contributed to the convenience of the inhabitants, in general, of nations separated at an immense distance by extensive seas. "But *now*, see the change!"—The insolent waves, as if triumphing in her downfall, dash over her ill-fated head, which, by being turned towards them, seems to indicate that she can look with contempt on the insult offered her, which her helpless state obliges her to endure, and prevents her from resenting. Her masts, divested of all their pompous clothing, stand bare, exposed to the rude, stormy blast; and her whole appearance indicative of her desolate situation, but bearing the marks of better times, now gone for ever. A short time ago she ranged, with freedom, the whole surface of the wide-extended ocean—now, confined to a small spot, the length of herself: the Captain and crew who, but very lately, looked upon her as their home, and were uneasy when from her, have deserted her to return no more; and the



owner who, but yesterday, as it were, considered himself master of a possession, and, pleased with his good fortune, formed plans for his aggrandizement, and amused himself with glittering prospects of future greatness and enjoyment, now finds all those prospects blasted in a moment, his arrangements and plans mere "castles in the air," and, perhaps, his late ship now a melancholy emblem, on a distant shore, of his own fallen condition! How forcibly does the sight of this unfortunate vessel recall to mind the situation of the great Darius in his misfortunes:—

Fall'n, fall'n, fall'n, fall'n,  
 Fall'n from his high estate—  
 Deserted at his utmost need  
 By those his former bounty fed.

And also that of a greater than Darius, in our own day, who, from obscure origin, became sovereign of a mighty nation, and gave kings to others; who overran the greater part of Europe with his armies; to whom thousands

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looked up for protection and support; at last, in an inauspicious moment, had the mortification to see an end put to all his schemes; his greatness and glory wrecked on the rocks of fate, and he himself, who had had *whole kingdoms* at his command, reduced to a state in which he could not call *one spot* on earth his own; and even obliged to submit to the privation of his personal liberty, fixed to a small rock in the midst of the sea, from which he could not extricate himself; where his ears, that had, for many years, delighted in scarcely any other sounds than the loud cannon's roar and the din of war, were only soothed with the hoarse, unvaried, hollow moan of "St. Helen's wave!"

As we sailed up the river St. Lawrence we were exceedingly pleased with the appearance of the country on each side.—The islands and shore, in many places covered with trees down to the edge of the water; the neat white houses of the

inhabitants, seated in clusters, or singly, on the plains, which were bounded by the woods; and the handsome little churches, with tin-covered roofs and spires glittering in the sunbeams, conveyed at once an idea of comfort, prosperity and peace; and made a very favourable impression on the minds of the passengers, at this time big with anxiety and hope respecting their future destinies, with regard to the country.

Friday—Went ashore at a small place called “La Petite Anse.”—The latter word signifies creek or bay; and this “little creek,” stretching a considerable way into the land, and washing a beautiful valley, is nearly altogether concealed from the observation of the stranger passing up and down the river, by a long narrow island, covered with wood, lying across its entrance. It would be vain to attempt a description of my sensations while approaching the shore, as the various beauties of the scene opened, by degrees, up-

on my sight, merely discovered by rounded banks, passing the bay, and changing the bay, the expected appearance.

A long valley narrowing to apparently a neatly and oblong field, numerous farms, and commodious the whole enclosed on either side of various kinds, exclude this course with the ed itself to the eyes.

The weather the sun shone mead,” and

on my sight. From the ship we could merely discover one or two cottages, surrounded by a few fields; but when, on passing the end of the island alluded to, and changing our course, we sailed into the bay, the prospect improved to an unexpected and gratifying extent.

A long vale, broad next the water, and narrowing to a point at the opposite end; apparently in a high state of cultivation; neatly and regularly fenced off in large oblong fields; and diversified with numerous farm houses, white, comfortable, and commodious, with suitable offices, &c., the whole enclosed by a ridge of high hills on either side, thickly covered with trees of various kinds and sizes, and seeming to exclude this little colony from all intercourse with the rest of the world, presented itself to our admiring and enraptured eyes.

The weather was calm and delightful: the sun shone resplendent on "wood and mead," and shed a peaceful lustre on the

surrounding scenery; and, as if determined to impress us with high ideas of this western world, on our first arrival on its shores, by beaming his brightest rays upon the verdant landscape, and clothing it in its richest attire, appeared anxious to set off its rural charms to the best advantage.

We landed at a considerable distance from the houses; and as the tide was ebbing, the Captain desired one of the men, a passenger, to anchor the boat, a very large one, belonging to the pilot, a short distance from the beach, and remain in it until our return, in order to keep it afloat. He, accordingly, shoved the boat off, and, when at a sufficient distance, threw the anchor over board, but in the true spirit of his countrymen, *forgot to attach the cable to it first!*

We had scarcely got on the strand when we observed a Canadian countryman coming towards us, from a small wood, a short distance from the beach: he had a hatchet in his hand, which, with his *bonnet rouge*,

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or red cap, and costume peculiar to the country, gave him a singular and rather formidable appearance in the eyes of the passengers. "Hallo!" said one of them, who first noticed him, "what the d—l kind of a fellow is this coming?" "Oh!" said another, "I suppose it's one of the wild fellows out of the woods, look at his hatchet!" As he approached with a hasty step, they actually supposed he was coming with some hostile intention, and were quite afraid of him. "Faith I'll take up a stone!" cried one of them, stooping down and lifting one. "And by my *sowl* so will I," said another. I felt quite ashamed of their conduct, and went forward to meet the man, while they remained, at a very respectful distance, behind. When I accosted him with a "*bon jour, Monsieur,*" he very courteously took off his cap and returned the salute, which satisfied the people that he was not what they took him to be: they therefore soon dropped the stones they had lifted, and crowded round

him, with open mouth and wondering eye. "What's that he says, do you think?" asked one, as the Canadian spoke French. "Faith that's *quare* talk," said another, "why that's as bad as Irish."

The man had seen us from the wood, where he had been felling timber, and judging the nature of our errand, hastened to the shore for the purpose of taking us to the houses of his friends.

On our way thither, we were conducted along the sides of fields of wheat, barley, &c., which, although covered with snow, several feet deep, in May, were now green and flourishing: such is the rapid progress of vegetation in this country. Flowers of various sorts, mingling with long luxuriant herbage, sprang up in vernal bloom, to cheer and deck our path; and grazing flocks and herds, observing our approach, forbore their feast awhile, to view us with amaze.

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as had elapsed since the last time we had trodden on *terra-firma*, or to the real, local attractions of the place, I shall not venture to determine; but, certainly, upon landing at this charming spot, I felt that if I were an emigrant, I could, circumstances permitting, have halted here—I could have been satisfied with this enchanting abode, and have taken up my residence in it, careless of seeking a better—

For I said, if there's peace to be found in this world,

A heart that is humble might hope for it here.—

To me it seemed one of the approaches to, or *outskirts* of Elysium: all was tranquillity and peace: the bustle and turmoil—the envying and strife—the buzz of commerce and the senseless rattle of pleasure, that had annoyed my eyes, stunned my ears, and sickened my heart at the last place I had left, here seemed excluded and unknown. Man appeared in his original, natural state; at peace with his brother; at ease with himself; satisfied with his present, and entertaining a good hope with respect to his future state.



We went into several of the houses for the purpose of procuring some fresh provisions;—here, every thing afforded us great satisfaction, being strictly consistent with the exterior. The houses were constructed of square logs of timber, the interstices calked with oakum, and the interior cased with boards. All was plain and simple, but admirably clean, and conformable with the inmates: and whatever was indispensably requisite to comfort and convenience, abounded.

In consequence of the heat of the weather, the men wore no other upper garment than a shirt; and the women were satisfied with a petticoat, (entirely of their own manufacture), having a sort of small body; their arms and necks being bare.

We were received and entertained very kindly by the inhabitants; and regaled ourselves, for some time, with bread, butter, milk, &c. The bread, indeed, was made of barley, in large loaves, which appears to

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be the kind generally used by the Canadian peasantry ; and, under other circumstances, might not, perhaps, have pleased our palates altogether ; but its form and appearance, with the idea of being a change from the hard biscuit, rendered it highly acceptable upon this occasion. Having provided a necessary supply of these articles to take on board, we left this pleasing settlement, and returned to the vessel.

Friday, 17th June—We arrived off Point Levy ; a point of land on the opposite side of the harbour from Quebec ; and anchored a short distance below it, near the large timber ship, which was built on the Isle of Orleans, and, at this time, just ready for launching. The Captain and I went up to Quebec in the ship's boat ; and as we proceeded along the shore, on the Point Levy side, we saw a number of Indians, squaws and children, with their wigwams or huts. Various and amusing were the exclamations of the passengers, who were rowing, at their singular and novel appearance.

It is wonderful and instructive to contemplate the varieties of the human race. What a wide and varied difference exists among them: only generally alike in their beginning and end! How are we amazed and bewildered when we consider, that although all the millions of human beings that come into the world are born alike, that is, destitute of any innate idea which might cause a distinction among them, yet that from education, and other circumstances, such a vast diversity exists among them when they arrive at maturity.

The aborigines of the four great divisions of the earth vary very materially in person, dress, manners, customs, employments, amusements, government, &c.: the several nations and kingdoms in each of those divisions display, in many things, great dissimilitude: the provinces of a kingdom have their peculiarities: the several classes in one city are distinguished by their appearance, dress, manners and

habits; and from the same, we observe how often taste, sentiment, and habits.

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habits; and even in one family where, from the education, &c. being exactly the same, we might expect to find its members resemble each other in everything, how often do we find a great diversity of taste, sentiment, appearance, manners and habits.

How strange would a man of wealth and fashion feel, who has been brought up with all the care and attention that is usual among those in his sphere in life; who has been accustomed to all the pleasures, ease, and comforts that affluence and luxury can bestow; if he were to be suddenly placed in an American Indian wigwam, half naked, and exposed to the inclemencies of the weather which these people endure: so great a change in circumstances would make as great upon himself. His body, delicately formed, and unaccustomed to its new situation, could not endure hardship, fatigue and hunger: not acquainted with the rude arts that would be necessary to procure food, he would

not be able to obtain it : the poor, miserable *wigwam* would be but a mean and comfortless substitute for his former habitation : in short, he would sink under the accumulation of his miseries, and come to an untimely grave. Whereas the Indian, inured to this manner of life from his infancy, and expert in the arts of hunting, fishing, shooting, &c., is active, strong and vigorous ; and so far from feeling any inconvenience from, he delights in it ; and would, perhaps, prefer his forests and lakes to all the allurements of the town.

On the other hand, place him as suddenly in the situation of the former, and as great a contrast will be observed.—The transition might not, indeed, be equally fatal, but his comforts, for a considerable time, would be paralyzed.—A stranger to every thing relative to his new situation, he would be at a loss, upon all occasions, how to act : the conversation of those around him, from his ignorance of the subjects, and want of education,

would be unacquainted with he would be employing or accustomed to with clothing, want restraint been bred in cultivation, the liteness and grow prove intolerable would feel himself and he would wigwam and his life From these the goodness of the affection of his may seem to die of his creatures many supposed while he best others, yet that for he amply want, by suitin

would be unintelligible to him: only acquainted with the rude arts of the forest, he would be destitute of the means of employing or amusing himself: his limbs, accustomed to be free, and unembarrassed with clothing, would find a most unpleasant restraint in the court dress: having been bred in a state of nature, without any cultivation, the little restrictions that politeness and good breeding impose, would prove intolerable burdens; in short, he would feel himself far from being happy, and he would sigh for his forests, his wigwam and his liberty.

From these considerations we may learn the goodness of Providence, and the perfection of his works: that, although he may seem to deal very harshly with some of his creatures, by withholding from them many supposed advantages and benefits, while he bestows them profusely upon others, yet that it is in appearance only; for he amply compensates them for the want, by suiting them to their situations

and circumstances in life. And as the baubles and glittering toys of the world can only be enjoyed by those who are acquainted with their nature and use, those who are ignorant of them cannot be said to be destitute of enjoyment, while they possess other satisfactions and pleasures, peculiar to themselves, which completely supply their place. Pleasure is, in a great measure, in idea; for it frequently occurs that what affords satisfaction to one person, causes disgust in another; nay so weak, so frail is our fallen nature, that the *very thing* which, under some circumstances, affords a considerable degree of pleasure, is found, under others, to yield, to the same individual, as great a proportion of pain! therefore, reflection and observation teach us, that Providence dispenses his favours with an equal hand to all his creatures, and leaves it to themselves to make themselves happy or otherwise with them: which is further evident from the circumstance, that no situation or condition in

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life, however mean and contemptible it may be, excludes pleasure from the human breast; while no human [being, however great, powerful or affluent, is beyond the reach of real pain and sorrow.

*To each his sufferings, all are men,  
Condemned alike to groan.*

The certainty of this assertion being correct, brings to view the absurdity, which too many people in the world are guilty of, in making large sacrifices of conscience, peace, ease, &c., for the acquisition of a portion of those worldly vanities which promise happiness, but, when possessed, are found incapable of bestowing it. It would be tedious and superfluous to notice the various cases these are made in, as every day brings them under the observation of every person acquainted with mankind. I shall, therefore, confine myself to a remark or two upon one, which appears to me to be one of the most lasting, perhaps not the least sinful, and that generally brings with it its own reward, viz. that



of sacrificing themselves *in matrimony*, contrary to the loud remonstrances of the heart, of wisdom, and of virtue.

They go to the sacred altar, and there, with quivering lips and a reproving conscience, make a solemn vow before the Great, the Living God, "to *love* and to *cherish*," which they know at the time they can never perform; for the heart is crying aloud at the instant, "impossible, impossible!" If it be a female, she surrenders her youth, her beauty, her loveliness, to the loathsome embrace of the man she hates: perhaps she resigns a large share of personal and mental accomplishments and attainments to a person who is incapable of appreciating them, thereby placing herself in the situation of the poet's flower, which

"Wastes its sweetness on the desert air;"

merely because he has a little of this world's good; although it is of such an uncertain nature that he may be deprived of all in a very short time. And if it

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should please God to snatch it away, as a trifling recompence for the insult offered him at the marriage ceremony; which frequently happens, and many instances have come under my own observation; *then* what must be the feelings of those who have sacrificed themselves and their best interests in this life, to a sordid thirst for the perishing trifles which they made their chief good, and the principal object of their desire. The Gordian knot is tied: the cause of it being so no longer exists: they must hide from the world which, when the great attraction ceases, treats them with the indifference and contempt usual in such cases; and in this state of seclusion, when destitute of most other comforts, they have not even that of a partner, in whose congenial and sympathetic bosom they could unburden their sorrows, or from whose soothing and sensible conversation they might derive some alleviation to their grief; but, on the contrary, every thought of them adds to the

poignancy of their sufferings ; mutual upbraidings ensue, and they lament, with tears, the mistaken policy of acting contrary to the dictates of their hearts from prudential motives.

Even when this reverse of fortune does *not* occur, do those riches, on which their hearts were set, afford them the enjoyment they hoped for from them ? If, from their splendid casement, they take a view of their elegantly improved grounds, which probably extend as far as the eye can reach : if nature and art have combined to render the scene delightful and enchanting, do they survey it with pleasure, and inwardly exclaim with rapture, “ *how truly happy am I, all this is mine !* ” Let the *experience* of a QUEEN answer. We read of the late queen, upon one occasion, while at her father's, when reading Pope's beautiful description of Windsor Forest, (little supposing at the time that she would one day possess it), that she exclaimed, “ *happy queen, who commands such a forest ! happy Caroline,*

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could she *but wander through it!*" pronouncing the possessor happy at once, as if the place itself, independent of every other consideration, were capable of making her so. Time, however, opened her eyes to the delusion. After she had actually seen it, and herself the queen, its possessor, did she then continue to consider that queen happy? "Alas!" she exclaimed, "how ignorant was I of what was to constitute my happiness! I have seen Windsor, and *felt no pleasure*—I have wandered in her forests, and was *alive to every thing but delight!*"

Daily experience exhibits the baneful effects of this unnatural practice.—In some cases, where virtue has not such a strong hold of the mind as it should have, melancholy indeed are the consequences; her demands are forgotten, the duty she enjoins is despised, and sorrow and shame are brought upon whole families, for "one moment's guilty pleasure." And even where virtue holds supreme control, it is evident sorrow and

regret are not excluded. The parties probably consider the marriage ceremony a mere *matter of form*, and, perhaps, never dream of the light in which *God* views their conduct in that particular : but it is an institution of his own appointment ; not merely as a civil bond, but also a moral and spiritual one ; whereby they are united in his presence, and in conformity to his will, and consequently become amenable, not only to human laws, but also to the divine.

On entering upon the marriage state, they promise, on oath, to perform certain conditions, without which the contract cannot be completely fulfilled ; and they are aware of this at the moment ; they know they are unable to perform *all* their vows, yet they make them, and take *God* to witness !

What would an earthly king think of one of his subjects who should request some office of him, and who should consent to make affidavit of his willingness

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and determination to perform the several duties required of the individual holding that office, without which he could not obtain it; when, at the same time, the king should have reason to know, with certainty, that he was conscious of being utterly incapable of fulfilling some one or more of those duties; *all* of which he solemnly declared he *could* and *would*? Would he not, at least, consider himself insulted? Most undoubtedly.—Are we then to suppose that the great King of Kings, who is perfect in all wisdom and knowledge, is insensible to the contempt thrown upon him, and the institutions of his appointment, by persons acting in the manner just mentioned? Certainly not.—His subsequent conduct towards such frequently proves, that he is not only not insensible to it, but highly affronted and offended, and rewards them accordingly.

Persons guilty of this crime cannot pretend to say that, from want of reflection and wisdom beforehand, they rushed rash-

ly into the snare: for they might very readily judge, from their feelings and impressions prior to the event, what must follow. After having reluctantly given their consent, and the day being appointed, does the anticipation of it deceive them? When it occurs to their mind does the heart exult at the thought? Is it filled with rapture and delight, and does it almost deprive its possessor of patience to wait the arrival of the eagerly-desired day? Is that day impatiently longed for, and are a thousand complaints excited in the mind against the tardy progress of time? Does it, at length, dawn with unusual, unparalleled lustre; and do ecstasy and complete joy take entire possession of their hearts and minds? I fear, nay, I am certain, this cannot be the case; but, on the contrary, when they are reminded of it, which is probably as seldom as possible, a sensation of horror darts with electric velocity over their whole frame; uneasiness and regret take possession of the breast, where joy and delight

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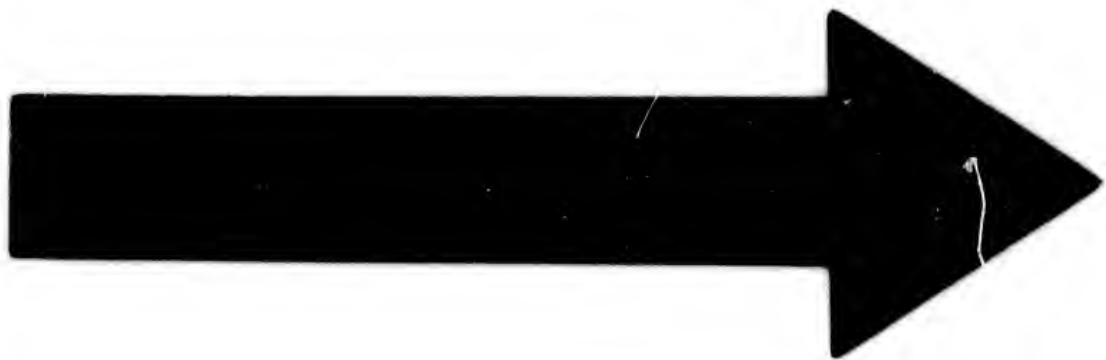
should reign supreme at this time ; and they look forward, with anxiety and dislike, to the moment that *should* crown their happiness, and leave them no more to wish ! What do all these things presage ? Do they say to the mind, “ *this is the road to felicity ?* ” Ah, no—and yet thousands go this road in search of it !

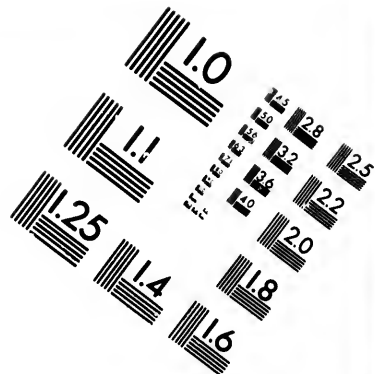
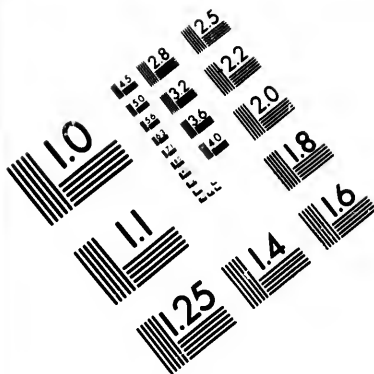
Busy, Fortune, still art thou,  
To bind the loveless, joyless vow ;  
The heart from pleasure to delude,  
To join the gentle to the rude.

Wealth certainly contributes, in a very great degree, to the comfort and happiness of people in this world ; but when it is not combined with the necessary accompaniments, it is found incapable, of itself, to afford the satisfaction which is expected from it ; and, therefore, like exquisite dainties, placed before the diseased stomach that loathes food of every kind, it disgusts, instead of affording delight.

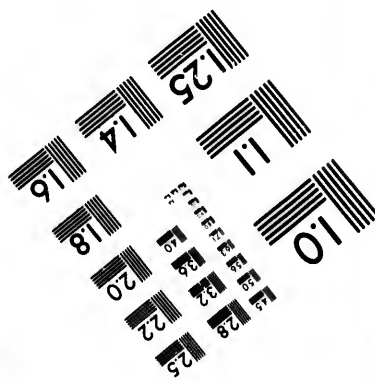
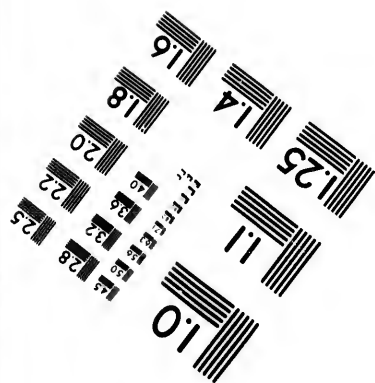
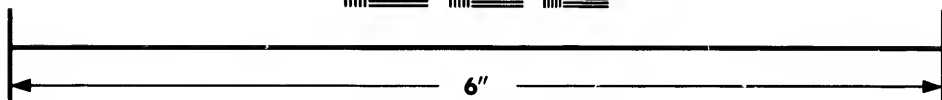
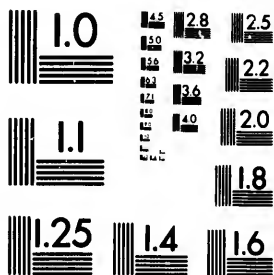
If happiness has not her seat  
And centre *in the breast*,  
We may be wise, and rich, and great,  
But never can be blest.







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Nor treasure, nor pleasure,  
 Can make us happy long ;  
 The heart aye's the part aye,  
 That makes us right or wrong.

When we got round Point Levy, and within sight of the city, on looking back for a moment upon the stormy and tedious passage of nearly eight weeks we had had to reach it, and the numerous dangers we had escaped ; the words of General Wolfe recurred very appropriately to the mind : " The city of Quebec, the object of all our toils, now stands, in full view, before us."

The appearance of Quebec could not fail to recall to *my* mind many pleasing recollections : it had been the scene of many of my happiest days ; there I had experienced real pleasure, unmixed with much alloy ; it was ten years since I had left it ; and, as the boat moved towards it, I felt a degree of inward satisfaction and delight, as if I had been approaching an old friend.

On our return to the vessel, we landed

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where the large timber ship was on the stocks, and went on board: a stupendous and wonderful structure, 350 feet long, and of corresponding dimensions in other respects. An admirable specimen of human ingenuity, and of the power of man over the other works of creation, when assisted by the direction of Providence, under the title of inventive genius.

The mind is filled with wonder and pleasure, when it contemplates the wisdom and goodness of the Creator, in providing for the accommodation of his various creatures on the earth; but more especially when he observes to how great an extent man appears to have been his peculiar care; since, for his convenience, all the other productions of the earth seem to have been more or less designed, from their uniting to supply his wants, gratify his desires, and afford him comfort and enjoyment.—Food is the first grand and indispensable requisite of man; on which his existence depends. For the supply of this wheat, barley, rye, oats, &c.,

spring up for his use in great profusion : these are found to be sufficient to answer the call of nature, and to afford that strength and nourishment which the body requires ; but an abundance of them makes him extend his desires to something more delicate and palatable. Immediately the garden teems with vegetables and fruits of the most beautiful, agreeable, and nutritious kind ; which delight the eye, gratify the palate in a high degree, and strengthen and invigorate the body. Not content with these, he has recourse to the flesh of the beasts of the field, the fowls of the air, and the fish of the sea ; and by contriving various methods of preparing them for use, he is at length satisfied in this particular.

Drink is the next principal want, and to meet this, the fountains pour forth their limpid streams in great abundance.— Water, like grain, &c. is simple and pure in its kind, and perfectly adequate to satisfy the necessity of nature ; but man feels a desire for something capable of answer-

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ing the same purpose, yet more agreeable to the eye and taste. He is at once provided with the vine, whose delightful fruit yields a most delicious beverage, which not only removes his thirst, and pleases the eye and palate, but, also, exhilarates his spirits, "makes his heart glad, and gives him a cheerful countenance." Apples and pears afford a pleasing drink, when their juices are properly prepared; and man has learned to extract from barley, oats, &c. a spirit that would prove of infinite service to him, as a preventive against many disorders, and a remedy for others; if he were content to use it merely as a cordial or medicine; but weak, foolish, nay, wicked man, perverts its use to the destruction, not the preservation of his body; to the ruin of himself, his family and substance.

An immoderate use of the food, and excessive quantity of wine, spirits, &c., which were bestowed upon him for his sustenance and comfort, produce disorders

that emaciate his frame, discompose his mind, incapacitate him from attending to his necessary affairs, and even threaten his life itself. Kind nature, in compassion to his situation, and apparently sensible of having contributed, in a great measure, though very unintentionally, to his calamity, spreads before him, in great abundance, herbs and flowers of various kinds and qualities, which contain balm for all his wounds. The healing juices of many of these he has been taught to extract and use; and by the bitter and unpalatable flavour given to them, (very unlike that of those intended for food) he is entreated and warned to avoid requiring the use of them in future.

Clothing is another indispensable requisite to mankind. They are abundantly provided with a part of this in the flax-plant, which, after a variety of ingenious and complicate processes, supplies them with that most useful article, linen, which affords a very pleasant inner garment, &c.

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The cotton tree supplies articles of a serviceable and ornamental kind: the wool of the sheep affords elegant and comfortable outside garments, stockings, &c. The beaver contributes to the stock by furnishing hats of the finest description; and the poor little silk-worm performs her wonderful and ingenious operations for their accommodation, in order to provide, in addition to the other wearing apparel, the most sumptuous and gorgeous habits. The patient ox, after spending his life in hard labour for his master, and the useful cow, after living for her owner's comfort and convenience, together with the calf, &c., are not only serviceable to him for food, after their death, but also supply him with shoes, boots, and a variety of other articles of convenience and utility.

Provided abundantly with food and clothing, man next requires shelter. The hard rock is found calculated, in an eminent degree, to meet that want, and is capable of forming edifices of the most du-

rable, elegant, and spacious kind. Without the assistance of some material, however, to cement the pieces together, their duration, as a building, would be but short; therefore, we find another species perfectly adapted to that purpose. This is limestone, which, when properly prepared, is not only capable of rendering the building firm and lasting, but serves, also, to give it a beautiful and finished appearance.— The very clay is capable of being formed into an extremely useful substance, brick, that is used by man for building strong and handsome houses, &c.

The mere shell of a house would be cold and comfortless: the forest, therefore, supplies wood; which proves of infinite service and importance to man, to complete and furnish his house with many things, in the highest degree useful and ornamental.

Wood is, perhaps, the most extensively serviceable production of the earth to man: the cocoa tree of the Maldives, for instance,

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which, we are credibly informed, provides the natives of those islands not only with vessels, but supplies these, also, with *masts, sails, rigging, anchors, cables, provisions, and firing*. To wood we are indebted not merely for a great variety of things, of the greatest convenience and ornament, that of itself, it affords ; but also for the grand means of communication and connexion with distant countries, whereby we are enabled to enjoy the various commodities of luxury and usefulness that are peculiar to them ; and, in return, profitably dispose of the surplus of our manufactures, &c. which their inhabitants have occasion for.

The immense floating castle we saw upon this occasion, was one of the mediums of this communication, and, certainly, capable of striking the beholder with astonishment ; particularly on observing the trees that were growing very near, and remembering that, but a short time before, it was, like them, growing in the forest.

The above is but an imperfect outline of

the principal articles with which nature has supplied mankind, for their sustenance and convenience; but, in addition to them, there is also a very great variety of minutiae, for the finishing, embellishment, and perfection of them all; that afford no small degree of astonishment to the minute enquirer into the works of Creation.

And yet, with all these inestimable advantages, man is not happy! And why? Surely the fault cannot lie with his Creator, who has furnished him, even to trifles, with what could conduce to his happiness. No—man is, himself, entirely to blame.—His pride and ambition still incline him to desire things that he does not possess, without considering that they are withheld from him by *perfect wisdom*, as being inimical to his welfare and happiness; and prevent him from being satisfied with the gifts that Providence has bestowed upon him; which, being intended for his comfort, if properly used, would be sufficient to secure him peace of mind and content-

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ment ; the obtaining of which, is the nearest approach he is capable of making to happiness in this life. If “thy will, oh Lord ! not mine, be done,” were the sincere language of the hearts of all mankind, and if their actions corresponded with that expression—if they could be generally induced to perform the duty towards God and their neighbour, enjoined on them in Scripture ; then would they enjoy the happy, the blessed fruits of such conduct ; and instead of complaining generally of the world, and the absence of happiness from it, they would be constrained to exclaim, “it is good for us to be here !”

Friday evening—The ship anchored in the harbour, to the great satisfaction of all on board ; particularly some of the old men and women who, having *run short of tobacco*, had not spoken a good-natured word for some time previously. The safe arrival of the vessel, however, was a subject of general congratulation among us. We could now look back, with unconcern,

upon the numerous perils, and fearful dangers we had been exposed to ; to the privations that many had endured : they were now passed ; an end was put to them all ; and our ship, that had long been buffeted about, and tossed upon the stormy sea, now rode at anchor, in safety, in the long-wished-for port.

And I hope that there were none among us so depraved as to forget to whom we were indebted for the great favour, or so lost to a sense of our duty, as to neglect to render him that tribute of praise and thanksgiving, which was most justly his due, for such signal mercy.

This event recalled to my mind the grand lesson it was well calculated to teach us. "The body has been taking an earthly voyage, and is safely arrived at the desired port : the soul, is also at this moment, upon a voyage of much greater, nay infinite, unspeakable importance. How does it start and tremble at the idea of what depends upon the issue of that voyage ;

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and the hideous rocks, shoals, and quicksands that lie scattered every where through its course! The next moment, however, it is relieved from all its anxiety by the consoling truth, that the same all-powerful arm that preserved the body from its late dangers, is also extended to afford succour and direction to the soul, in its perilous passage: the course is defined which it is necessary to steer; and if, determined on gaining the right port, it choose to take that glorious pilot on board, who is ever ready and anxious to guide to the happy haven of rest, all apprehensions may be laid aside, and replaced by the most unbounded confidence, and peaceful security.

Saturday—The launch of the large timber ship was appointed for this day, and great numbers of people repaired to the spot, to witness the grand and interesting event. The morning was particularly fine, and favorable to the occasion: scarce an air of wind disturbed the glassy smoothness of the river; four or five handsome

steam-boats, crowded with respectably-dressed people, had a grand and brilliant appearance; and a large number of small boats, filled with spectators, added very considerably to the beauty of the gay and animated scene. The military bands on board the steam-boats, glittering in their gaudy uniforms, delighted the eyes of the beholders; while the lively and beautiful airs they continued playing, charmed their ears, and gave a kind of finish to the whole.

At the appointed hour, 8 o'clock, all was anxiety and expectation. Every eye was intently fixed upon the great object of attraction, admiration, and interest; which, decorated with colours of various kinds, stood proudly pre-eminent, and, in importance, transcended every surrounding object. She was observed to move, and glide majestically along the *ways*.—But disappointment still appears to pursue the children of men. At this critical moment, when all apprehension respecting the issue

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seemed removed afar off, and the mind already saw her dashing into her native element, and received into its bosom with joy and exultation; and when those among the spectators, who were personally interested in her fate, were congratulating themselves upon the success of the happy event—suddenly a gloom was cast over the whole scene—the ship stopped just as the stern touched the water, and would move no farther! Astonishment seized the surrounding multitude—every expedient was resorted to, that could be thought of, to impel her forwards, or, perhaps, more properly speaking, backwards; but all was vain. The mind, for a moment, could fancy her possessed of reasoning powers, and then, as if conscious of the dangers she was about to expose herself to, she appeared to hesitate to commit herself to that deceitful element, which had proved itself fatal to so many of her kind; and to whose treachery her great predecessor had, probably, by that time, fallen a victim.

Disappointment now sat, in all her sable array, upon the countenances of the spectators; not a cheerful voice was heard; the hands that were half raised to the hats, in order to wave them "high in air," in triumph, accompanied with loud huzzas, fell motionless by the side; the cannons, which were just ready to join their thundering roar to the acclamations of the people, refused their office; and all was gloomy silence and surprise. The people who were on shore re-embarked in their boats, and the gay throng returned home, apparently but little gratified with their morning's excursion.

On the return of the steam-boats from the large ship, one of them, bound to Montreal, came along side of our vessel to take part of the passengers on board, who were going up the country. They had now lived in close neighbourhood with those who were to remain, upwards of two months; and it was natural to suppose that a degree of friendship, and kind feeling to-

wards each other, had taken place during the separation. They were now separate, and each of them was to go on his way again. The cannons, and their final effect upon the fusion; and last farewells, professions of affection for each other's success, remain and joined, with a powerful effect that those who were together, minded men of our nation, death, and in this transaction a strong and loud call to great and

wards each other, had been contracted during that time. They were about to separate, and it was very certain that many of them would never meet, in this world, again. This thought occurred to many of them, and, when the moment arrived for their final separation, had a very great effect upon them : tears flowed in great profusion ; and as they bade each other a last farewell, and exchanged their professions of regard, and prayers for each other's success and happiness, I could not remain an unconcerned spectator : I joined, with all my heart, in the latter, and was powerfully affected by the solemn idea, that those, whom I then saw assembled together, I should see no more. It reminded me of the frailty and imperfection of our nature ; the certainty of decay and death, and of the shortness of our time in this transitory scene. It also afforded a strong excitement, accompanied by the loud calls of wisdom, to prepare for that great and solem change that awaits me in

common with all mankind ; and that, soon or late, *must* take place.

Sunday—I once more heard the delightful sound of the “church-going bell,” to which my ears had long been strangers.—Eight weeks had elapsed since I had either heard or seen any thing indicative of the worship of God, except our own form on board of ship : it was, therefore, with great satisfaction I repaired to the English cathedral, and entered its sacred walls with feelings of gratitude, veneration and pleasure.

When the service commenced, how agreeable was the sound to my ear ! when the “solemn organ began to blow,” with what rapture did I catch the sacred notes ! Ten years ago—ah, what changes, thought I, have taken place within that time, even in this place ! Where is the reverend gentleman who officiated, the last time I attended divine service here ? Gone.—Where is the venerable, hoary-headed prelate who then occupied yonder splendid

seat, ornate canopy, close of the congregation blessing ? parture for soul is gone the Great of his ste its way to and sorrow the gener first born, fruits of h

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seat, ornamented with massy pillars and canopy, near the pulpit; and who, at the close of the service, used to dismiss the congregation with a solemn and impressive blessing? But yesterday he took his departure from this sublunary scene—his soul is gone to appear in the presence of the Great Judge of all, to give an account of his stewardship—his spirit has winged its way to those blissful regions where sin and sorrow never enter—he is gone to join the general assembly and church of the first born, to reap the blessed and glorious fruits of his toils on earth.

A few faces caught my eye, which I recognized, but the great majority were new to me, as mine was to them; the church itself, and the space around it, had undergone considerable alterations and improvements: change presented itself every where; still enforcing that solemn and important warning, "*you, too, must shortly submit to change.*"

In the afternoon I went to the Presby-

terian church ; a commodious, neatly finished edifice ; the relative position and appearance of which, with regard to the English (Episcopalian) and French (R. C.) cathedrals, afforded me a considerable degree of satisfaction. These buildings are all situated within a very short distance of each other ; furnished with steeples, and have every other appearance of churches : perhaps not in a small degree emblematic of the harmony in which the people of the different creeds and sects live together in this happy country. No religious intolerance ; no party feuds—no distinctions on account of religion exist here : every man is at liberty to choose his own way to the regions of happiness ; to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, without being exposed to the ridicule or hostility of any of his fellow-men.

Monday—I walked a short distance into the country to call upon Mr. B——, whom I found preparing for the Bishop's funeral. After remaining a short time at his house

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we walked into town. Shortly after we reached the chateau, or Governor's residence, where the body was deposited, the procession moved. The streets, leading to the cathedral, were lined on each side with soldiers, having their arms reversed. From a desire to obtain convenient seats in Church, we hastened to it as soon as the procession issued from the castle, consequently we had not an opportunity of seeing the order of it, until it entered the church. The body was received at the door by four clergymen, dressed in their robes, who were preceded, as they moved along the aisle, by the singing boys of the choir, in white surplices. It was then followed by the Lieutenant-Governor, and officers of government, gentlemen of the law, magistrates, principal inhabitants of the city, military officers, &c. When the funeral service was concluded, the body was deposited in the vault, nearly under the communion table, and by the side of the remains of the late Duke of Richmond.

All his dignity, wealth, and honor, thought I, could not avert heaven's stern decree; nor stay the clay-cold hand of death! His body is now consigned to the silent tomb.—Oh, what a difference between his present and late habitations!—Where are now the stately mansion, with all its internal grandeur; the fond, endearing partner of his life; his interesting family, the honor and delight of his declining years; the busy throng of servants, who were ever employed in administering to his wants and convenience; the splendid equipage, and every thing that could conduce to his ease, comfort and dignity?—All are resigned—all exchanged for the gloomy, silent, dreary mansions of the cold grave!—

Here the high-born and the brave,  
 The wise, the beauteous and the strong,  
 An undistinguished throng,  
 Are laid together——  
 Silent and still the sleeper lies;  
 Closed, for ever closed, his eyes;  
 'Till the final morn unfold  
 Her orient portals, bright with gold:

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Usher the beams, of everlasting light,  
 Annihilate the powers of night :  
 Burst the fetters of the tomb,  
 And summon all that sleep to their eternal doom.

That body which but a short time ago, was in the habit of being pampered with all the delicacies that the earth affords ; for whose sustenance many of the finest animal productions of creation were sacrificed ; and that held a respectable rank among the highest order of earthly beings, must now, in turn, become a prey to earth's meanest and most insignificant inhabitants, the loathsome worms ! This is the end of all human greatness !

“ The paths of glory lead but to the grave ”—

all men's honours, rank, and fame are buried in the dust ; and they themselves mingle, once more, with their kindred clay !

Saturday—I was in town with a friend, and being informed, a little before one o'clock, that the large ship was to be launched at that hour, we repaired imme-

diately to the Grand Battery, and in a few minutes saw her glide off the stocks in fine style. It was not generally known that an attempt would be made to launch her on that day, consequently there were but few spectators.

The event was very interesting and important; the largest ship of modern times was committed to her native element, and, like every thing else of any consequence, had her advocates and enemies. If it should answer to employ her constantly, it would prove a great blow to the shipping interest engaged in the timber trade, as she is capable of containing a cargo equal to ten or twelve of the largest vessels in that trade.

Her shape surprised me a good deal.— She is remarkably sharp at the bow, and also at the stern, except a few feet below the upper deck, where she assumes the shape of other vessels, but much smaller in proportion. The bottom is quite flat, and broader about the middle than the up-

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per deck: and there is a projection along it, from near the stem to the stern, increasing towards the middle, about three feet high. The cross-beams that support the upper deck project, at each end, beyond her side, to supply the place of *chains*, &c. for fastening the rigging to.— She is entirely built of solid logs, which are used instead of plank, &c. The masts are huge trees, without any other preparation than merely having the branches lopped off, and being stripped of the bark. The bottom and lower part were neither tarred nor painted, previous to the launch: in short, she is constructed in the roughest manner possible.

While she was on the stocks, four horses, in one team, were employed in drawing timber on board, the sight of which, walking about the deck without any inconvenience, was the first circumstance that struck me with her immense size; and eight or ten were on board when she was launched, for the purpose of

hoisting in her cargo. His Majesty and Scotland participate in the honour of giving the name, viz. the "Baron of Renfrew," which is one of the Scottish titles that his Majesty holds.

Monday—Mr. B—— and I set out for the township of Leeds, forty-five miles from Quebec, on the south side of the St. Lawrence; and, as we had to go 9 miles by water, we embarked on board a large flat-bottomed boat called a *batteau*. The weather was pleasant, and the country, on each side of the river, had a very rich and furnished appearance; owing to the numbers of trees that crown its steep and lofty banks, and, in large and numerous clusters, ornament the level ground; for which, however, it is altogether indebted to the bad quality of the soil in those places, and by no means to the taste of the Canadians who possess it; as, in general, they appear to be entire strangers to the system of sheltering their houses, or embellishing their lands with trees: ap-

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parently entertaining, with regard to them, the poet's idea, viz.

“When unadorned, adorned the most.”

I have frequently been impressed with the vast difference that place and circumstances produce in the ideas of people, upon certain subjects; and this was strongly exemplified, upon one occasion, with regard to the beauty of a country, in the instance of an American, who once visited Ireland; where, in some of the wildest parts, he gave vent to his approbation of its *superior* appearance, by exclaiming, “What a *finely improved* country this is, *not a tree to be seen!*”

A practice prevails, pretty generally, among the Canadians, with respect to their houses, in which taste appears to be sacrificed to comfort, viz. they have no door on the north side, although the latter may be next the road or river: the front view is, therefore, lost to the passing traveller, who finds a great degree of dulness in the road on that account. Their system

of placing the offices, which are all included in one large building, at a considerable distance from the dwelling-house; either in the next field, or on the opposite side of the road, is, I think, a very commendable one, as it secures the house from fire that might originate there; and this, I believe, is their principal motive for placing them at such a distance; and also as the house, with the ground about it, is kept free from filth of every kind; the cattle, pigs, &c., never being allowed to come near it; which gives it an appearance of cleanliness and comfort, highly gratifying to the traveller; and which, to the credit of its inhabitants, is quite in conformity with the interior.

The lands, in the old settled part of the country, belonging to the Canadians, are generally divided into lots of from two to six French acres in breadth, or, in a direction parallel with the road, and extending thirty or forty backwards; consequently each farmer has a long narrow tract. The

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road is always made on the line between the two concessions or ranges; or, where near the river, along the end next to it; and the Canadians, with a view to the comforts of society, greater security, or other motives, build their houses at the side of the road, or very near it; so that the country resembles a continued, straggling village, along the concession roads; but along those that connect the concessions, running parallel with the lots, cultivated fields are seen, and one is sometimes at a loss, when the country is a little hilly, to know where the proprietors reside.

About five o'clock in the afternoon, we reached the ferry-house. The proprietor, who, we expected, would provide us a conveyance to Leeds, not being at home, we were detained a couple of hours, waiting his return. Upon enquiring of him what he would charge to take us to C— and back, a distance of 36 miles, he wanted 10 dollars, £2 10: we immediately left

him, therefore, and walked along the road, but had not proceeded far until his son came galloping after us, to say his father would take us for six ; but we disliked his attempt at imposition, and refused his *kind* offer.

In a short time a cart passed, and the driver, judging from our appearance that we were strangers, in want of a conveyance into the country, stopped his horse, and enquired if that was the case. Upon hearing where we wished to go, he asked five dollars, which we agreed to give him. He then requested us to walk on to his house, a short distance forwards, and wait his return, from the ferry-house, to which he was taking some passengers. When he came in we agreed to give half a dollar extra for the accommodation of two carts ; and about eleven they were ready for us.

To those unacquainted with Canada, the idea of hiring *carts* to ride in, may, perhaps, appear rather odd ; it will, there-

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fore, be proper to remark, that the Canadians have coarse, strong carts for drawing loads, and working on the farms; but they have also neat, light ones for riding in; with a seat across the middle, upon springs, something similar to the body of a gig, capable of accommodating two persons; which are equal to a gig for ease and comfort, and, in many cases, even for beauty.

We proceeded on our journey, as we preferred travelling by night, on account of the mosquitoes, flies, &c. which are very annoying here during the day.— About six o'clock in the morning, we reached a part of the country that was a thick wood the last time I had passed through it, and I was exceedingly gratified on observing the improvement that had been made since. A fine open country, well settled, presented itself, where, twelve years before, not the least vestige of a human habitation was to be met with. Indeed the road was so much altered for the

better since that period, that I enquired several times of Mr. B——, if he was certain we were on the right road.

At eight, we stopped at a house of entertainment, kept by a Mr. Dallow, who was formerly a merchant tailor\* in Quebec; and I was a little amused with the sign he has exposed. It is the same that he had in Quebec; with the words, "Richard Dallow, tailor, from London;" which strikes the traveller as rather a comical one, when both house and situation are considered: the former an inn, and the latter in a neighbourhood whose population, one would suppose, will not, for some time, be anxious about having their clothes *exactly* in the *London cut*.

We got a very comfortable breakfast here, consisting of excellent tea, eggs, ham, bread and butter, &c., for *tenpence* each; which, after travelling nine hours, the greater part under a heavy rain, was, in no small degree, acceptable.

About ten, we arrived at C——, the pecu-

\*A tailor, who is also a woollen draper.

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liar object of my long journey by land and sea ; the situation of which afforded me much satisfaction. All the land on each side of the road, for many miles beyond this place, is possessed by individuals who are not only bound, but very desirous, to settle on, and clear it immediately. In many instances the proprietors are actually residing, and have large clear farms on their lots, so that it promises to be a very flourishing settlement in a short time.

In the afternoon we walked down to Mr. L——'s farm, which is situated in a back concession. I took a gun with me ; and on our way I saw a fine looking bird on a branch, at a good distance from me ; but, being remarkably near sighted, I could not discern of what kind it was. I fired, and it fell ; and when I reached it, it proved to be a robin. The discovery afforded me regret ; though robins, in this country, are very good eating, and it is quite common to shoot them for that purpose.— They are very large, exceeding, conside-

rably, the size of a thrush, and resemble those in Ireland, in other respects, except that from being so much larger, they have not such a delicate appearance.

We went by a road cut through the wood, but in returning, Mr. B—— insisted upon us taking “a short cut through the bush;” we therefore set off, and, after walking a considerable distance, Mr. L—— thought we should have been out of the wood; and, contrary to the wish of Mr. B——, who was anxious to continue in the course in which we were going, turned off to the left, and in a short time discovered the opening, when instead of being where we expected, we found ourselves quite at the opposite end of the farm; and had we continued in our former route, we should probably have had reason to lament our rashness, in undertaking such an *expedition of discovery*.— This circumstance reminded Mr. L—— of a singular one that had recently occurred in that neighbourhood, which he

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related to us. An old man who lived in Quebec, had a son-in-law settled in the second concession, whom he went to see. On his way he passed several houses, where he was acquainted; and in a few days afterwards, one of the settlers, who had seen and conversed with him, as he passed, had occasion to go to the son-in-law's. When he reached there, he naturally enquired for the old man. The young man said he expected him from town, but that he had not yet arrived. "Not arrived!" said the other, with astonishment, "why, he passed my house on such a day." This alarmed the young man, who knew his father-in-law would, of course, go to his house. He therefore went immediately, with two or three persons, in search of him, but ranged through a considerable tract of the woods in vain.

The whole of the next day, about thirty of the neighbours were dispersed through the country, in different directions; discharging their pieces occasionally, and calling him

by name, but no trace of him could be discovered. They encamped during the night; renewed the search in the morning; continued it all day, but without success; and, in the evening, were obliged to relinquish it, and give him up for lost.— While his son-in-law, who had just returned, fatigued, and almost in despair, was sitting at the door of his house, he fancied he heard the sound of a human voice proceeding from the wood; he listened, and heard it repeated; and immediately took his gun, and went in the direction whence the sound issued. He had not proceeded above 40 or 50 yards, until he discovered the old man lying down; who, when he observed him, rose as hastily as possible, and attempted to run from him, in quite a contrary direction. He was very weak; had not the least recollection of the young man; and, on being brought into the house, would not believe it was his son-in-law's. He was exceedingly hungry, but (which was re-

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markable, from the state of his mind), ate very sparingly, from prudential motives. When he recovered, he stated that he had been lost, for several days, in the woods; and, during the whole time, had only eaten a small quantity of wild sorrel upon one occasion, when very thirsty. He had not previously been in the country for a long time; he had, therefore, forgotten the road, and was allowed to go astray by an insolent boy, who gave him a very impertinent answer, when he enquired of him the way.

Wednesday—We took leave of this delightful spot, and its hospitable inhabitants, who had been very kind to us; and returned to town. While descending a hill, at a smart trot, the cart Mr. B—— was in, being near the side of the road, one of the wheels came in contact with the end of a large log that was lying near, which raised it so high that the cart upset, and Mr. B—— being undermost, fell across some logs on the opposite side. I was on before, in the other cart, but, as

I happened to be looking back at the moment, I saw the accident, and thought something dreadful must have been the consequence. My driver stopped his horse, and he and I ran to my friend's assistance, but were agreeably surprised to find that neither Mr. B—, the driver, horse nor cart, had sustained the least injury, although the two latter were completely over-turned.

As we proceeded, we had an opportunity of seeing the country, which we had been deprived of, when going up, by the darkness of the night. We crossed a canal, in the seigniory of St. Giles, formed, entirely, at the individual expense of Mr. Calwell, the proprietor of the adjoining seigniory, for the purpose of conveying timber to the St. Lawrence, from the interior. It must have been a very expensive undertaking, being, for five miles, cut through a thick wood. We passed through a pleasant district, called St. John's, inhabited by Canadians\* : it is a very extensive plain ; the

\*This term is *particularly* applied to the descendants

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road leading through the centre; along which, as I have already observed, the houses are situated. The land, divided into long, narrow lots, is neatly fenced off, in fields of an oblong square form, and apparently in rather a good state of cultivation; but, as there is not a tree on the whole plain, except those that bound it, it has a very formal and naked appearance.

According to the information I received, the Canadians are but indifferent farmers; as the method of agriculture, most generally practised by them, is to divide the farm into two parts, which they alternately graze and crop yearly, without giving the land time to recruit; and when it is exhausted they call it *old* land. The soil, in the immediate neighbourhood of Quebec, and on the opposite side of the St. Lawrence, for several miles, is, in general, of a very inferior descrip-

of the old French, who first settled in this country. Their language is the French, and they reside, principally, in the Lower province.

tion; sandy, encumbered with rocks, and, therefore, incapable of much improvement. The Canadians, notwithstanding, appear to be very contented and happy: they have neither tax nor cess to pay, and, although they pay rent in all the seigniorly lands, it is merely a nominal thing; half-a-crown per acre, for the two, three, or four front acres of the lots. It is most gratifying to an individual, just from Ireland, to observe the comforts and convenience these people enjoy. Every farmer has a good, comfortable house; commodious offices, capable of containing all his crop; for they are not in the habit of stacking their grain, &c.; a sufficient stock of cattle of every description; a handsome light cart or *calash*,\* for the accommodation of his family during the summer, and a *cariole*† for winter; in fact, every convenience his necessities require.

As far as one is capable of judging from appearances, the Canadian peasantry are as

\*A kind of gig.

†A sledge for riding in.

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happy as any people, of that class, in the world, if not much more so. They are unacquainted with the oppressions and privations endured by those in the greater part of Europe. They have no heavy burden of rent to groan under; no harsh and cruel tyrant of an agent or landlord, to seize their crop or stock, or drive them from the humble, but cherished, cottage of their ancestors; no bailiff nor constable to torment them for cess; no unwelcome visitor from the excise office, to exact money from them, for the privilege of enjoying the light of the sun in their habitations, or for their horse, dog, gig, &c. No execrable informer, to have them fined for shooting the wild birds and animals that destroy their crops: in short, they are in complete possession of those grand desiderata of the human mind, so indispensably requisite to its happiness, liberty and independence; they enjoy the fruits of their labour, and live in tranquillity and peace. The women

weave a kind of coarse woollen cloth, for mens' clothes, and another description for petticoats, &c. ; they also weave linen for shirts; make soap and a variety of articles, which European women know how to obtain only by money. In their manners, the Canadians are civil, and courteous to strangers, without, however, being in the least degree servile, or compromising their native independence of mind ; and, among themselves, they are very polite, with all the external formalities of civility.

Travelling through many parts of Lower Canada, that have been settled many years ago, by the Canadians, reminds one of the territory of Sparta, in the time of Lycurgus, after the celebrated division of the lands. "Does not Laconia look like an estate, which several brothers have been dividing among them?" asked that famous legislator : and this part of Canada conveys the idea, of several large families of brothers having had the paternal estates divided equally among them ; the people

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appear to be so nearly on an equality in circumstances, appearance and manners. There is no splendour to be met with among them, except in very few instances; but, in general, they enjoy comfort, neatness, and convenience to a great extent.— This observation is to be understood to apply to the country, eight or ten miles and upwards, from the principal towns, and on the south side of the St. Lawrence; as, in the neighbourhood of Quebec, Montreal, &c. there are many large and elegant houses, with ornamented lands; the property of respectable individuals in town; which, of course, remove that appearance of equality: About ten o'clock we reached the ferry-house, and at one landed in Quebec.

This city, which is situated at the confluence of the rivers St. Lawrence and St. Charles, is divided into two towns, called Upper and Lower: the former stands on a high rock, which is nearly perpendicular on the south side, next Point Levy; but

with a gentle descent to the north and west; and is entirely enclosed by a high, strong, well-built stone wall, on which a great number of long pieces of cannon, mortars, &c. are mounted.

The houses are, in general, of stone; some of them handsome and spacious.— The streets are very irregular; only two or three of which are paved, the rest were, at this time, undergoing Mr. M'Adam's system of improvement; but were previously gravelled; with raised parapets at the sides, enclosed by logs of wood, instead of flags, for the accommodation of foot passengers.

The public buildings are, in general, creditable to the city, consisting of the English cathedral, a large, plain, commodious edifice; neatly finished inside, and having a good organ and choir. It has no bells; a set was ordered from England, during the late American war, but the vessel they were shipped in, was captured by the Americans, and none have since been

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provided. A second Episcopal church, or chapel of ease, now erecting; as from the great increase of the members of that church of late, the cathedral is not sufficiently large to contain them. The Independent chapel; the Presbyterian church; the French cathedral, a much larger building than the English one, but not so handsome; and three Roman Catholic churches, within the walls; two nunneries; a R. C. college; a very handsome court-house, and a large gaol. The chateau, or Governor's castle; a long building, seated on the verge of the great precipice, which it actually overhangs; being supported by buttresses on the side next the river; and, owing to its situation, when seen from the water, has a frightful appearance.

One of the barracks is an old convent, about the centre of the city, very large, and of a square form, four or five stories high; capable of containing two large regiments: the others are at Cape Dia-

mond, a very strongly fortified citadel; situated on a lofty eminence, above the town.

It struck me, as rather a strange circumstance, with respect to the new theatre, or circus, which is a shabby building, that it stands in the same small enclosure with the new Protestant church, and almost touching it. Whether symbolical of the little hostility that exists, in Quebec, between the several exercises for which they were constructed, or not, I do not feel prepared to say: but, I should be inclined to hope, that it is rather an indication of the march of piety in this city; and of the successful animosity that religion cherishes against this school of vice; by taking up this position, for the purpose of driving satan from his new haunt, and converting it into a nursery of virtue; as has lately been effected, in the case of the old theatre, which is now used as a Methodist chapel. The House of Assembly, or Parliament House, is very plain, and much more shab-

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by and neglected than any of the other public buildings of the city. The Lower Town is situated along the water side, at the foot of the rock. It is long and narrow, and the principal place for mercantile business: the merchants, in general, reside, or have their offices here. There is a small French church, market-place, &c. in it. It extends round the shore, to the north side of the hill, where it is joined by St. Roque's suburbs; which have been much increased during the last ten years. Immediately above St. Roque's, in a north westerly direction, are St. John's suburbs, containing a great number of houses.—When seen from the water, Quebec has a rather curious appearance, in consequence of its being divided into two towns; but a respectable one, on account of its grand and formidable fortifications. A large ferry-boat plies between this city and Point Levy, impelled by wheels, in the same manner as a steam-vessel; but horses are used as substitutes for steam.

Friday—I walked out, with a friend, to the Plains of Abraham, which are about a mile from St. Louis gate. Wherever I turned my eye, extensive improvement presented itself; the lands along the road that were formerly laid out in fields, are now, in a great measure, occupied with houses, and enclosed in gardens, &c.

As I crossed the memorable ground where the great and decisive battle was fought, that placed Quebec, and with it, I may say, all Canada, into the possession of the British, I felt an impression of awe and reverence, as if treading upon more than common ground. Here, thought I, the enterprising and immortal Wolfe, after incredible difficulty and perseverance, had the satisfaction of enjoying the prospect of a glorious issue to all his toils, in the possession of the ground where the long and arduous contest, in which he had been engaged, was now to be decided. “I have led you up those steep and dangerous rocks,” said he, to his soldiers, pointing to

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the high and rugged precipice, up which he had contrived to conduct them ; “ only solicitous to shew you the enemy within your reach. A *perfidious* enemy, who have dared to exasperate you with their cruelties, but not to oppose you on open ground, are now constrained to meet you on the open plain ; without ramparts or entrenchments to shelter them.” And I could almost fancy I heard him repeat to them the stimulating and most important warning of the great Hannibal, of old, to *his* soldiers ; as the respective situations and circumstances of the two armies were so nearly alike, as naturally to call it forth : “ Here, then, soldiers, you must either *conquer* or *die*, the very first hour you meet the enemy ; for you there is no *middle* fortune between death and victory.”

In the bloom of life, and elate with the hope of a glorious triumph, the valiant general thus addressed his heroes ; and they, flushed with the same generous ardour, caught the “ soul-inspiring sound.”

But, alas! what a change did one eventful hour produce!—That noble, manly, active form, which, one hour, graced Britannia's valiant band, and led them on to conquest, lay extended lifeless, the next, on yonder cold and flinty rock; surrounded by some of his faithful companions in arms, who silently gave way to manly grief, and deplored the irretrievable loss. That breast, which glowed with enthusiasm, and patriotic zeal, in the service of his country, for ever ceased to throb; that heart, which beat high in honor's cause, and was the seat of many a noble and refined feeling, for ever ceased its motion; that tongue, which spoke forth the honorable and manly sentiments of his mind, and imparted them to others; that was so often wont to remind his followers of their duty to their king and country, and urge them on to deeds of valour, resigned its office; and the soul, the immortal part, which animated the whole, and directed all their operations, returned to the God who gave it.

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But his last breath was resigned in the arms of victory ; his last moments were gilded with glorious conquest. He had the consolation of being sensible that his death, and that of many of his brave fellow-soldiers, would be productive of splendid and never-fading laurels to his army, and substantial, glorious advantages to his country. This gratifying idea deprived death of its sting, and enabled the devoted hero to resign a life, which had long been appropriated to the service of his country, with cheerfulness and satisfaction.

Many a valiant British hero, besides the General, fell here that day, and purchased the splendid victory with their blood. They heard the inspiring address of their beloved Commander ; they had a full view of the far-famed city of Quebec ; they gazed upon the pleasant and lively scenery around them, and probably exulted in the hope of soon reaping the reward of all their toils and fatigues.—One fatal hour changed the scene !—Prostrate, on the ground, and

bathed in blood, their ears were deaf to the yet animating voice of their leader; Quebec, the object of their ardent wishes, and but a short distance from them, they must never reach; their eyes were closed for ever upon all terrestrial objects; and their hopes of the moment, which were to have been fulfilled here, were transferred, for that purpose, above!

In all probability, not one of their companions, who survived that day, and enjoyed their hardly-earned laurels, is now in existence: many years have elapsed since the ever-memorable event occurred: the cannon's noisy roar, the clash of arms, the shrill trumpet's sound, the deadly fury of contending enemies; of which these plains were that day the awful scene, have, long since, spent their rage; and their furious actors, friends and enemies, now sleep in peace.

I have, myself, in later years, seen this plain converted into the "tented field," and occupied by noble bands of Britain's

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sons ;—I have seen them march, in proud array, over the celebrated heights, and perform their skilful evolutions ; while they seemed to say, “ shew us our enemy, that we may engage him.” But two or three years elapsed, when scarce one was to be found ! The trumpet of war summoned them to battle—often did they cause the foe to groan under the power of their arm, and crouch at their feet ; but, frequently engaging in the combat, they, in turn, were cut off by degrees, and nobly fell in support of their country’s cause !

When I now pass the barrack which they occupied, where I so frequently saw them parade, in all their military pomp ; when I remember that the place that *knew them* then so well, now *knows them no more*, I am deeply affected by the solemn idea, of the shortness and uncertainty of human life, and all human enjoyments ; and heartily desire I could transfer the interest I feel in them to those enjoyments above, which are perfect in duration, as well as in excellence.

Saturday, 8th July—Mr. G——, who had lately come down from Leeds, having consented to return there with me, he and I embarked on board a batteau, for St. Nicholas's Mills. While sailing up the river, we were entertained with the simple melody of the Canadian boat song: the men sang a verse, or part of a verse, and were then followed by the females, who took up their part very readily; and their fine clear voices, keeping time with the motion of the oars, had a pleasing effect.

We landed at the ferry-house about one o'clock; and at two proceeded on our journey, in Mr. G——'s cart. The weather was so excessively hot that I was obliged to take off my coat, and ride without it. We stopped at a house, about ten miles from the ferry, where we got tea, or rather a meal, that served for dinner and tea, consisting of roast pigeons, excellent cheese, bread and butter, eggs and tea, for *nine pence* each; and a feed of oats for the horse, *four pence*.

We arrived to the great annoyance of the people who were locked in the room. They were enjoying themselves more than that they could be by a full slumber, but the intrusion.

Monday, and I walked within a few minutes observed not exactly minutes, but by a young man who soon after the former was before we had informed that he had burned to death. We saw a man had the arm, the proper As th



We arrived at C—— about 12 o'clock, to the great surprise and, no doubt, annoyance of the family; who, comfortably locked in the paralyzing arms of Morpheus, were enjoying other "visions of the night" than that of being roused from their peaceful slumbers, by our most unseasonable intrusion.

Monday—In the afternoon, Miss G—— and I walked over to Mr. L——'s. When within a short distance of the place, we observed a great smoke, which we could not exactly account for; but in a few minutes, we met Miss L——, accompanied by a young man that resides with the family, who soon set our speculations at rest. The former was very much agitated, and, before we had time to enquire the cause, they informed us that their house had just been burned to the ground; and that the smoke we saw proceeded from it. The young man had received a severe contusion on the arm, while exerting himself to save the property, during the conflagration.

As they were on their way to Mr.

G——'s, Miss G—— turned with them, while I went forward to the unfortunatespot. On approaching the place, where, about two hours before, the house had stood, a melancholy prospect presented itself. The furniture, trunks, &c. that had been preserved, lay scattered along the opposite side of the road; the father of the family, an elderly man, stood in the middle of them, leaning over a fence; with his face towards the fields and woods, and his back to the scene of his misfortunes; as if the operations of both thought and vision were more than even his manly feelings were adequate to cope with. One of his sons was sitting on a chair, at a short distance from him, with his back towards him; his coat off; his head supported by both hands, which rested on his knees; and his face towards the ground; apparently concentrating the various and conflicting emotions, the scattered and tumultuous feelings of the mind, into one point; and, by giving due attention to their respective jarring

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claims to the ascendancy over him, he was about to come to some important decision, for the regulation of his future conduct. Neither appeared to speak a word; and the remains of the house were still smoking and burning, with a crackling noise.

There was something peculiarly affecting in the scene that lay before me, as I advanced within full view of it: I was impressed with an intense feeling of sympathy for the distressing situation of the sufferers; and, when I reached them, I expressed my regret for the calamitous circumstance; naturally expecting to find them greatly dejected: but I was much pleased with the manly fortitude they displayed upon the trying occasion; particularly the old man, who gave me a full account of the affair, and commented upon it with all the composure of a philosopher.

The house had been a temporary one, built of wood; and, it appeared, that the beam at the top of the roof, which rested on the chimney, not being well secured,

had caught fire, and communicated it to the roof, as it was there the fire commenced. The son and daughter were the only persons about the house when the flames were first observed ; but the father and the young man, whose arm was injured, soon hastened to the spot, and endeavoured to reduce them, but in vain : the shingles, with which the house was covered, were so dry that they burned like paper, and it was found quite impossible to extinguish them.

The greater part of the furniture, &c. on the ground floor, was saved ; but a great number of valuable articles, in the upper apartments, were consumed. The loss of property was not the only bad consequence arising from this unfortunate accident : the place was at a distance from any other, where the family might procure lodgings, until a new house could be erected ; and, besides the great inconvenience they must experience, it was a most heartless occurrence, so soon after going to a new settlement.

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And here a lesson of instruction may also be gleaned, upon the propriety of a person being aware how he builds his hopes and expectations upon appearances, however auspicious ; or reposes confidence in the security that seems to surround him. While one man hears of another's ruin, occasioned by venturing his property on the dangerous and uncertain ocean ; he congratulates himself, perhaps, that he has no concern with that fatal element ; and rejoices in his safety : while he hears of another being reduced to poverty, owing to the failure of his agents, or those with whom he was connected in business ; he piques himself upon his prudence in not trusting his property in the hands of other men : while another suffers severely from a great depression in the markets ; another by bad crops ; another by being discharged from a lucrative situation ; and others, from a variety of unfortunate circumstances, made partakers in the calamities of life ; he hears all with a cold

“I’m sorry for it ;” unmindful of his own liability to fall : when, possibly, a fire breaks out where he little expected it ; the whole, or a great part of his *secure* property, which, perhaps, through neglect, or from economical motives, was not insured, is reduced to its original nothingness, and vanishes into air ; and he taught “to feel another’s woe,” and participate in the miseries that, but yesterday, could scarcely excite his commiseration ; and which he placed at such a distance from himself that they could not reach him.

Tuesday—I took an excursion with one of Mr. G——’s sons into the woods, to visit the boundaries of my lots ; and to examine three others, immediately behind them, that I had a view of obtaining from government. When we set out, we directed our course towards a farm in the back concession, which a settler had commenced clearing ; and we were guided, on our way to it, by notches that he had cut on trees, which, like Ariadne’s clue, of

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old, conducted us, with precision, through the woody maze.

On reaching it, we had a complete specimen of a new settlement in America.— An opening in the wood, of a square form, presented itself ; with large piles of trees, of various sizes, collected in different parts, prepared for burning : single trees, too large for drawing or piling, but black from having been fired, lay scattered along the ground, also, in several places. The stumps of the trees were standing all through it, from two to four feet high ; and the ground between them displaying its first crop, for the sustenance of man, since the creation : this was potatoes, which had been planted in small hillocks, with the hoe, (it being altogether impracticable to introduce the plough, until the roots are removed,) and just appearing above the surface. A small cabin, built of logs, that served as a temporary shelter, until the proprietor could erect a better, situated in one corner, completed the scenery of this lonely spot.

Surely, thought I, while taking a passing view of the place, the man must be possessed of more than ordinary fortitude and perseverance, who can leave the bosom of society and improvement, and, after penetrating a considerable distance into a thick forest, apparently never before trodden by man, begin, with composure and determination, to hew out a residence for himself and his posterity ! Even now, I can almost imagine I behold him just arrived at the tree which is to be the first victim to his ruthless hatchet. I think I see him pause, for a moment, to take a view of his situation ; and, casting an anxious glance around him, as he finds his prospect circumscribed to a few paces ; all about him gloomy and solitary ; and, as he reflects, for an instant, upon the labour and privations he must endure, the difficulties he has to contend with, and the time that must elapse, before he can reap any advantage in return ; I see him shake his weary head, and heave the deep-drawn sigh ; before he commences his arduous

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undertaking ; while the sympathetic sigh, from my own breast, responds to his imaginary one, and affords relief to the bosom oppressed with the fancied woes of another.

I can next imagine I see a ray of hope beam suddenly in his eye, and diffuse light and satisfaction over his care-oppressed countenance : I can see him seize the keen-edged hatchet, and, with a firm and determined grasp, prepare for laying the foundation of his future ease, by felling the stately and elegant cumberers of his ground. The gratifying, ample reward of his toil, has just presented itself, in its most lively and flattering colours, to his fond imagination ; it nerves his arm ; enlivens his spirits ; and, fortifying him against despondency and heartlessness ; while the silent prayer ascends to his God, now his only, but all-sufficient friend, for a blessing upon his humble undertaking ; he makes the forest resound with the well-directed, deep-cutting blows of his faithful axe.

Having penetrated to the centre of the

unwieldy trunk, where his cuts, at first far distant, meet, he turns to the opposite side; and, after a repetition of his exertions, the majestic, high-towering, venerable monarch of the wood falls, "with rattling, crackling, crashing thunder down."

Attentively fixed upon his continued efforts, the mind is pleased in beholding what the humble, feeble arm of man is capable of effecting. In a short time, the overgrown, impenetrable forest, the haunt of savage beasts of prey, is converted into the smiling plain; cottages appear; and man, the legal, authorized lord of the soil, assumes his sovereignty; while his irrational and terrified subjects flee before him; and, rejecting his yoke and society, leave him in quiet possession of the domain.

We left this open spot; and, striking into the woods, followed the land marks, along the boundaries of my lots, for a considerable distance; then, for the purpose of viewing those behind, we ventured to explore a great range of forest,

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without any other guide than the sun, to whose rays the thick foliage of the trees was almost impervious ; and, after wandering through it for several hours, for my part not knowing in what direction, to my great satisfaction, we found ourselves suddenly at the opening whence we had departed.

Shortly after our return to Mr. G——'s the weather, which, during the day, had been fine, changed ; thick, black clouds obscured the sky, and poured down torrents of rain ; while dreadful lightning, in vivid flashes, played through the darkened air ; and, followed by most terrific thunder, seemed to threaten every thing around with instant destruction.

I should be inclined to rank these phenomena of this country, which are certainly most frightful, among *my* greatest objections to it. A person, acquainted only with the climate of England or Ireland, could not possibly form an idea of their awfulness in Canada ; and the effects

of lightning are frequently very dreadful here. One melancholy instance occurred in Quebec, during the summer of 1824.

A young military officer, who was extremely fond of observing the awful grandeur exhibited by it in the air, was standing at the window of his quarters one evening, during a thunder storm. His servant, who was in the kitchen, immediately underneath, and who had left him only a few minutes before, heard a great noise overhead, like that of some thing falling: he instantly ran up to his master's room, where he found the former stretched upon the floor, a lifeless corpse; evidently from the effects of lightning. As he had been an amiable young man, his death excited much regret; which was greatly augmented by the circumstance of his having been "the only son of his mother, and she was a widow."

The magazines, public buildings, and houses of private individuals, who can afford it, are provided with iron conductors

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for attracting the lightning, thereby securing them against its effects. Another great annoyance, in this country, during the summer, is the torment caused by the mosquitoes and midges, which sting dreadfully; the common house flies also swarm in great abundance.

Wednesday—Pigeon shooting being a very favourite amusement in this country, at this season of the year, owing to the immense flocks with which the woods abound; I arose early, and, with young Mr. G——, sallied forth, “with intent to kill” all that I should have sufficient fortune or dexterity to get within reach of. The pigeons were plentiful, consequently we had fine sport. My companion shot a beautiful bird, the blue jay; nearly the size of a magpie; about two inches of the tip end of the large feathers are blue, and the remainder of a bluish grey and white. There are several very handsome birds here, peculiar to the country; particularly one of a bright scarlet colour, about the size of a lark; a

very showy, splendid bird ; its name, however, I could not ascertain. It appears that this species is not very numerous, as only one has been seen at a time in Leeds.

From the summit of a hill that we ascended, during our morning's excursion, I had a very extensive view of the surrounding country. A thick forest, of lofty trees, covered nearly the whole face of it ; and, as I fixed my attention upon the silent and inanimate scene, I fancied I saw in it a lively picture of the great civilized world, which is animated by creation's noblest production, man ; and that is such a busy, bustling scene, but a few miles off.

Some of the trees, as if desirous of being distinguished from the rest, and first to attract the observer's attention, raise their lofty heads above their more humble neighbours, and appear too haughty to hold any communication with them ; while, with their shapeless forms and gay attire, they seem to claim the respect of the other trees of the forest.

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Another set, apparently stimulated by an equal desire for distinction; rise above the multitude; but, being rejected by their proud neighbours, and refusing to mix with those beneath them; are satisfied to remain in a kind of middle rank.

Immediately below, is a vast collection of a variety of kinds; that appear to harmonize pretty well together, yet seem anxious to outvie each other in the richness, colour, and profusion of their clothing. Some bear evident tokens of old age and decay; some are in the full vigour of growth and beauty; while others have not attained that state, but are coming forward, to supply the places of those that are shortly to fall victims to the unfeeling hand of time, and return to the earth from which they sprang.

Man, who is endowed by his Creator with a ray of Divine light; and to whom all the inferior works of creation are put in subjection; comes to the forest, capable of distinguishing the different sorts

that suit his purposes. He is no respecter of size or kind ; he does not say, " this is a tall, handsome, or good kind of tree ; I will leave it, and take that short, insignificant one ;" but, as they answer him, the axe is laid to the root, and they are hewn down ; old, middle-aged and young, all fall, without distinction, as his purposes require.

Sometimes he finds it useful and requisite to send a fire through the forest, to clear the land of its encumbering growth : this, like a pestilence, sweeps all that it meets in its way ; high and low, handsome and ugly, useful and worthless ; all become a prey to the devouring, undiscerning element.

Sometimes the raging whirlwind, in its boisterous career, visits the forest with its fury : then the tall, the lofty trees, which, proudly towering above their fellows, singly offer resistance to its progress, and catch its most violent blasts, are indignantly torn up by the roots, and hurled, in vengeance, to the ground ; where their once beauti-

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ful and stately figures moulder and decay ; and, being reduced to heaps of rottenness, disfigure the ground, which, but a short time before, they had ornamented ; while those that were content to remain on a level with the great body of their neighbours, without soaring beyond the regular height, find security in their numbers ; and, by opposing their united force, successfully resist the shock, and find it pass harmlessly over their heads.

In the afternoon, we visited Mr. G——'s sugar-house, or place for preparing maple sugar ; which is merely a shed, containing a large boiler, and a number of barrels.—The process of making this article, from the sap of the maple tree, is extremely simple. In the spring a small hole is made in the trunk of the tree, near the ground, into which a short stick or tube is inserted, projecting two or three inches, that conducts the sap into a trough, placed under it. The sap is then collected in barrels, boiled to a consistency, and put into

wooden shapes, where it remains until it cools, when it becomes quite hard and fit for use.

Immense quantities of this sugar are made, annually, in Canada; and it is in very common use among the inhabitants. It has a very peculiar, though agreeable, flavour; but is not equal to that produced from the cane, when used in tea, &c.

We afterwards visited Mr. L——'s manufactory of potash: the process of making the latter is also perfectly simple. A large vat is nearly filled with wood ashes; into this is poured a quantity of water, which, when sufficiently impregnated with the ashes, is drained off and boiled to a consistency: when cold, it becomes hard, and fit for putting in barrels, &c.

This article, and the maple sugar, prove great sources of profit and advantage to the settlers, in this country; as the materials are obtained without any expense, and afford an ample remuneration for the time and trouble required in preparing

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them. The former usually yields, at Quebec, between three and four pounds per barrel, and the latter from four to five pence per pound.

It was peculiarly gratifying to me to observe the good feeling, and harmony, that appear to exist among the settlers in this new country: they consider each other neighbours, though separated, perhaps, by a distance of several miles, and are always ready to assist each other in any case of emergency.

The first indispensable proceeding of a new settler, on coming to his farm, is to build a house: when he has the timber prepared he informs his neighbours, who assemble immediately, and put it up for him. If he require the use of a yoke of oxen for a short time, (for oxen are very much used here for labour) or any other little accommodation of that kind, he is at once supplied, until he can provide himself with similar articles of his

own. If his farm lie in a back concession,\* it is necessary to open a road from the main road to it ; the neighbours therefore assemble with their hatchets, and perform the task for him in a short time. In short, they are ready to afford him any assistance in their power ; and this, of course, lays him under the obligation of being equally kind and accomodating in turn, when his good offices may be required. Envy and enmity are hereby removed from the settlement, and the inhabitants united in the bonds of friendship, and reciprocal kindness.

It is much to be lamented that such an immense tract of fine land should be lying waste in this delightful country, which, with two or three years hard labour, at the commencement, is capable of rendering its possessors comfortable and independent for life ; while such a vast number of peo-

\* The Government lands are divided into rectilinear ranges, called concessions.

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ple, in the United Kingdom, are dragging out a long life of hardship, toil, anxiety, and, I might almost say, slavery ; for which they are but badly recompensed ; and are seldom better, in their declining years than when they began.

The land here, is divided into townships ; these differ from the seigniories ; being crown lands, granted in lots, of 240 acres each, to different individuals ; whereas, a seigniorie is a tract, consisting of from 6 to 20 or 30 square leagues ; the property of one person ; and rented to tenants, according to the European method. The lots in the townships, contain 9 acres in breadth, and 27 in depth ; which is a much more convenient form for a farm than the Canadian plan.

The settlers generally clear all the front acres of their lots, or those adjoining the road, in the first instance. They hew the trees down, collect them together in great piles, and burn them ; the fire also removes all the brush-wood, small shrubbery,

&c. and clears the surface of every thing that would obstruct labour, except the roots of the trees. The first year, they take a crop of potatoes or barley off it, and the following one a crop of wheat, when they lay it down in grass, for another year or two, in order to allow the roots time to decay; they then tear the latter up with the assistance of oxen, and have no further trouble than the ordinary labour.

The expense of clearing land, and preparing it for cultivation, to those who choose to employ others for that purpose, is £3 per acre; which, as well as the cost of labour, is abundantly repaid by the first crop.

The different kinds of wood that grow in Leeds are beech, birch of various sorts, elm, maple of two kinds, ash, iron-wood, so called from its remarkably hard nature, generally used in this country for axle-trees of carts, &c. red and white pine, cedar, hemlock, larch, spruce, &c. The soil is excellent, producing the best wheat and

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other grain ; and limestone has lately been discovered in one of my lots ; which will prove of great advantage to the township ; as all the lime, hitherto used here, has been brought from Quebec. A grist, or corn-mill, and saw-mill, two miles from C—, are also of great convenience to the neighbourhood.

Thursday—The time was now arrived when I must bid a long farewell to this peaceful retreat, with all its rural pleasures. I felt a considerable degree of regret at the idea ; which, however, gave place to the more pleasing one of soon seeing my family and friends, from whom my separation now began to feel long.

We left Mr. G—'s at seven o'clock, and proceeded towards Quebec. On our way, I had the satisfaction to observe that, during my stay at Leeds, the road had undergone considerable improvement in many places, which, from having been excessively bad, we found very good. This sudden alteration, however strange it may,

perhaps appear, is by no means surprising; for, the surface being sandy, and the bottom hard, it is merely necessary, in order to make a good road here, to level and drain it.

The Canadian *road act* appeared to me a rather singular one, and, perhaps, an arbitrary infringement on that glorious and justly boasted liberty of which Columbia's shores seem now the native soil: but as the apparently aggrieved party is himself the very first to derive benefit from it, a moment's reflection will probably be sufficient to divest it of its unpleasing aspect: viz. every farmer is obliged to keep the part of the road, bridges, &c. next his land in good repair; and, in case of neglect, is liable to a penalty of ten pounds for each offence: he is, also, compelled to fill the situation of supervisor of roads for the district, for one year, in his turn; when it is his duty to keep a very watchful eye over them, and enforce the necessary repairs; and in the event of neglect

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of duty on his part, he is also liable to a severe penalty, although he is allowed no remuneration whatever for his trouble and loss of time.

During the day we passed several farms in the seigniory of St. Giles, the houses on which were unoccupied, and closed up; and the fields unsown. On enquiring the cause I was informed that, in one instance, after the proprietor had succeeded in clearing a considerable tract, and was beginning to feel the benefits of his industry, he was cutting down a tree, which, by some accident, fell upon and killed him. In the other cases, the heads of the families having had occasion to go to Quebec early in the spring, after the ice had broken up in the river, but before the latter was properly navigable, were under the necessity of crossing it in a large canoe, in which a yoke of oxen was embarked: these being laid down in the canoe, became uneasy, while at a distance from land, and, by moving violently, upset

it, when all on board perished, except one or two individuals.

When within a short distance of the ferry, we heard a great noise issuing from a small wood before us ; and, on advancing a little farther, we observed, in an opening in it, a large new lighter, with several flags flying, having about twenty yoke of oxen attached, four a-breast, drawing it out of the wood, where it had been built, to the river. The horns of the oxen were also decorated with ribbons ; and from the number of people of both sexes, assembled, and their satisfaction at seeing the vessel move along in safety, it was evidently a matter of considerable interest in the neighbourhood. It was placed upon a machine made for the purpose, moving upon a number of low thick wheels ; and when brought upon the road, along which it had to proceed about half a mile before reaching the river, the oxen drew it very steadily, and without much difficulty.

We arrived at the ferry about seven

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o'clock. Two boats ply constantly between this place and Quebec, a distance of nine miles, for the accommodation of the country people going to market, travellers, &c. They go down the river with the ebb tide, and return when it flows the second time; the fare for which is *sevenpence half-penny* each, or *fourpence* for only going up or down.

The tide serving at twelve o'clock, we embarked in one of the *batteaux*, accompanied by a great number of country people, and proceeded down the river.

Nature, as if lamenting the departure of her bright companion of the day, had cast aside her smiling robe of green; and, arrayed in deepest sable garb, observed a pensive silence. She had lulled her noisy family to rest, and seemed herself absorbed in sleep, when we, like those who fear the day, and bent on secret dark design, stalk forth in midnight gloom, came stealing down the tide. Since last we glided down this flowing stream, how changed the

scene! The wood-crowned heights, in softest verdure clad, here, then, delightful smiled: the sheltered blooming vale, from every stormy blast secure, soft opening to the sun, to greet his kindly, health-bestowing beams, shone bright in varied hues—the expanded mead, with richest herbage decked, displayed a brilliant green; the darker hue of nature's noblest crown, in embryo now, as food for man designed, a modest contrast formed; extensive pastures, stored with grazing herds, a different shade combined—a striking emblem these of nature's great design in their production; for, although differing wide in richness, beauty, shade,—they all, united, yield one simple green, so all their products, of whatever kind, to one great point converge—the use of man. The toiling swain, oppressed by mid-day sun, and rejecting cumbersome dress, pursued his weary task: the stately ship, with swelling canvass clothed, swift riding o'er the flood, to Europe hied; or, still at anchor lay; her yawning mouth

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to fill \* with stores of useful wood, from Canadian forests hewn, to raise, in distant climes, the lofty dome, the painted bark to form, and various other uses to subserve. The gentle stream itself, just symbol of our quickly fleeting time, with silvery shining surface; here, ruffled by emerging rocks, there, smooth as ocean's breast, when not a breath prevails, rolled unperceived away. But now—enshrouded all were these in one impenetrable, sombre veil of night. No cheering sounds disturbed the silent air.—The boatman's ballad, wild, such as, while rowing down the tide in day's delightful dawn, assists his "labouring oar," no more was heard: the seaman's cheerful song while hoisting in the freight, which, all day long, amused the passing ear, had long since ceased; the birds, in downy

\* A ship's cargo of timber is hoisted on board through a large square aperture in the bow, a little above the level of the water.

nests retired, and wrapt in sleep, relieved  
their warbling throats; even

The watch-dog's voice that bays the whispering wind,  
And the loud laugh that speaks the vacant mind,

alike were mute—in solemn silence all these  
various sounds were hushed. The zephyr's  
gentle breath, expanding wide our sail, im-  
pelled us slowly on; but even this, as if at  
length fatigued with long-protracted toil,  
and prone to join the universal rest, died  
soft away.—Our oars came next in use:  
these, gently splashing in the quiet flood,  
urged on our sluggish bark; and music's  
powerful aid increased our speed apace—  
the Canadian boatman's song now sounded  
with effect: it first disturbed the peace  
that reigned around; and, mildly falling  
on the stilly air, proclaimed our dark ap-  
proach.

It was nearly three o'clock when we ar-  
rived at Quebec; and, on calling at a house  
in the Lower Town, I experienced a great  
disappointment on being informed that the

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Lord Wellington had sailed ; as I intended to have returned to Ireland in it.

Before I take leave of it, however, I shall notice the following amusing instance of the force of prejudice, that occurred here one day. This vessel was lying near one of the wharfs, full rigged, newly painted, and in regular sailing trim : and, being a very handsome model of a ship, attracted the attention of two English sailors, who had strolled down to the wharf to spend an idle hour. The extreme cleanliness, and exact regularity of every thing on board ; its shape, its fine figure-head, its rigging, and several other beauties, too tedious to mention, but of importance in the eye of a seaman, deservedly elicited their encomiums in no measured strains : in short, they were quite delighted with it. At length one of them, going, unluckily, to take a view of the stern, and to ascertain whether the vessel was of London, or Liverpool, Plymouth, &c. happened to read, " Lord Wellington, of Newry !" This ope-

rated like a thunderclap upon the honest tar; and his amazement and disappointment suddenly broke forth with a "Why,—my eyes, Bill, she's an *Irish* ship!" Bill participated in the feelings of his companion, and merely replied, with an "Is she by —!" when both, quite satisfied that they had, by that time, discovered *all* her perfections, walked off, evidently chagrined at having bestowed commendation where they conceived it *could not be deserved*; and reminding one of two dogs in a strange parish, in a large town, that, conscious of being no welcome visitors, hang their ears and tails, and slink off as quietly as possible, in order to avoid the consequences of their unwished for intrusion.

Were I to draw the national character of the English people from that of these two simple, shallow-minded, prejudiced seamen, and pronounce them, generally, an uncultivated and profane people, I should, in their minds, aye, and, after due reflection, in my own too, be considered

weak, illiberal, and only worthy of contempt; and yet, however weak, and yet, however illiberal, and yet, however contemptible, may perhaps be a just estimation in assessment, magnanimity, many other virtues, number of them, to act, this ignorant people.

That a narrow-minded Irish, is well acquainted with the thing bearing the character, pork, articles indeed stamped with less certain.

Now, to be equally shrewd, mine, were the ground. For, while



weak, illiberal, and unjust, and, therefore, only worthy of their pity and contempt: and yet, however bold and presumptive it may perhaps appear, I can have no hesitation in asserting that, although enlightened, magnanimous, great, and good, in many other respects, a considerable number of them have acted, and still continue to act, this weak, illiberal, and willingly ignorant part towards the Irish people.

That a strong prejudice exists in the minds of many of the English against the Irish, is well known to those who are acquainted with their country; and that any thing bearing the name of the latter—butter, pork, linen, and a few other trifling articles indeed excepted, is, in their minds, stamped with a mark of reproach, is no less certain.

Now, that this prejudice stands on an equally shallow and unjust foundation with mine, were I to form and entertain it on the grounds just mentioned, is evident.—For, while England's armies, the majority

of which consists of Irishmen, have carried their victorious standards from east to west, and from north to south; from Spain to India; from the Naze of Norway to the Cape of Good Hope, and from Buenos Ayres to Quebec, let them say, if they can, that Ireland's *contemptible* progeny have ever proved a barrier in their way to the attainment of that great and glorious object; or, rather, let them deny, if they feel warranted in doing so, that their undaunted bravery, intrepidity, and perseverance, have, in a very great measure, been the means by which it has been accomplished.

While her navies, to a considerable extent manned by Irishmen, have swept the stormy seas, and unfurled her triumphant banners, to the dismay, and, I might almost say, the annihilation of her enemies on the foaming deep; from pole to pole, and from the meridian of Greenwich, after a circumnavigation of the globe, back to the same, I defy them to assert that her glory

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has ever been sullied by the cowardice or worthlessness of Erin's sons.

While her cabinet has, under the direction of Providence, by its transcendent wisdom and policy, elevated two little islands, that, with respect to magnitude, would not be missed from one of the corners of some of the nations of the world, to the highest rank, nay, the pinnacle of power, of wealth, of glory and renown, will they venture to deny, that a large proportion of those lofty minds, whose exalted and penetrating intellects and capacities have, in a pre-eminent degree, graced her imperial senate, and guided the helm of state, have been, and still continue to be, natives of this long despised and vilified land?

While from the nature of her laws, customs, and institutions, she has been enabled to diffuse intellectual light and improvement over a great part of the world, but more especially to open wide the field of science to her own highly favoured sons; I would ask, have not a considerable num-

ber of those geniuses, who have contributed to this laudable object, and whose names shall descend to the latest posterity, with reverence and admiration, been sparkling, glittering gems of Hibernia's emerald isle?

When mirth, and wit, and wine have cheered the festive board, diffusing joy and gladness into every heart, have not Irishmen been distinguished, in a peculiar manner, for the facetious talent of "setting the table in a roar?"

And, lastly, though the most important of all; while England has been planting the sacred ensign of the cross in the dark and benighted regions of idolatry, paganism, and barbarity; and superseding the gloom of heathenism by the vivifying rays of the gospel of truth; has Ireland had no share in the sacred work? or, rather, has she not strenuously exerted herself, as far as her humble and limited capacity would admit, in assisting her sister country to fit out her legions of Christian warriors, for the purpose of dispatching them to the most remote and barbarous nations, to

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“fight the good fight of faith,” and extend the boundaries of the Saviour’s kingdom?— None, capable of answering these interrogatories, with correctness and impartiality, can refuse a reply highly favourable to Ireland.

And, notwithstanding all these prominent facts, well known to the world, staring them in the face, many of the English people brand our country with infamy, and still ask concerning it, as was anciently inquired of the place whence issued the most glorious object that the world e’er saw, “can any good thing come from” Ireland? merely because some of her lowest, meanest, and most degraded children, reduced to that state by circumstances over which they themselves could not possibly have any control, have been guilty of crimes and conduct, which, although of every day occurrence among hundreds of the same class of their own countrymen, are overlooked and forgotten!

Two East India ships arrived at Quebec,

from China, during my absence at Leeds; and it was a remarkable circumstance respecting them, that they sailed from Canton together, parted company in a day or two, and did not meet again until they arrived off the Cape of Good Hope, which both came in sight of on the *same day*. They separated again very shortly; and saw nothing of each other until they put into St. Helena *together*. They left that island in company, and, parting the first day, did not meet again until their arrival in Quebec, where both anchored on the *same day*, one but a few hours before the other, and were moored along side of each other, at the same wharf.

Friday—I strolled down to the river side, to enjoy the sight of the shipping, steam-boats, &c. The weather was delightful; the river calm, unruffled, and, like an immense mirror, reflected the various objects on its surface. Immediately off the wharf on which I was standing, and at no great distance, lay his Majesty's ship of

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war, — at anchor; full rigged, steady, and immoveable as a castle: a noble sight to every member of the United Kingdom, who has the honour and renown of his country at heart; and who, reflecting on its history, remembers how much he, in common with his fellow-subjects, is indebted to the navy of England for many of the advantages he enjoys; and the great share it has had in protecting and advancing the best interests of the nation. I always delighted in the sight of an English vessel of war; and I gazed, with rapture, on this part of the “wooden walls of old England.”

That ship, thought I, contains a number of those Britons, who are no less renowned for their transcendent valour and discipline in combat, than for mercy and compassion to a conquered enemy. There are men who, during the very heat of battle, would, no doubt, as some of their predecessors have already done, venture their lives, to snatch some of their perishing enemies from a watery grave, even though exposed

to destruction from the fury of the yet unvanquished part of their foes.

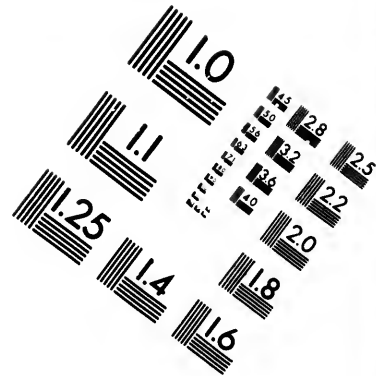
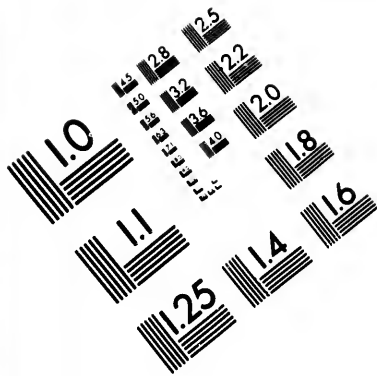
While I was exulting in this delightful reflection, which kindled in my breast a warm feeling for those generous spirits, and afforded me a lively satisfaction, in being able, from belonging to the country which they adorned and protected, with rapture to say, "these noble fellows are my countrymen," I observed a boat, in which were some officers and ladies, proceeding from the vessel towards the shore, and evidently steering for the slip, near which I happened to be standing at the moment. The military and naval uniforms are always attractive objects in the eye of the multitude: as the boat approached, therefore, many people, who were upon the wharf, hurried to the spot, in order to gratify their curiosity with a nearer view of those in it. In a few minutes it reached the slip, when two ladies, and two officers, one military the other naval, landed from it. The naval officer accompanied his friends to the upper

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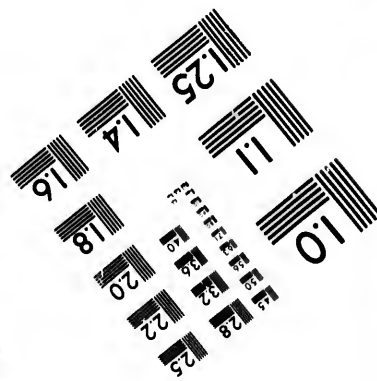
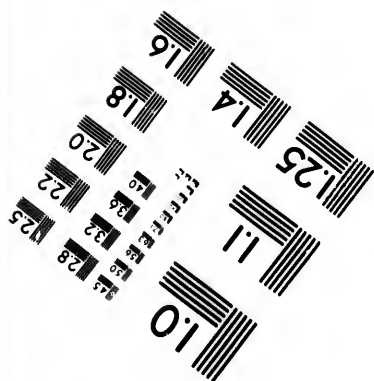
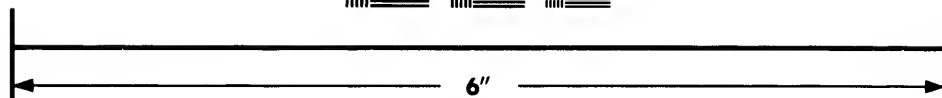
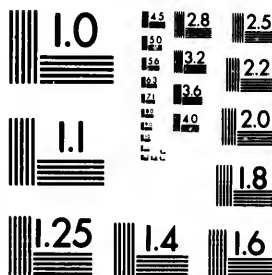


part of the wharf, where he took leave of them, and returned to the boat, into which he leaped; and had scarcely resumed his seat, when he cried out, in a very authoritative voice, to the man in the fore part of it, "shove off!" The man of course obeyed; but just as the boat was moving off, a gentleman of the officer's acquaintance walked down the slip; the boat was therefore brought along side, in order to take him on board. When seated, "shove off!" in a very commanding voice, was reiterated. The man, as far as I could judge, went about executing the order as promptly as possible; but, notwithstanding, he in a moment received another salute of "shove off! what the h--ll are you about, you sir?" in a most harsh and unfeeling manner. There was a considerable number of people on the wharf; and, no doubt, the man felt the severity of the expression, as it was calculated to sink him still lower in the estimation of the spectators, from being



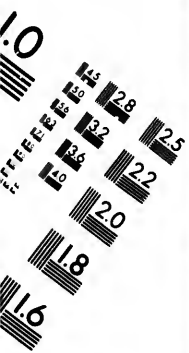


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obliged to endure, passively, unmerited rebuke; while, according to my impression at the moment, the other considered he raised himself in their eyes, by displaying such a vast superiority over him.

And had his conduct *really* this effect?—Not on *my* mind. Instead of increased respect, I could only feel contempt for the man who, to flatter his vanity, could trifle with the feelings of a fellow creature, incapable, from his situation, and circumstances in life, to repel undeserved asperity. If he can derive satisfaction from *such* a source, thought I, let him enjoy it; I envy not his feelings; but be *such* pleasure for ever a stranger to *my* breast.

This is not the only instance of this sort of conduct that I have witnessed in men possessing authority in the navy, &c. I apprehend it is too common; and I could not exclude from my mind the inconsistency of those who could treat a fallen enemy with kindness and attention, and yet,

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to gratify the pride of their hearts, can wantonly sport with the feelings of their own countrymen. But,

*A little rule, a little sway,  
A sunbeam in a winter's day,  
Is all the proud and mighty have  
Between the cradle and the grave.*

Saturday—Six or seven vessels arrived, from Ireland, with a great number of emigrants, who were brought over at the expense of Government, and destined for the upper parts of Canada. Settlers of this description are provided by Government with a certain portion of land, provision for themselves and families for one year, implements of husbandry suitable to the country, and conveyance, free of expense, to the place of their destination; upon condition of their occupying and improving their land; but they are not furnished with deeds of the grants until they have a house erected, and a stated number of acres, twelve, I believe, cleared. When they have fulfilled these conditions they re-

ceive title-deeds of their lots, which constitute them, and their posterity, sole and independent proprietors of them; *free from every charge whatever*; large tracts being reserved in different parts of the country for the clergy, in lieu of tithes.

It is much to the disadvantage of Canada that the great majority of the emigrants to it are persons without money; which, of course, retards the progress of improvement, of which it is so very susceptible, and keeps them for a length of time comparatively poor: whereas, if the head of each family possessed only a few hundred pounds, to enable him to clear fifty or sixty acres in the first instance, and labour and stock it, he would find himself so surrounded by comforts and conveniences of almost every kind, in two or three years, as to cause him to regret that he had remained in England, Ireland, or Scotland so long. I feel no hesitation whatever in asserting, that an industrious man, acquainted with agriculture, with three or four hundred

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pounds at the outset, would, in two or three years, with proper management, find himself possessed of advantages and comforts that twelve or thirteen hundred pounds would not, under ordinary circumstances, afford him in his own country. But the natural fondness for their native land; or, perhaps, a more powerful motive, an aversion to change, when attended with any degree of uncertainty, keeps at home, in poverty and misery, those who might enjoy, in Canada, independence, peace and abundance.

Sunday, 17th July—Just as I reached Mr. B.'s gate, on my way to church, a dog, belonging to one of the neighbours, supposed to be mad, stopped very near me, for the purpose of resting after having been pursued. The owner came up, but it did not run when he approached. He said he believed it was in a rabid state, and offered it a bit of bread, which it refused. The man's wife came running to us, and a little boy, of eleven or twelve years of age, came also. We, very foolishly, stood round the dog, and were



conversing respecting the probability of its being mad, when, in a moment, it sprang upon the little boy, and lacerated his leg and foot in a dreadful manner, before it could be killed : this, however, was effected in a short time, and an end put to its career.

And here I considered I narrowly escaped one of the most dreadful deaths to which mankind are exposed. My foot was, perhaps, touching the animal at the moment, and it might as well have caught hold of me as the boy, but that it was not agreeable to the will of that gracious Providence, whose almighty arm has still been extended over me for good ; and, perhaps, not conducive to the perfection of the great scheme of creation, in which it is necessary that "one shall be taken, and the other shall be left."

I was deeply impressed, by this circumstance, with the necessity that exists of being constantly prepared to quit this transitory scene ; seeing that we know not the

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moment, nor the shape in which, the grim messenger may appear and strike the fatal dart. It appeared to me a forcible warning to the young in particular, not to trust in their youth, nor consider it a sufficient safe-guard against the approach of the grisly monster, to induce them to put the evil day afar off.

In the regular course of events one would naturally have concluded that the boy would have been the *last* of the little group to be called hence; and yet, in a most unexpected moment and manner, he *first* received the summons. I fancied I heard the voice of wisdom in it, crying aloud, "be ye also ready, for ye know not the hour when the son of man cometh!"

The Canadians train up their dogs to draw carts and sledges; and it is both amusing and surprising to observe what a large load a good dog will draw. They are regularly harnessed like horses, with the exception of winkers and bridle, which are not used; a long strap or cord, fasten-

ed at one end to the upper part of the collar, serving for a long rein; which, however, is not necessary for guiding the dog, as he perfectly understands the verbal commands of the driver. I have been repeatedly informed by credible persons, that in Upper Canada they have seen four dogs drawing a large fishing net, with a man on the top of it, several miles together.

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## RECOLLECTIONS OF CANADA,

IN THE YEARS 1812-13.

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In August, 1812, I embarked at Quebec, with my mother and family, on board a small sloop, for Montreal, on our way to Kingston, Upper Canada, to join my father, who was there at the time with his regiment. We found this mode of conveyance extremely unpleasant, owing to there being a great number of passengers on board; but were under the necessity of adopting it, as the only steam-vessel at that time in the St. Lawrence was undergoing repair.— The wind being favorable when we sailed, we soon arrived at a bay, about 45 miles up the river, called Port Neuf; a place where ships are frequently built; and famous as a *resting place* for vessels going

up the river ; being situated at the foot of a very rapid part of the latter, up which they cannot proceed without a very strong and fair wind. Here our breeze forsook us, and changing to a contrary direction, obliged us to come to an anchor. In the evening the clouds began to collect, and soon gave indications of severe weather; and about ten o'clock we experienced a dreadful gale, accompanied with the most appalling thunder and lightning. These, under any circumstances, are terrible in this country, as I have already remarked; but inconceivably more so, situated as we were at the time; our vessel being laden with ammunition. Every flash seemed the messenger of our destruction, every peal thundered additional terror into our quaking breasts. About twelve o'clock the rain fell in torrents, and caused the wind to abate; which, with the thunder and lightning, in a short time subsided altogether, to our inexpressible relief and satisfaction. We were detained at this

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place about ten days by contrary winds, but, at length, these proving favourable, we were wafted up this beautiful river. The first day we reached Three Rivers, a small town on the north bank of the St. Lawrence; deriving its name from a river near it, which is divided into three streams by two islands, where it falls into the St. Lawrence. This river presents a remarkable natural curiosity. It is called the Black River, from its water being of a dark colour: and where it joins the waters of the St. Lawrence it does not appear to intermingle with them, as would naturally be supposed, but comes in contact with them; and the two waters appear as clearly defined as any two hard substances, of different colours, joined together.

The following day we arrived at Montreal, a large, populous and well-built town, pleasantly situated on the north bank of the St. Lawrence, near the foot of a mountain, from which it derives its name. It appeared to great advantage upon this oc-

casion, as we approached it. The spires and roofs of the churches, and the roofs of the other public buildings, and houses of wealthy individuals, are covered with tin, which, owing to the dry nature of the atmosphere in this country, does not rust. The glittering appearance of these, while the sun is shining upon them, has a brilliant effect, and gives a Canadian town a very novel and striking appearance to the eye of a stranger.

The public buildings of this town are of a very respectable description, with respect to size and appearance, and reflect great credit upon the inhabitants ; consisting of a large French (R. C.) cathedral, and several churches ; two nunneries ; a large college, richly endowed ; an English (Episcopalian) church ; a Presbyterian church ; an Independent chapel, court-house, gaol, extensive and excellent barracks, and one of the handsomest monuments, to the memory of the brave Nelson, that I remember to have ever seen. It is a plain round pil-

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lar, standing on a square pedestal ; one side of which contains an inscription, the other three representations of the battles of Copenhagen, the Nile and Trafalgar. The workmanship of these pleased me exceedingly : the vessels are of plaister of Paris, in many instances nearly half the length projecting, with the masts, yards, rigging, guns, &c. exquisitely formed. The pillar is surmounted with a full length figure of the gallant hero.

Montreal is a very flourishing commercial town, owing principally to its local situation ; being the nearest mart in Lower Canada for the produce of the United States, with which the inhabitants carry on very considerable trade in time of peace ; and also being situated at the upper extremity of that part of the St. Lawrence that is navigable for ships, &c. as this river becomes quite shallow here ; consequently the European, East and West India merchandize used in the upper province is,



for the most part, purchased here, and conveyed upwards in boats.

The environs of this town are actually beautiful and picturesque ; presenting elegant seats and improved grounds, comfortable villages, rural cottages, a noble river, embellished with islands, ships, and delightful scenery, a lofty mountain, with wood-crowned heights towering to the clouds ; in short every thing requisite to beautify and perfect the landscape.

In a few days General Hull's army, which had been captured by General Brock at Detroit, arrived, as prisoners of war, at La Chine, a village nine miles above Montreal ; and as I felt a strong desire to see them, I set out, with my brother and a gentleman of the 49th regiment, to meet them. On our way we met a calash, in which we had the unexpected satisfaction to recognise my father and the Colonel of his regiment, who had come down from Kingston, attached to the escort of the

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prisoners; the latter having the command. We returned to town with them, and about nine o'clock in the evening we had the pleasure of witnessing the arrival of the first fruits of this useless, and too disastrous war. I was a very young boy at the time; and, having been born and brought up in the army, it is natural to suppose that my ideas ran early upon military exploits.—Scenes of war, conquered enemies, &c. had long been familiar to me in idea, but in reality had always been remote from me; and I had been in the habit, when thinking of a foreign enemy, to picture to my mind something very unlike what I had daily before my eyes. Upon this occasion, however, I witnessed the reality; and my youthful heart, big with warlike achievements, and too inconsiderate to sympathize in misfortunes of this description, triumphantly exulted in the sight of a fallen enemy. I must confess that this first specimen was, from their very indifferent appearance, compared with that of our well

organized and appointed troops that escorted them, calculated to confirm the contemptible opinion I had always formed, though upon childish, and, consequently, erroneous principles, with respect to my country's foes. Though after a long journey, as prisoners, it is natural to suppose that their appearance was not very brilliant; yet it was evident, from its shabbiness, that their appointments had not been, at any time, of the most splendid description.

The band of the 8th regiment marched at the head of them, playing the well known air, "Yankee Doodle:" General Hull, a venerable looking old gentleman, and his son, with the other officers, in calashes, followed the band; and were succeeded by the soldiers, guarded on either side by a rank of our own troops. As it was dark when they reached the town, the streets they passed through were quite illuminated by numbers of candles, held out from the windows of all the houses, which were

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Though out of place, I shall here avail myself of the occasion to mention the following little circumstances. While at school in this town, at a subsequent period, my companions and I were in the habit of going into the woods, on a half-holiday, in autumn, for the purpose of gathering nuts, with which they abound; and upon those occasions we frequently discovered squirrels' nests; these generally proved great prizes, as they were well stored with all the variety of nuts the place afforded, which the poor little animals had, at the expence of much time and labour, carefully laid up as their winter stock. As a variety to our enjoyment, which these seizures afforded us time to indulge in, we used to amuse ourselves, by climbing up the young birch trees, which grow very tall, slender and pliant: when at the top we held fast with the hands, and swinging ourselves into the air, descended to the ground; the tree

bending all the way down. This, although a very pleasant amusement, was a very dangerous one, as the trees are sometimes unsound; and, in such cases, liable to break; to the great danger of the person descending. An instance of this kind occurred to me upon one occasion; when nearly half way down, the tree broke, and I came in contact with the ground with so much violence that I almost broke my back. This, however, was not sufficient to deter my companions from the sport; nor even myself, for as soon as I recovered my senses, and felt the pain subsiding, I resumed it with as much avidity as before.

A remarkable instance of the sagacity, and faithful attachment of the dog, occurred at Montreal, during one of the winters I resided there. A Canadian was crossing the St. Lawrence on the ice, accompanied only by one of those faithful animals; and unfortunately stepping upon a hole that was but thinly frozen over, fell through, and was instantly hurried away by the rapid

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stream. The dog, avoiding the fatal snare, exhibited great signs of distress at the sudden disappearance of his master, and howled piteously over the hole for some time; but finding that useless, he ran to the shore as fast as possible, and endeavoured to induce some persons whom he met to accompany him to the hole. When these, either not understanding his signs, or unwilling to trouble themselves, refused to go with him, he returned to it in great distress, howled over it again for a considerable time, then hastened to the shore once more, where by his importunity, he at length succeeded in inducing some persons to accompany him. On their reaching the spot they could easily discern, from the appearance of the ice, and the motions of the dog, what had happened; but the unfortunate man was, in all probability, many miles from the place at the time. Seeing that all was over, they wished to take the dog with them, but he strenuously refused to go, and on the fol-

lowing morning he was found at the edge of the hole, frozen to death.

An amusing artifice in pigeon shooting is practised here. A kind of ladder, constructed of boughs, sufficiently large to admit of a considerable number of pigeons resting upon it, is placed in an oblique direction on the top of a tree, at the edge of an opening in the wood; and, at a convenient distance and situation, a hut is erected, also of boughs, in which the fowler conceals himself. The ladder, from its convenient form for perching close together upon, a practice the pigeons are very fond of, attracts the latter, and when lodged upon it, the fowler fires through a small aperture in the side of the hut; and, the direction of the ladder being favourable to his aim, he makes great havoc among them. It is not uncommon to see two persons, when returning home from the morning's sport, carrying the spoil between them across a long stick, the birds being fastened together by the bills in a curious manner.

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The troops being ready to proceed up the country in a few days, we left Montreal and went to La Chine by land, where a number of batteaux were ready for our reception. We embarked in these, each having twelve soldiers and two Canadian pilots on board, and commenced our journey. We found the country, as we passed along, thickly inhabited and well cultivated, and I was delighted with the beauty of the river, which expands here to a considerable breadth, and is variegated with islands, generally covered with wood.

In the afternoon we arrived at a place called the *Cedars*, from the number of trees, of that species growing in the neighbourhood. The river, at this place, is extremely rapid and shallow, which renders it necessary to unload the boats at the foot of the rapid, and convey the cargoes by land to the head of it. Just as our batteaux were brought into a small bay, for this purpose, we observed the fragments of an immense raft that had been floating down the river,



and by some accident had been separated by the violence of the water, which foams up in a frightful manner. The raft was completely shattered, and its parts dispersed in all directions.

Carts were provided to carry the baggage to the head of the rapid, and, through curiosity, I remained in the boat, in preference to going by land.

Those only who witness them can form an adequate idea of the hardships and privations that soldiers undergo, particularly on journies, in foreign countries; and this mode of travelling afforded a tolerable specimen of some of the *luxury* of a soldier's life. Upon this occasion, after rowing hard the greater part of the day, they were obliged to draw the boat after them for a distance of two miles, by means of a long rope, and they walking along the shore, sometimes above the knees in water, while the pilots, one in each end, with long poles, kept it free from the shore. I was frequently surpris-

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ed, during my journey, at the patience and good temper manifested by the soldiers, under circumstances certainly not ill calculated to excite murmuring. One instance, in particular, I shall not readily forget. Our boat grounded at the bow upon a smooth shelving rock that lay concealed under the surface of the water, and all the efforts of the crew to shove her off by means of poles, oars, &c. proving ineffectual, one of the soldiers very coolly leaped into the water, up to his breast, with his clothes on, and applying his shoulder to the bow, set her afloat, then jumped in, and remained in that state until the evening, when we landed for the night. My father gave him a glass of brandy on his getting into the boat, which probably operated as a preventive against any ill consequences, but I should have certainly considered this sufficient to destroy any ordinary man.

A few days after, we arrived at another rapid, called the *Long Saut*, from the great rapidity and violence with which the water

rushes down : it is the longest and most frightful in the whole river. Here the operation of drawing up the boats by men, in the usual way, being impracticable, owing to the extreme force of the current, a capstan, such as is used on board of ships, fixed on a wharf at the head of the most violent part of the rapid, is used for that purpose-

This is a particularly dangerous place, and many melancholy accidents have occurred here : one of which happened while we were in Upper Canada. A number of boats were going down the river, and two of them, having some soldiers of the 10th veteran battalion on board, either from bad management, or some other cause, overset, and every soul on board perished,—assistance from the shore being altogether out of the question.

It is generally affirmed and believed in Upper Canada, and from my own experience I have no reason to doubt the assertion, that the common rat is not to be

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found above this rapid. It is rather a singular circumstance that this particular spot should be their limit; and although frequently desirous, I was never able to ascertain the real cause of it being so. It is supposed that the climate of the upper province is not congenial to them, but that this is the true cause of their absence I consider doubtful: it is certain they are much too numerous immediately below this place.

One day, while passing a small American town called Hamilton, situated on the U. S. side of the river, it being apprehended that the Americans intended to attack us, the greater part of the soldiers were put under arms on shore, as it was necessary to draw the boats at that part of the river. The town is situated on the bank of the St. Lawrence, apparently very neat and comfortable. In the afternoon the boats were collected in a small bay; the men, as usual, making fires on the shore, preparing their food, and making the best arrangements possible for their shelter and accom-

modation during the night. We took up our quarters in a farm house, according to our general practice, when there was no inn in the neighbourhood.

About six o'clock the following morning we embarked in the batteaux, and proceeded on our way. It was one of those mornings in the month of September, when every thing in nature conspires to excite in the breast of man sensations of rapturous delight. The river, expanding to a considerable breadth, clear as crystal, still as the grave, and reflecting on its pellucid bosom the various beauties with which nature and art had embellished its irregularly winding margin, presented a surface that "white robed" innocence herself might have justly claimed as her chaste and peaceful emblem: several beautiful islands scattered through it, covered to the edges with stately trees, whose nicely varied foliage and intertwinning branches defied every attempt of the most scrutinizing eye to perceive the ground from which they sprang, attracted

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and charmed the eager gaze of the beholder; while the fragrant exhalations of the spruce, the cedar, the pine, &c. perfumed the air with their balmy sweets: the nimble squirrels, darting from branch to branch, and from tree to tree, with well-directed springs, astonished the admiring spectator with their agility: the feathered songsters of the grove, carolling their morning lays in wild and unstudied harmony, seemed anxious to vie with each other, by the force and melody of their notes, in charming the stranger's ear; while the woodpecker, as if envious of the success of his more musical companions, or desirous of a more than equal share of the listener's attention, made the woods and groves resound with his quick and constant tapping on the "hollow beech tree." Peace and happiness seemed impressed upon every surrounding object, and nature smiled serene on nature's favourite—man. Even Britain's conquering banner, so wont to wave in haughty triumph o'er its native

“ watery way,” as if unwilling to mar the pleasing serenity that prevailed by associating even an idea of war’s alarms, hung in listless folds down along the staff that, reared upon the stern, distinguished the commanding officer’s boat. But oh, how like this vain, uncertain, and delusive world! in which

The brightest things below the skies  
 Shine with deceitful light :  
 We should suspect some danger nigh  
 Where we possess delight !

Ere that sun which, in gilding the mountain tops, and shedding his mild effulgence o’er the lowly regions of the plain, was dispensing light, and growth, and beauty around, had even assumed his more scorching splendours of the noon, many an eye that beamed with delight on this enchanting morning scene, was closed in long and darkest night!—Thus apparently encircled by tranquillity and peace, the storm of war was brooding at hand !

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two hours, when, within a short distance of a narrow passage, between an island and the main land, through which we must pass, one of the captains of the regiment, who was in the foremost batteau, imagined he saw something like a Durham boat, a kind of large boat that the Americans, exclusively, are in the habit of using, at the upper part of the strait.

This being rather a suspicious circumstance, he ordered the men to cease from rowing, in order to take a better view with his spying-glass, when he discovered that his conjecture was right, and mentioned it to my father, who was in the next boat.

While they were deliberating upon the subject, and waiting for the other batteaux to come up, a Canadian was observed in a canoe, coming from behind the lower part of the island, paddling with all his might, and crying to us that there were Americans on the island. This confirmed the suspicions; and the boats were ordered to the shore, that the soldiers might be dis-



embarked. A body of Americans had posted themselves behind some trees on the island, with the view of intercepting our passage; and when they observed us making for the shore, they immediately discharged a volley of musquetry at us. We hurried towards the land as fast as possible; but, when about twenty yards from the edge of the water, the boats grounded, and could be brought no nearer.

As the balls were flying about us, perforating the sides of the boats, dropping into the water in every direction, and threatening instant destruction to all on board, great confusion prevailed; and as soon as it was observed that the boats could not advance to the shore, our only alternative was to leap into the water, and make the best of our way to it. The scene, at this time, was certainly most ludicrous: a complete comic representation of the landing of Cæsar in Britain. The recollection of it has often afforded me amusement since, but I must confess that, at the time, I con-

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sidered it no *laughing matter*. As our boat was at the upper end of the division, I had a full view of the whole detachment: men, women, and children apparently desirous to outdo each other in dexterity in getting on shore; some up to the knees in water, driving it before them like ships in full sail; others dashing in and making it fly about them on all sides; women screaming, children bawling, officers commanding; but all endeavouring to get out of reach of the shot as fast as possible.

There was a curious old woman in our boat, wife of one of the soldiers, who during the confusion, happened to strike her elbow against the side of the boat; and finding the balls flying about her pretty thick, she was certain she had been wounded, and therefore cried out most lustily "oh, I'm shot! I'm shot!" One of the soldiers, supposing it was really the case, very seriously enquired where, when she showed him her elbow, which was *red* with the blow, crying, and shouting piteously,

all the while, "oh, bad luck to the Yankee rascals, they've *done my job!* I'm shot! I'm shot!" The soldier, notwithstanding existing circumstances, could not help enjoying her imaginary misfortune, and immediately replied, "Faith, Molly, you're done *now* sure enough, but you had better get ashore as fast as you can."

There was also a lady, wife of an officer in Kingston, in our boat, with my mother; and as she had been in a delicate state of health for some time, she was unwilling, notwithstanding the imminent danger that surrounded her, to venture into the water, if she could possibly avoid it. While hesitating, an officer in the next boat observing her situation, came to her, and requested her to get upon his back, in order that he might carry her to the land, which she gladly consented to. They were both particularly stout, bulky people; and they had not proceeded far until the officer, owing to his heavy burden, sank so deep in the soft mud, that he actually stuck fast, and could

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not move a step farther. "'Pon my honor, Mrs. O—," said he, puffing and blowing, "I'll be under the necessity of putting you down!" She had scarcely time to exclaim, "Oh dear, Mr. T—!" in reply, until she found herself up to her knees in water: and sure, in such a plight, "such a pair was never seen." If the reader can fancy to himself a great fat fellow, in long red coat and cocked hat, up to his knees in water, and leading by the hand, very cordially, but in a great hurry, as fat a lady, with flowing garments, "lightly floating on the silver wave,"—sometimes moving on pretty well, at others rather puzzled to get their feet extricated from the mud, and all the while in terrible dread of being shot,—he may form some idea of their appearance upon the occasion. For my own part, I have frequently thought since, that I must have been seized by some kind of infatuation; for however strange, and perhaps incredible, it may appear, I can positively assert, that although I heard the reports of

the guns, and saw the sides of the boat perforated at every instant, and the water bubbling up, from the balls dropping into it, I was actually unconscious of my perilous situation, and was not in haste to leave the boat ; but when I *did* become sensible of the danger, it is almost needless to say, I changed my quarters very quickly, jumping into the river up to the middle, and running to the shore with all possible dispatch. And, however incredible it may further appear, not the least injury was sustained by any individual in the boats from the fire of the enemy.

Prior to this circumstance I could not conceive how it was possible that so many men escaped in a regular action, while exposed to thousands of balls, and that so few, comparatively speaking, were touched ; but upon this occasion I had a satisfactory proof that where the ball is not commissioned by that Almighty Power that directs or permits all events according to his will, all the care and dexterity of him who im-

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pels it is fruitless. I may justly class this among the most miraculous deliverances from danger that I have experienced during my wandering life ; and were it not for the interference of that protecting Providence, who has always so carefully watched over me, I must certainly have fallen a victim, at this time, to the malice of our foes.

The soldiers, having armed, accoutred and prepared themselves for action, formed upon the beach, and a part of them marched up to the narrow pass to meet the enemy, while the rest remained near the boats. In the meantime, the lady just alluded to, my mother, brother, sister, and myself (being then a young boy) hurried towards a farm house, a short distance from us; but, before we reached it, a large gun-boat sailed down from behind the island, anchored off where we were, and immediately commenced firing cannon shot at us, the first or second of which carried off the head of one of the soldiers who were on the shore. The latter, being quite exposed to the fire of the boat, and incapable

of doing it any injury, retired towards the house that we were going to, which the Americans observing, they directed their fire against it. Instead, therefore, of going into the house we went to the rear of it, in order to shelter ourselves behind some stacks of straw in the yard, through which, we were told, the balls would not penetrate; but we had not remained long in this situation before they came flying through the roof of the house, which was covered with shingles, and passing over our heads in such quick succession that we thought it most adviseable to decamp, and therefore retired back into the woods as fast as possible, where we remained until the action was nearly over. When our soldiers went up to the strait, they posted themselves behind some trees, within pistol shot of the Americans, and commenced a smart action. Observing the Durham boat, that first took our attention in the morning, lying near the island, some of them fired into it; and after a few rounds several men

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on board raised the anchor, and attempted to land on the island ; but as they ascended from the bottom upon the forecastle, to leap out, they were shot, and fell into the water. The boat drifted down the river, and grounded near our batteaux ; there was a number of knapsacks, &c. in it, and the forecastle was covered with blood. Shortly after we landed, a soldier was sent off to Prescott, an English village and garrison about eight miles up the river, with a dispatch for a gun-boat ; and in the afternoon, about four o'clock, one appeared, coming down in full sail.

A constant firing had been kept up across the water during the day, by which twenty-eight of the Americans were killed ; and as soon as the remainder observed our gun-boat, they embarked in their's, which was an immensely large one, and being favoured by wind and tide, escaped, although pursued for a considerable distance.

The soldier who was killed by a cannon shot, was brought into a house



near the fatal spot where the circumstance occurred, and, excited by curiosity, I went to see him. The head, and part of the neck had been carried away, and no hatchet could have effected it more smoothly, or better. What a sight! what a melancholy sight is the headless trunk of a man! how well calculated to humble the lofty ideas that man generally entertains of himself! While strutting about, puffed with pride, and no small degree of self-importance, one would almost be inclined to think he really is *something*—see him the next instant, after some trifling accident has happened, and the meanest clod that he might just before have spurned indignantly from beneath his feet, is as good as he; nay, with respect merely to the body, *better!* for while the one is permitted to remain on the surface of the earth, an inoffensive lump, the other must be buried in its bosom, that its disgusting appearance may be concealed from the sight, and its noisome qualities prevented from infecting the very air with their pollutions!

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And well would it be, or happy is it, for this poor man, if his lifeless and bloody corse exhibited at this time all the horrors to which he was liable to become the victim; or that his sudden removal from this transitory scene of woe, in terminating his sorrows here, ushered him into a purer, happier, more exalted state of existence. But, ah! while hope, while the most ardent desire for the future happiness of our fellow-creatures, and for their finding mercy and favour with their Creator, would prompt us to trust that all is well with him now, the standard of our faith, the accredited word of God himself, the Scriptures, on whose testimony, injunctions, and declarations, all our hopes depend, and by which all our future prospects are regulated,—this sacred book forbids us to pronounce this man happy! for after a profane, a wicked life, the terrific crier of mankind to the courts above, in presenting the awful summons, surprised the wretched culprit with a horrible imprecation upon his unhallowed lips!

And will this shameful, abominable practice of profane swearing and cursing, so offensive to the ear of virtue, and so baneful in its tendency, never, *never* cease!— Will every new proof of its odium in the sight of God, serve but to fan the flame that appears to blaze to such a melancholy extent through society, of mixing the most trifling expressions with some disgusting, sinful emanation from the corrupted heart!

Perhaps no greater inconsistency in the character of man could be produced, than that which this practice displays. The great despise the mean, and look upon them as an inferior order of beings, a correspondence with whom would contaminate them; and to be placed upon an equality with whom would totally destroy every source of comfort: the learned look down with contempt upon the illiterate, and to suffer a comparison with them, would inflict a dreadful wound upon their pride, but to be *taught* by them would mortify it to the last degree; and yet numbers of both great and

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learned, without apparently feeling the least mortification or humility at the degrading consideration, are not only willing to imitate, but anxious to vie with the most abject, ignorant and execrable of the human species, in the practice of this despicable vice. That from these they have learned it, few, I presume, will venture to deny; but whether or not, the fact is certain, from its being diametrically opposed to religion, morality, good breeding and propriety; which, *alone*, are *taught* the great and learned; and therefore it must have emanated, in the first instance, from a source destitute of all those qualities.— That it is offensive to God is beyond all doubt, from his own words, “swear not *at all*; but let your communication be yea, yea, nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than these *cometh of evil* :” and St. James, in quoting the former part of the sentence, adds, “*lest ye fall into condemnation.*”

Of all the vices practised by men, the great prevalency of profane swearing and

cursing appears to me the most unaccountable, inasmuch as the others generally afford some small degree of advantage or pleasure to the unregenerate man; some trifling *return* for the risk he runs, in subjecting himself to the displeasure of his Maker: but swearing appears to afford neither, while it brings upon the offender an equal degree of guilt. If you ask the drunkard, the sabbath-breaker, the extortioner, the lewd, the fraudulent, the liar, &c. &c. the cause of their departing from their duty, to their spiritual, and even temporal prejudice, they tell you they were overcome by strong temptation; but put the same question to the swearer, and, conscious of deriving neither profit nor satisfaction from the practice, if he feel any compunction on its account, he can say at best that it is a *bad habit*. Some poor creatures, indeed, there are who, lost to every sense of religious duty, pride themselves in the vice, and allow it to exalt them in their own estimation, as being a

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*manly habit* ; while it debases them, to the lowest degree, in the sight of God and of those of their fellow men, whose esteem is worth possessing ; but, in general, its votaries admit its impropriety, and *pretend to wish* they could abstain from it.

In the afternoon a party of soldiers were sent in the Durham boat with the Canadian, who so manfully and patriotically ventured his life in the morning to warn us of the danger that awaited us, for the purpose of removing his moveable property from the island. Taking every thing into consideration, the conduct of this man upon the occasion was, perhaps, one of the most noble and laudable actions that were performed during the war. His motives must have been purely patriotic ; a feeling for his fellow-subjects must have been his only incentive. He could have easily pleaded inability, in the event of an investigation into his conduct, had he, with cold indifference, permitted us to advance to the sacrifice ; as the enemy had landed on the island the night previous

to the attack, and kept him a prisoner, under the care of three men, during the whole time they were there, until a very few minutes prior to his escape, when seeing us, as they imagined, entirely in their power, his guards were incautiously withdrawn, when, at the risk of his life, he rushed into his canoe, and fortunately had time, instrumentally, to effect our deliverance; for had we reached the strait, unaware of our danger, it is impossible to say what might have been the consequence; I shudder, even now, when I think of it. It is particularly gratifying to know that he was well recompensed by government for his most meritorious behaviour.

In the evening we proceeded on our journey, and about twelve o'clock arrived at Prescot, which at this time was but a small village, and only of consequence from being opposite to Ogdensburgh, an American town on the south side of the St. Lawrence. As I will not have occasion to mention the latter place again, I shall notice here,

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by the way, the attack made by the British forces, during the following winter, upon it.

This event occurred while the river was frozen over, which rendered access to the town very easy. Our troops had, for some time before, been frequently in the habit of exercising upon the ice, artillery as well as infantry; and as they had occasionally approached very near the town, and retired without molesting it, the Americans were quite taken by surprise when the attack was actually made. When these observed the British approaching upon this occasion, *rather too near*, they opened a fire upon them from one of the batteries next the river, which they kept up very briskly for some time. During its continuance, one of our soldiers experienced a remarkable escape; a ball from one of the great guns passing him so close as to carry away a considerable part of the skirt of his great coat, without doing him any further injury than merely blackening his legs by the force of the air, as it rushed violently past.



After a warm action the battery was captured, and in a short time the British got quiet possession of the town. On entering a room in one of the houses, some of our soldiers found the table laid for breakfast, which had been partly partaken of: the mistress of the house was lying on the floor, weltering in her blood, and a pretty little child was observed sitting in a high chair, at the table; and upon a nearer view proved to be quite dead, reclining against the back of the chair, with one hand upon the table, and a tea-spoon lying beside it: a ball, which had found its way through the wooden wall of the house, had pierced its little heart, and it had apparently died without much pain, as the features were not distorted.

It is natural for people, on hearing of circumstances of this kind, because melancholy in themselves, and dreadful in idea, to deplore them, and commiserate the (in their idea) unhappy victims: it is natural

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for them to be affected by the *appearances* of events, before inquiring into the ultimate design for which they were intended by the great and perfectly wise disposer of all things; and therefore many, who may hear of the fate of this little innocent, may be induced to exclaim, "poor little thing!" while a moment's reflection would, in all probability, completely alter their view of the matter.

The world, with all its gay and fascinating allurements, is, I presume, generally acknowledged, by those *who know it*, to be a scene of vexation, trial, and disappointment. High and low, rich and poor, learned and ignorant, good and bad, who have lived long in it, all appear to agree in this one point; and they who have drunk most largely of its intoxicating *pleasures* are most commonly those who exclaim loudest against its pains, and the absence of enjoyment from it; and I believe, that owing to the imperfect nature of man, it will be universally

admitted that a complete exemption from pain, *real* pain ; and not merely one transient, solitary visit, but a too frequent recurrence of it, is not the happy lot of any, even the most highly favored of the sons of men. If then this fact be allowed, and none, acquainted with the subject, will for a moment dispute it, this child, had it lived, must necessarily have become a partaker, and perhaps extensively so, in the miseries of life. Let then the child of affliction be asked whether this was a melancholy catastrophe or not, and hear his reply. Suppose the question to have been put to its sorrowing father ; what, upon consideration, would *he* have answered ? “ Surely if to be prevented from experiencing anguish, such as that which now *I* feel, was the object of the melancholy event, I must cease from pronouncing my child unhappy, or its case calculated to excite commiseration.”

For my part, while, in imagination, I can hear its departed spirit lamenting, in the

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plaintive strains of the poet, its untimely removal from this apparently delightful scene,—

To the dark and silent tomb,  
 Soon I hastened from the womb ;  
 Scarce the dawn of life began,  
 Ere I measured out my span.  
 I no smiling pleasures knew ;  
 I no gay delights could view ;  
 Joyless sojourner was I,  
 Only born to weep and die.

I would answer, and, I think, effectually silence all its complaints, in the words of the same author :

Happy infant, *early bless'd !*  
 Rest, in peaceful slumbers rest ;  
 Early rescu'd from the cares,  
 Which increase with growing years.  
 No delights are worth thy stay,  
 Smiling, *as they seem*, and gay :  
 Short and sickly are they all,  
 Hardly tasted ere they pall.  
 All our gaiety is vain,  
 All our laughter is but pain ;  
 Lasting only, and divine,  
 Is an innocence like thine.

After remaining a few days at Prescott, we prepared for prosecuting our journey: about ten o'clock at night we set out, and in two days arrived at Kingston.

Oh Kingston! Kingston! how shall I venture to speak of *you*! how shall I venture to recall to mind the days that I have spent within your happy precincts! Could I but bury them in Lethe's stream, could I but hurl them into the gulf of oblivion, then would my mind be at rest, and no longer experience what the recollection of them excites. But ah! no—

While pensive memory muses,  
On delights *too quickly flown*,

it awakens in my breast a transitory joy; but oh, how fleeting! scarce does it dart across my enraptured mind, representing scenes, delightful scenes, of pleasures that are past, never more to be enjoyed—of days that are gone, never to return—when its sting, its *poignant* sting, follows with velocity, in its light-trod footsteps, and snatches the fond delusion! When I think of those

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days and those pleasures, and the gloomy,  
 heartless idea associated with that thought,  
 —that they are gone, never to return,—phi-  
 losophical as I could wish to be, a sigh steals  
 from my very heart, in spite of me!—And  
 is there no remedy for this disease of the  
 mind; is there no return, no remuneration  
 to be obtained for the loss of such heartfelt  
 bliss as that which one's youthful days have  
 afforded? Oh yes, yes! I would say to those  
 whose morn, like mine, dawned bright and  
 fair, but now have to mourn that clouds and  
 storms have deformed the day; to such I  
 would say, there *is* balm in Gilead, there *is*  
 an *ample* remuneration provided for all  
 their privations; a remuneration, arising  
 out of those very privations, which they,  
 perhaps, unwisely, nay impiously lament.  
 Possessed of every thing this world can af-  
 ford, and, consequently, at ease with itself,  
 and satisfied with, and attached to this life,  
 the mind is too apt to forget that here there  
 is no "continuing city," no durable satis-  
 factions, but all changeable as the frivolous

mind that soon tires of them and desires others ; and that a preparation is necessary to be made for enjoying other scenes which, blinded by the vanities of this, it scarcely desires. In such circumstances is it not of extreme importance that it should be awakened to a sense of its highest duty, to be compelled to perform that service to itself which, in a future day, it will be most happy to have accomplished, but which, owing to its blindness and weakness, it is most unwilling to attend to in due time ? And how could this be effected, but by removing the veil that obscures the sight ; by shewing the vanity of this world in its true colours ; by contrasting it with those real, those perfect joys that are offered to it ; by cutting off every tie that could bind it to this sublunary scene, and thereby directing it to those brighter regions where are objects worthy the attention of an immortal spirit ? This is the intended object of all your griefs and woes, and if they be productive of this happy effect, I shall merely say,

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“happy are ye.” “Those that sow in tears shall reap in joy.” But if, unhappily, there be those on whom their sorrows have *not* had this salutary effect, I feel constrained to say, with respect to them, and, I am confident, they themselves are sensible of the fact, that the *last* state of that man or that woman is, and will be, “worse than the *first*.”

Kingston is pleasantly and advantageously situated on the west side of the Lake of the thousand islands, about nine miles from the lower end of Lake Ontario. A beautiful bay, about a mile broad at the town, but expanding to the dimensions of a small lake, farther down, is formed by a peninsula, which extends, in a southerly direction, into the lake, upon the southern point of which is a battery. On the eastern side of this peninsula, there is another bay much smaller than the former. Here the vessels of the Royal Navy generally lie; the dock-yard, arsenal, &c. being on the eastern side of the peninsula.

These bays are very deep, sufficiently so



to admit of the first rate men-of-war lying at the wharfs, and the water is quite still, and so remarkably clear, that I shall notice here the following circumstance, in order to convey some idea of it. One day in winter, before the ice had become very thick, while skating upon that part of the small bay where the men-of-war lie, I was stooping down to arrange the strap of my skate, when, looking downwards, I observed something moving slowly along the bottom, and putting my head nearer the ice, I discovered it to be a large fish. I called one of my companions, and he and I watched it, as it continued to move slowly along, until, after proceeding a considerable distance, it stopped in shallow water, when my companion went to the barrack upon the peninsula, a short distance from us, and informed some of the soldiers, who came to the spot, bringing with them a long pole, with a bayonet fastened to the end of it, and a hatchet to cut a hole in the ice. A hole being soon opened directly over the fish,

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one of them put down the bayonet very gently, until it almost touched it, then suddenly darted it into the fish just below the head, and kept it fixed to the bottom until nearly dead, when he raised it to the hole, and, with the assistance of another man, drew it out: it proved to be a sturgeon, about four feet long.

Kingston was not a large town at this time, but, considering its distance up the country, and other local disadvantages, it was a very good one. It contained a number of very good houses, but the streets were neither paved nor lighted. It is built where the old fort Frontenac formerly stood, part of which still remains.

The public buildings are few, consisting of a small neat Protestant church, a R. C. church, gaol, barracks, &c. A printing office was established, and a newspaper published; and here was the best and most extensive classical school in all Canada.

- When we first went to Kingston, our naval force on the lake consisted only of two

frigates, and two large schooners, but it was afterwards considerably augmented by the addition of several ships of the line, one of which, the *St. Lawrence*, carried upwards of 100 guns, several frigates, gun-brigs, schooners, &c. It was at once surprising and pleasing to see a fleet of men-of-war sail out of, and arrive at a port many hundreds of miles from the sea, which was inaccessible to them, and they confined to a mere lake, but a lake of sufficient dimensions to afford them full scope for all their operations, being 200 miles in length and 100 in breadth.

I was extremely fond of boating, and the fine harbour of Kingston, with the bays and rivers in its neighbourhood, renders this amusement peculiarly pleasant here. My father and another officer of the regiment purchased a small elegant pleasure barge, in which, with my companions, I used very frequently to sail, and upon one occasion we had a very narrow escape for our lives. Being on the eastern side of the peninsula

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opposite Kingston, we were returning to town; and as the wind was blowing pretty hard down the harbour, we were obliged to row up to the point, in getting round which the wind would have been favourable for us. When we had proceeded far enough upwards, as we thought, we raised the mast, and prepared for sailing; but the wind was so strong that as soon as the *sheet* was hauled tight, and the sail filled, it carried mast, sails, and the seat to which the mast was fastened, completely overboard. Had the seat remained firm, the boat must have overset, and in all probability the greater part of us would have perished, as no assistance could have been afforded us in time to be of any service.

Early on the morning of the 10th of November, 1812, the American fleet appeared in sight of the harbour, evidently for some hostile purpose. The military, militia, &c. were soon under arms, the batteries manned, and every arrangement made in order to give the enemy as warm a reception as

possible. A detachment of infantry was sent to a bay about four miles above the town, where it was supposed they would land, and an immense degree of anxiety prevailed in town during the morning.

The approach of an enemy generally causes disorder and dismay among the female part of the community; and upon this occasion, when it was ascertained that the fleet was steering for the town, it was most distressing to see numbers of women and children leaving their houses, and hurrying, in consternation, backwards to the woods: some carrying bundles of what they most valued, others apparently quite satisfied to escape with life.

The Royal George, the largest of the only two frigates we had at the time, had been out cruising for some days, and about twelve o'clock it made its appearance, coming in from the lake with all sail set, and the whole American fleet, consisting of a brig of 22 guns, and six schooners, in full chase of it. It anchored down the bay at

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the lower end of the town, and between two batteries; one at the upper end of the town on a small point of land jutting into the harbour, the other on the point of the peninsula opposite.

About two o'clock the enemy's squadron sailed down the harbour very boldly, apparently quite unaware of the two batteries just mentioned, which had been but lately erected, as they used no precaution to avoid them, but were bearing down, in full sail, upon the *Royal George*, and firing with all their might. Our troops in the batteries observing this, allowed them to approach very near before they commenced firing, and when the brig and two or three of the schooners were just between them, they opened a tremendous and destructive fire upon them, in which they were joined by the *Royal George*. The Americans were evidently confounded at this, as they instantly put about; and, while in the act of tacking, the commander of one of the

schooners was knocked overboard by the main boom, and perished.

The batteries kept up such a galling fire upon the vessels that they were compelled to retire; and as the wind was blowing directly down the lake, they were under the necessity of beating out; whenever, therefore, they approached the side next the town, the batteries received them in fine style, and did them very considerable damage. The enemy did not fire upon the town, from which it appeared that their object was merely to capture or destroy the Royal George, as all their attention was directed towards it; and although they were obliged to relinquish the attempt they almost effected its destruction, by a shot from a thirty-two pounder, which it received *between wind and water*, or half above and half below the level of the water.

We lost only one man upon the occasion, and he had been an invalid, confined to his hammock for some time previous, being a marine on board the frigate. When he

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heard the cannonading, he could not stay in his hammock, but insisted on being carried upon deck; and his urgent request being complied with, he was seated near one of the guns, on the side next the enemy, where he had remained but a few minutes when a cannon ball struck him on the side, and going in an oblique direction to the opposite shoulder, destroyed him in a moment; leaving his body a dreadful spectacle.

The enemy succeeded in reaching a small bay on the eastern shore, about four miles above the town, where they remained during the night, busily occupied in repairing as well as possible the damage they had sustained. On the following day they got under weigh, and while beating about, a British merchant schooner, on its way from the upper country, hove in sight, making for the harbour: the crew, little expecting to meet an American squadron so near Kingston, found themselves almost surrounded by it before they were aware of their dan-



ger. The master, finding there was no chance of escape by attempting to return, determined, though to all appearance with but little prospect of success, to endeavour to make his way through it: he therefore made all sail, and, the vessel being an excellent sailer, and he perfectly acquainted with the navigation of the place, steered directly through the fleet, and although chased and fired at by all the vessels, he manœuvred so well, as to effect his escape, though not without receiving a shot between wind and water. When the schooner reached the uppermost wharf in the town, it was brought alongside the lower end of it, with the head towards the land, and, being full of water, it sank immediately, but luckily the water was not very deep at the spot. An immense number of people had collected at the upper part of the town while the vessel was among the enemy's fleet, to observe the result, and were at the wharf when it arrived. A strong hawser was therefore made fast to the bow of the ves-

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sel, and the other end being brought on shore, as many of the people as could get hold of it did so, and so great was the crowd that they actually drew it so near the shore that the upper parts appeared above the surface of the water.

Two of the American schooners not being able to beat up to Lake Outario, were obliged to sail down past Kingston, to Ogdensburg, where they remained until winter, when they were burnt by our forces at the capture of that place.

As Kingston was the scene of some of my happiest days, and youthful adventures, and as I still feel delight in recalling some of the latter to mind, perhaps I may be pardoned for intruding the following upon the reader's notice. Owing to the abundance and variety of fish the lakes contain, fishing is a very general and pleasant amusement here ; and one which I, in common with the great majority of my school-fellows, was excessively fond of. There is a small point of land at the lower end of the town, stretching into the bay in a northerly direc-

tion, and forming a small bay on its western side, which is used as a repository for the government boats. As this small bay is a particularly good spot for fishing, we were in the habit of resorting to it very frequently. Upon one occasion there was a large boat moored below the point, a short distance from it, and as some of my companions wished to go on board for the purpose of fishing, they were conveyed to it in a smaller one, by two or three of those who preferred remaining at the bay, of whom I was one. In the evening when we thought of moving, it was, of course, necessary to bring our companions on shore. There was only a small skiff on the beach that we could use for the purpose, and without enquiring who it belonged to, we immediately launched it; but it was scarcely in the water when it began to fill very fast, and in a very few minutes it was quite full; we were therefore in a very awkward situation, but were soon relieved from it by some soldiers, who were receiving provisions at a

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government store at the spot, and who drew the skiff up on the beach. Upon emptying it we discovered a square hole under one of the seats, on each of two sides of this aperture, opposite to each other, there was a small staple, through which a small stick being placed, kept a square bit of wood, that fitted the hole, in its place. The owner had taken these two pieces of wood with him, with the view of preventing his boat from being taken away: a very necessary precaution here, as the boys are very much in the habit of making free with boats, but one which did not altogether answer his purpose at this time, for a carpenter, who happened to be making some repairs at the store alluded to, provided us with a piece of board to fit the hole, which, with a small stick to keep it down, rendered the boat ready for service. We therefore launched again, rowed to our companions, and took them on board; but we had not proceeded far on our return towards the shore, until one of the boys, a

particularly mischievous fellow, who happened to be sitting on the seat over the hole, spied the new piece of wood in the bottom of the boat, which attracted his attention. "Hallo!" said he, "what's this?" and at the same time giving the cross stick a kick, knocked it out, when the boat began to fill very fast, and with such a number of boys on board, would soon have sunk. Our only alternative, therefore, was to make for the large boat again, as quickly as possible, it being much nearer to us than the land; and we had just time to get on board when the skiff sank to the gunwale. As it went down no farther, it was proposed that two of us should get in, and endeavour to take it to the shore. I volunteered for one, and being joined by another, we took off our shoes and stockings, and folding up our pantaloons, got in, and with considerable exertion succeeded in paddling it near the land, when we observed the owner, a terribly sour-looking old Dutchman, coming down in a great hurry, with his paddle in

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his hand, accompanied by several other persons of both sexes.

We found it impossible to reach the shore before the old fellow got down, who waited for us very coolly at the edge of the water, with a stern and *expressive* countenance; his mouth "going every way" with rage. On approaching the land, when in very shallow water, I leaped out of the boat, with a view of escaping the paddle if possible; but I failed in my object, for the Dutchman pursued me, and soon laid it with all his force across my back; but as he was rather stiff he did not repeat the compliment more than once, before I got out of his reach.

I don't exactly remember how my companion fared upon the occasion, as I had enough to do to take care of myself; but those we had left in the large boat, observing what had occurred to us, determined to avenge the insult.

The boat had been employed in carrying ballast to some of the ships: there was

therefore a quantity of gravel in the bottom, and collecting a large supply of good stones, they prepared for giving *Mynheer* and his companions a salute as they passed. Just, therefore, as the skiff got within good reach of them, and was gliding away very quietly, it was assailed by a tremendous volley; which so exasperated the old Dutchman and his companions, that they vowed vengeance, and steered for the boat, the old fellow stuttering and sputtering at a great rate; but the boys kept up such a determined and well-directed *fire*, that although transported with rage, they were compelled to forego the sweets of revenge, and *bear away* with all possible dispatch; the boys announcing their victory by three triumphant cheers; a victory, in comparison with which, the late discomfiture of the American fleet, in the same bay, was but a trifle in *our* estimation.

There are wolves, bears, foxes, &c. in abundance in the neighbourhood of Kingston: the government being desirous to

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diminish the number of the former, give a reward for every one that is killed.

Many of the young men of the town amuse themselves frequently with bear-hunting; a practice that was attended with melancholy consequences, in one instance. Two brothers, in mourning for a relation lately deceased, being on an excursion of this kind, separated in the wood during the day, and some time afterwards one of them observing the other, before he was noticed by him, resolved upon having a *little sport*, and getting upon his hands and feet, behind a large tree that was lying upon the ground, moved along with his back a little above the trunk, imitating the movement of a bear as nearly as possible, and endeavouring to make himself noticed by his brother. The latter, little suspecting the artifice, took him for what he pretended to be, and, before he had time to discover his mistake, lodged the contents of his rifle in his unfortunate brother, who expired shortly afterwards.



The soil of Canada, in general, is very fertile, particularly the upper parts of it: the meadows and pasture grounds produce wild strawberries in great abundance; the heaths abound with small shrubs of a variety of kinds, the greater part of them producing berries; the very fens, or swamps, as they are called there, afford cranberries; the woods contain many trees that yield nuts of several kinds, viz. butter-nuts, (about the size of, and nearly resembling the walnut,) walnuts, hickory, bitter, beech, hazel nuts, &c. and wild plums, cherries, grapes, gooseberries, &c. are abundant.

There is a kind of wild cherries here, called choke-cherries, which grow in strings, similar to red currants, but much larger, and of a deeper red; there is also a great variety of the white thorn, producing as great a variety of haws, some of which are extremely large; and perhaps few who have not tasted them would be inclined to believe the excellence of their flavour: one kind, in particular, about the size of a plum,

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is quite a pleasant fruit. The quantity and variety of wild fruits, gathered in the fields, woods and moors, and produced without the least cultivation, that are exposed for sale in a Canadian market, would afford surprise and satisfaction to any stranger. I have been informed, that along the upper shores of Lake Ontario the peaches are so abundant that they are given as food to the swine.

There is also a wild fruit in Upper Canada, which I have never met with, nor heard of, in any other country, called the *may-apple*: the plant that bears it rises from the ground, a naked slender stalk, about a foot high; at the top two large leaves, somewhat resembling those of the rhubarb plant, branch out directly opposite to each other; and when full grown, bend downwards in a regular and graceful manner, nearly touching the ground: the fruit springs out from between the leaves, at their junction, and, when ripe, hangs down the stalk about three or four inches, in a transverse direction

from that of the leaves. Its colour is a beautiful yellow, its size about that of the lemon; the skin is tough, and the pulp a delicious juice mixed with seeds.

Here I shall mention a trifling circumstance that once occurred to me near Kingston, while gathering a few of these may-apples. I observed a very fine one near the foot of a tree, and its inviting appearance, like that of many a more important object in the world, instead of being an advantage or safe-guard, immediately proved the warrant for its destruction. I therefore approached in order to add it to my stock, but while just in the act of stooping to pluck it off, a number of wild bees sallied out of their nest, which was formed upon the side of the tree, but which, in my eagerness to seize the object of my pursuit, I had not observed, and attacked me with such fury that, notwithstanding the certainty I had felt, an instant before, of enjoying it, I was compelled to relinquish it, and seek safety by flight. One of the bees lodged upon my upper lip, and

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stung it to such a degree that it swelled to an amazing size.

I have frequently thought of the circumstance since, and it has struck me as being admirably calculated to teach a most serviceable lesson ; a lesson which, had I been possessed at the time of sufficient judgment to discern, and wisdom and strength of mind to improve, might have often been productive of most salutary effects, viz. the extreme, the inconceivably great uncertainty of every thing in this life, and the absurdity of resting assured of any thing, prior to the actual possession or consummation.

In speculations where failure or success is doubtful, one should always be prepared for the worst that could happen : the chances for and against should be maturely weighed, and expectation should not be permitted to rise to such a height as would cause disappointment, in the event of its occurrence, to be intensely severe ; but in cases where doubt seems quite removed, and, to all appearance, no obstacle *can* be in the way ;

when every thing is settled beyond all probable, or even apparently possible, change; and when one has the eagerly desired object entirely within reach, and just extends his arm, as it were, to take possession of the valued prize; *then* for disappointment to start suddenly from her baleful lurking place, and stare her astonished victim full in the face, as he starts with surprise, and gapes with amaze, is what touches the feelings, and tries the patience of a man.

And here I would pause for a moment to observe upon the merits of that Religion which is so lightly esteemed by many people in the world, and to put its efficacy to the test: perhaps its happy effects are seldom more apparent than in cases such as that which I have just alluded to.

I have hinted that an intense degree of disappointment is calculated to call forth the strongest demand for patience: by it the mind is hurried in a moment from one extreme of feeling to the other; from the extreme of pleasure, arising from the sup-

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sired object, to that of pain, caused not mere-  
ly by the want of the object, but also by the  
circumstance of being, as it were, robbed  
of it, as if it had been actually enjoyed.—

Patience is the grand principle that is ne-  
cessary to the mind at this time for its re-  
lief: it is that particular agent of whose  
services it is, under these circumstances, in  
peculiar need. But can *every* mind sum-  
mon this agent to its aid whenever occasion  
requires? Is every mind possessed of a  
sufficient portion of this virtue to counteract  
the distressing, corroding effects of disap-  
pointment? Few, I believe, will be bold  
or simple enough to answer in the affirma-  
tive. What then is the consequence?—

From the absence or insufficiency of this  
*natural* antidote for the evil, men have re-  
course to something that may be acquired:  
they have invented an artificial principle  
which *they* term *philosophy*; this, at the  
best, comes far short of the desired end,  
and also confines *all* its boasted advantages

to this side of the grave; whereas their great, their beneficent Creator, in compassion to their weakness and imperfection, and in love to their immortal souls, has provided them with a sovereign remedy, which, like all his other productions,

Not only does its end produce,  
But serves to *second too*, some *other* use.

This, it is almost unnecessary to say, is religion, which not only proves a perfect antidote for that great and unavoidable disturber of the human breast, disappointment, but also smooths the rugged path of life, eases the bed of death, and renders the soul happy in eternity. Men have differed in their choice of these two principles; and I am well aware that those who have preferred the former will smile with contempt at my simplicity in giving my humble vote in favour of the latter. But in order to form a correct idea of their respective *merits*, I would take a short *practical* view of their different operations upon the mind, which

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I have myself had an opportunity of witnessing in more than one instance.

When the *philosopher*, who denies or rejects the influence of religion, and looks down upon it with scorn; when he whose hopes and views are confined within the narrow limits of this world, meets with any great or sudden disappointment, his *philosophy* tells him that he must bear it with manly fortitude; that besides its being weak and pusillanimous to give way to useless grief, or indulge in fruitless and torturing vexation, it only increases the pain of the mind; and therefore he must suppress his feelings before they become too painful or troublesome, and endeavour to forget what he can neither prevent nor remedy. This is the extent of comfort and consolation derived from human philosophy—this is the balm it pours into the bleeding, painful wounds inflicted by disappointment, and the numerous evils with which men are at all times surrounded, and too, too frequently visited.



I have seen those who, while at ease in their minds, could reason upon its mighty efficacy, and consider it sufficient to support men under the most adverse circumstances ; could laugh at religion, and consider it a mere illusion, unworthy the attention of a *great mind*. I have seen those same individuals encountering the frowns of fortune. At first, being gentle, their philosophy has served them surprisingly : they could content themselves with the reflection that it would be absurd to expect a constant sunshine, and that an overcast sky, or gentle shower, would only tend to increase their enjoyment of the former, at its hoped for return : when the clouds gathered thicker, they bore up pretty well ; but when storm and tempest burst upon them, with all their horrors, their philosophy was put to the test ; all its dictates, all their reasoning proved insufficient to calm their troubled minds, or afford them relief from the overwhelming difficulties and sorrows that oppressed them : it might perhaps

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have been effectual had they been able to reduce the theory to practice ; but *here* was the difficulty ; though entirely disposed for this, they found it impracticable, and they became a prey to the most poignant anguish, immeasurably increased by despair.

In numerous instances of a similar nature, the wretched victims, transported by impatience under their sufferings, have indulged in the most extravagant expressions of their painful feelings, that blasted hopes, ruined fortunes, and desponding minds could excite : they have exclaimed, in no measured degree, against their hard fate ; they have questioned the wisdom and justice of the great disposer of all events, and in too many distressing cases, reckless of

—— that *something after death,*

Which makes us rather bear those ills we have,

Than fly to others that we know not of :

and totally incapable of availing themselves of their once boasted *philosophy*, to *endure like men*, have adopted the *last, desperate* alternative of terminating their sufferings here

by hurrying themselves into unknown scenes, whither the mind, however prying, must cease from following them !

And if we take a still more extended view of the effects of *human reasoning*, in opposition to the light that has come down from above ; if we follow that principle which induces men to resign their eternal all to its insidious representations, we shall discover where it leaves its wretched votaries. We have heard of some of those *lofty geniuses*, those *strong minds*, those *profound reasoners*, who look down with disdain, mixed with pity, from the *elevated summit* to which their *superior wisdom* and *penetration* have raised them, upon the crowds of *weak, narrow-minded, unenlightened* creatures, who grovel along beneath them : we have heard of them ridiculing the Bible as a cunningly-devised fable, and the system of religion founded upon it as being indeed *useful*, inasmuch as it serves to keep the simple and ignorant *in order*, but infinitely below the notice or attention of individuals

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of their exalted intellect, understanding and penetration. They can fearlessly criticise and condemn Scripture characters, and laugh at the *simplicity* that is *duped* by such a collection of *absurdities* as that which the Scriptures contain ; and they can undauntedly live and act in complete violation of the laws and regulations they enjoin, *while in perfect health*, and in that forgetfulness of the future which the temporary absence of bodily pain too frequently inspires. But see those *towering minds*, this *superior order of the human race*, approaching that awful crisis which is to determine the future state of their immortal souls to all eternity : see them languishing on the *bed of death*, and, while their minds are still occupied with the *great question*, CONVICTION, *unexpected, unwished-for* CONVICTION suddenly bursting in upon their astonished, and now distracted and despairing minds! See them, in the agony of distraction, lamenting, in wild and vociferous accents, that they should have entertained and propagated the

infernal opinions and principles which they now feel, but, alas! too late, are hurrying them to everlasting, irretrievable ruin and perdition! See them in the last awful stage of life, just about to experience the dread reality of their speculations, crying out, in despair and anguish, "I am going to hell, and who shall save me! for me there is no mercy, no pity; for I have not rested satisfied with my own destruction, but have been industriously instrumental in the eternal ruin of others! pray not for *me*, all prayer is unavailing on *my* behalf! I see the horrid gulph yawning wide, just ready to receive me, and from it there is no escape!" One, and not an inconsiderable one, says, "Doctor, save my life for three days!" On being told it could not be the case for three hours, "then," he cries, "I'll go to hell, and you'll go with me!"\* Another exclaims, when directed by his friend to the Saviour, "Hold! hold! you

\* The Doctor was of the same principles.

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wound me!—That is *the rock on which I split—I denied his name!*” On hearing heaven mentioned, “ ’Tis lost! ’tis lost!” he cries, “ heaven is to me the severest part of hell!” Prayer being proposed, “ Pray you that can, *I never prayed,—nor need I!*” said he. “ Didst thou feel half the mountain that is on me, thou wouldst struggle with the martyr for his stake, and bless heaven for the flames!—*that is not an everlasting flame; that is not an unquenchable fire!* Oh time! time! how art thou fled for ever! A month!—oh for a single week! I ask not for years; though an age were too little for the much I have to do. Oh! thou blasphemed, yet indulgent, Lord God! hell itself is a refuge if it hide me from thy frown!” And an *illustrious* one says to the person attending him, while speaking of a *certain book* of which he was the author, “ Have you ever seen that book?” Being answered in the affirmative, and that a copy was in her possession, “ Then burn it!” he cries, “ burn it! oh that I had

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never, never propagated that *impious* book !”

These were all men who, when in possession of bodily health and mental vigour, could rail at the Bible, and laugh at the idea of hell : these were even *leaders* of the sect ; they could teach others, and industriously disseminated their principles among their fellow men ; and yet at the approach of that momentous period that decides the eternal fate of man, all their bravado, all their *greatness of mind*, all their *reasoning* forsook them ! and their situation became infinitely more deplorable and contemptible than what they had previously considered that of the most insignificant of those whose opinions they had despised and treated with derision. They then became terrified at a place which they never could be previously led to believe had existence ; they earnestly desired time to endeavour to appease the wrath of an angry God, but their petition was denied, and they left the world with hideous yells of

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despair, and countenances distorted by terror and anguish !

On the other hand, see the humble believer in the Bible ; see him who receives and trusts in the gospel plan of salvation, under the same trying circumstances.—When visited with the disappointments and trials of life, he does not attribute them to mere chance or accident ; he is too well convinced of the perfection of creation and its Creator, to suppose, for a moment, that any thing, even the most trifling, occurs without his permission or appointment ; and being also persuaded of the perfection of his wisdom and goodness, he knows that, however mysterious or painful the dispensation may be at the moment, yet that it is appointed for some good and wise end ; and although not capable of divesting himself altogether of the frailty of his fallen nature, which causes him to feel it severe, and grievous to be borne, yet satisfied that the result will prove favourable to him, either in one point of view or another, he calmly submits : he knows he deserves in-



finitely greater severity on account of his demerits in the sight of his Maker : he knows he is but a steward over the things that he possesses, or may have possessed ; and conscious of the great disproportion between what he is still allowed to enjoy and his deserts, he patiently breathes out his submission to the Divine will, in the becoming language of Job ; “ The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord.” If his calamities increase, he complains not, he repines not : he merely entreats that great and omnipotent Being, with whom he has to do, to grant him a sufficient portion of grace to enable him to endure the visitation, and to bow with humble and pious resignation to his perfectly wise, and even merciful decrees. If no hope, with respect to this world, appear to gleam through the dark clouds that surround him, yet is he not in despair : he is consoled, he is cheered by the animating, the glorious thought, that although he may suffer a little longer,

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and it can be *but little*, the day *will* come  
 “when sighing and sorrowing shall flee  
 away;” when all tears shall be wiped from  
 his eyes, and his sufferings here be reward-  
 ed with joys, unspeakably glorious in their  
 nature, and eternal in their duration. And  
 when that awful moment approaches which  
 is to terminate his earthly career; when he  
 is about to tread the threshold of an unknown  
 eternity, instead of trembling at the appear-  
 ance of the grisly monster that is to call  
 him away, and writhing with anguish and  
 despair at the idea of dissolution, he hails  
 his arrival *with joy*, he *longs for it*; he feels  
 that death has *no sting* for *him*, that the  
 grave obtains no victory over him.

See smiling patience sooth his brow,  
 See the kind angels waiting now,  
 To lift his soul on high :  
 While, eager for the blest abode,  
 He joins with them to praise the God  
 That taught him *how to die*.

And to complete the happy result of  
 having chosen the better part,

*Such peace on virtue's path attends,  
That where the sinner's pleasure ends,  
The good man's joys begin.*

These are not highly coloured pictures of the two characters I have just noticed; they are to be met with almost every day. Here, then, are the respective *effects* of two different opinions or doctrines; and if it be with them as with trees, that they are *known by their fruits*, I appeal to the unbiassed mind which of them possesses the stronger claims to our serious attention and regard, and consequently to our choice?

In February, 1813, the regiment received orders to proceed up the country to York. On the day appointed for our departure, sleighs, or sledges were provided, and about twelve o'clock we left Kingston. My father took my mother and sister in his own cariole, and my brother and I were sent on one of the sleighs, with a servant and the baggage. Our driver was an old man, who had served in the army that took Canada, on leaving which he had received

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a grant of a large farm, about twenty miles from Kingston, where he resided. We arrived here the first day, and were very hospitably entertained by him and his family. I was much gratified in observing the comfortable manner in which he was settled: he had a large well-built house, commodious offices, an extensive and well-improved farm, a good stock of cattle, several beautiful horses, and every necessary accommodation.

The following morning the old man accompanied us, and, being a very jovial little old fellow, entertained us with many a droll old story; frequently, however, exciting the laugh rather at the narrator than his narrative. He was still fond of a little refreshment, of the *spirituous* kind, by the way; and in the afternoon, while in full glee relating one of his "tales of other days," and not very attentive to his horses, the latter took fright at something, and started off. The beaten part of the road is very narrow in the country during the winter,

with a high ridge of snow on each side; the sudden starting of the horses, and pull of the reins, threw the old man off the sleigh, into one of these ridges. As he retained his hold of the reins, the violence with which he was drawn along turned his head downwards into the snow, which he ploughed up in an extraordinary manner; and it was certainly most amusing to us, little thinking of the possible consequences, to see his poor old legs jumping up and down in the air, while his head and shoulders were exploring the internal regions of the snowy heap. The servant, by great exertion, succeeded in stopping the horses, and relieved him from his perilous situation; and all the fun excited by his jokes was nothing to that which his most extraordinary and ludicrous appearance, on coming out of the snow, afforded. He had lost his fur cap and wig in the fall, and his polished bald head, his nose, once a fine aquiline, but then bowing down to meet his chin, his fresh fair countenance, and his gaping and

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staring while endeavouring to remove the snow from his ears, mouth and eyes, were certainly well calculated to set the risible faculties of two boys in active motion. I know of nothing he resembled at the moment so nearly as an owl, just after a dive upon a duck's back.

The pole of the sleigh was broken in pieces by the accident, which rendered it impossible for us to proceed without a new one: this difficulty was soon obviated by the old man, who, being acquainted with the place, went to procure assistance, and in a short time returned with an Indian, and tools requisite for making one. They cut down a young tree of suitable dimensions, and, in a much shorter period than I could have had an idea of, had a pole completed, and the horses put to.

This was the second instance in which I had an opportunity of witnessing the handiness and readiness of the people of this country, in repairing accidents of this kind. Upon one occasion, while removing some of

the furniture from our farm in Lower Canada, the axle-tree of one of the carts broke in the woods ; and as we were several miles from any house, no assistance could be obtained ; the drivers, therefore, set to work with their hatchets, which they generally carry with them on similar occasions, and with the assistance of a cooper's knife that we happened luckily to have with us, they formed an axle from a small iron-wood tree, with surprising dexterity and haste, and the cart was enabled to proceed with but trifling delay. A proof of the extensive capacity of man, beyond what he is himself conscious of, until elicited by necessity.

The Indian alluded to lived in a comfortable farm house, and cultivated a farm. I was very agreeably surprised afterwards, as we proceeded, to find a number of those people established along the road, living in a settled, civilized manner, on farms, and, in some instances, having spirits and other articles for sale. In such cases they had signs exhibited above their doors, but the

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characters upon them were of such an uncouth description, that I apprehend it would have required a very skilful decipherer to discover what they signified, in any other way than by seeing the articles in the houses. We met several of the men on the road, with horses and sleighs, drawing home hay from the distant meadows and marshes, where it had been cocked in the summer.

Large tracts of this part of the country, through which our road lay, were at this time quite unoccupied, and covered with trees, just as they came from the hand of nature; and at this season of the year, the trees being leafless, and their branches loaded with snow and ice, together with the solemn stillness that prevails, not a sound being heard but the echo of the horses' hoofs prancing along the road, the country has a dreary, cheerless, yet sublime appearance; impressing the mind with an indescribable sensation of awe, loneliness, and astonishment, and bringing it back, in imagination, to the primitive ages of the world.



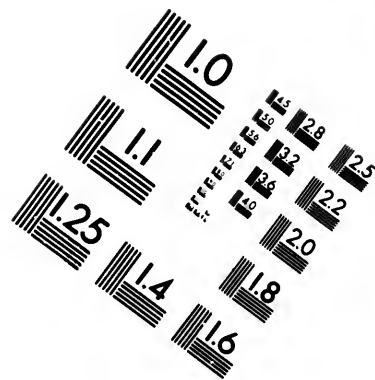
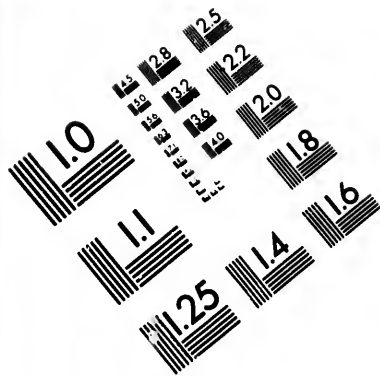
One day the stage was unusually long, from the country being but thinly settled; and in the evening, while yet a considerable distance from the inn where we expected to stop, it became very dark, and began to rain heavily. As there was no house whatever to afford us shelter, we were obliged to drive on, with the rain pouring upon us in torrents; and this, with the excessive coldness of the air, rendered our situation not one of the most desirable. At length our driver proposed to take us to a small house, a short distance from the road, occupied by an acquaintance of his, who had not been long settled in the country. Here we could not expect to find very good accommodation, but the idea of obtaining shelter from the cold and rain counterbalanced every other consideration; and as the inn was still several miles farther on, we resolved to go. When we reached it, it proved to be a small cottage, containing only two apartments; and its inhabitants, being new settlers, were poor. We had not

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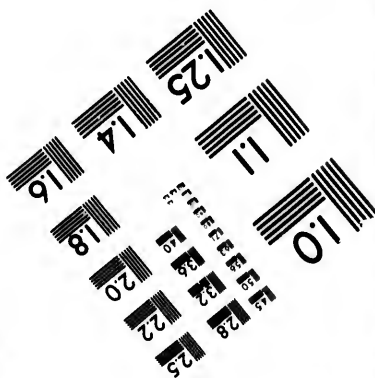
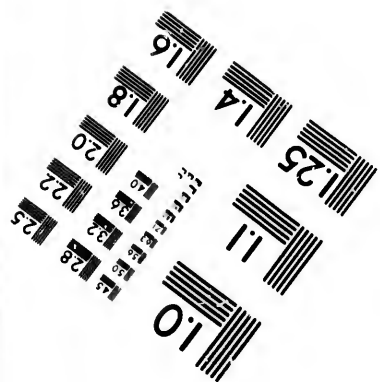
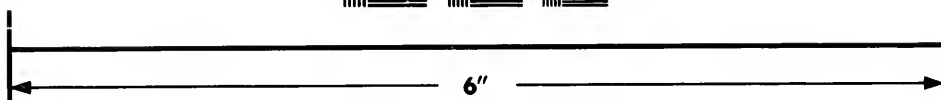
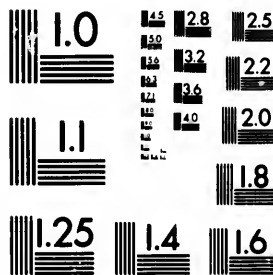
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been in long before I began to wish we had continued on the road, notwithstanding the rain; we appeared to have escaped Scylla merely to be dashed against Charybdis; for we found they had neither bread, tea, nor sugar, nor any thing, scarcely, that we could eat. They had some flour, however, of which our hostess made some cakes, and a kind of beverage that they called hemlock tea, a decoction of small branches of the hemlock tree, a sort of fir that grows to a great height. The tea had a very unpleasant, bitter flavour to me, and being without sugar, I could not use it: the cakes were better, and after a meal which, I must confess, notwithstanding my admiration of a certain ancient warrior, did not constrain me to exclaim with him, "What luxury have I hitherto been a stranger to!" we were shewn to a very indifferent bed; it was clean, however, and, stimulated by the fatigue and hardships of the day, I slept as soundly in it, perhaps, as ever I did in a much better one.





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In two or three days afterwards we arrived at York. This is a pleasant little town, the houses generally of wood, and containing some good shops. Being the seat of government of the upper province, it has a house of assembly, court-house, &c. It is situated at the lower end of a long bay, formed by a narrow peninsula stretching up the lake, parallel with the shore, about two miles. On the extremity of this, called Gibraltar Point, stands a light-house, and exactly opposite to it, on the main land, the garrison is situated, where we resided.

The lower part of the bay was covered with ice at this time, and the upper part was frequented by immense flocks of wild geese, ducks, &c. which afforded fine sport to our officers, who frequently took a batteau during the moonlight nights, and dropping quietly down among them, shot them in great numbers. The rivers and lakes of Upper Canada abound with these wild fowl, and those who are fond of shoot-

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ing may indulge themselves in it in this country to the utmost of their wishes.— The Indians are particularly expert at this sport; and I was one day very much amused here with an artifice resorted to by two of them, in order to get, unobserved, within reach of a flock of ducks which they saw at a distance from them. They cut a large bush, and fixing it erect at the bow of their canoe, one of them concealed himself behind it, with his gun presented through it, while the other, at the stern, paddled gently towards the ducks: when within reach the former fired, and, with unerring aim, laid several of them floating on the water. My father was particularly fond of shooting, and at York he formed an acquaintance with two of these people who, from being well treated by him, and getting plenty of rum, used to take him in their canoe to the haunts of the geese, ducks, &c. where he had an opportunity of completely satisfying himself with his favourite amusement.

While we were at this place, the son of an

Indian chief, whose tribe was in the vicinity of the town, died ; and as the Indians were engaged in the service of government, a party of soldiers, with drums and fifes, was sent to bury him with military honours. Curiosity induced me to accompany the party. After walking a considerable distance, the greater part through a thick wood, not without some secret misgivings on my part at the idea of joining a party of Indians, in the centre of a forest, late in the day, and far from home, we arrived at a small opening, where we found the Indians, with the body, waiting for us. The deceased was a young man, who had been a great warrior, according to the ideas these people entertain of great achievements in war, which was evident from a number of scalps, suspended by a cord, in regular order, from the top of a long staff that was carried with great solemnity just before the corpse, as a trophy of his deeds. They had been cut off by his own hand at the battle of Queenston, where he had dis-

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sioned by a cold which he took one night in  
the woods, where, after hunting all day, he  
lay down on the snow, with only a blanket  
wrapped round him, outside of his ordinary  
clothes. The body was in a decent black  
coffin : at our approach it was lifted upon  
sticks, by four men, and the procession  
began to move. An immense number of  
Indians preceded the coffin ; the last of  
whom, walking alone, carried the staff with  
the scalps ; a few more succeeded it, car-  
rying the deceased's gun, bow and arrows,  
with a knapsack, made of the skin of some  
wild animal ; and the soldiers brought up  
the rear, the drums and fifes playing a dead  
march. When we had proceeded about a  
quarter of a mile farther into the wood, we  
reached the grave, which was at the foot  
of a large beech tree : the coffin being de-  
posited in it, the knapsack, gun, bow and  
arrows placed upon the coffin, and the staff  
with the scalps placed upright at the head,  
the soldiers fired a volley over it. The re-

port of the muskets had scarcely subsided, when the whole tribe raised a most appalling yell, which, for force and wildness of sound, surpassed any thing I could have conceived the human voice capable of; and such as I should consider well calculated, as General Wolfe observed, "to strike many a bold heart with affright." Its terrifying echo through the forest, the solitary gloom of the place, and the near approach of evening, gave additional horrors to the cry; and from not expecting it, the effect it had upon me, being but a young boy, I could not pretend to describe: I should be inclined to suppose it was something similar to the effects of a shock of electricity, for I scarcely knew whether I was standing on my feet or my head. The soldiers fired two rounds more, and the yell was repeated after each: this being concluded, the Indians proceeded to fill the grave, leaving the knapsack, &c. in it; and the staff, with the scalps swinging about in the breeze, was left at the head, to supply the place of

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a more permanent and civilized memento of its contents. I was informed that a porringer, containing food, was put inside of the coffin ; and upon enquiring into the motive for burying the deceased's knapsack, &c. I learned that the Indians suppose, with respect to futurity, that after death the departed take a long journey to a distant country, when they arrive at a very broad and rapid river, which they must cross ; and for this purpose a round log of wood is placed over it. Those who have conducted themselves with propriety in this life, walk safely over the log, when they enter into a most delightful country, abounding with game of every description : here they spend their eternity in shooting, hunting, fishing, &c. ; and those who have lived improperly here, while crossing the river, fall in, and are hurried into eternal oblivion. The food put in the coffin was to sustain the deceased on his journey, and the gun and bow and arrows for shooting in the happy country.

In considering the important fact, that no people, however separated from the rest of the world, and however savage they may be in other respects, who have yet been discovered, are devoid of religion, of one kind or other; that however the various inhabitants of the earth may differ in minor points, all unanimously agree in the great and important one, of the existence of some great supreme Being, who is entitled to their adoration and worship; that the human mind, however uncultivated, and barren of other ideas, can discern in the works of creation the hand of some unknown and omnipotent Being, to whom it feels itself subordinate; I think the Atheist is provided with abundant evidence, if with all his *strength of mind* and *reasoning* he possessed a sufficient degree to enable him to open his mind to conviction, of the absurdity of his doctrine. After taking a minute view of the wonderful system of the universe; the capacious and insatiable nature of the

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mind of man ; his susceptibility of progressive improvement, and yet the impossibility of his arriving at perfection on this side of the grave ; his vast mental superiority over all the other animals of creation ; the natural tendency that this investigation has generally upon the mind of man to convince him of the existence of a great first cause : that a few weak, misguided men should, merely *because they wish it were so*, come to the conclusion that the whole system should have sprung up by chance ; that it is sustained by mere casualty, and that all will, *by chance*, return to its original nothingness—(How strange the hypothesis ! Could matter so wonderful, so various, so substantial, spring by accident, *without an agent*, from nothing ? How opposed even to the weak reason of man !)—that they should come to this conclusion, I conceive to be one of the wildest, weakest, and worst-founded speculations that the erring, fallible reason of man could be capable of suggesting.

A daring infidel, and such there are,  
 From *pride, example, lucre, rage, revenge,*  
 Or pure heroical DEFECT OF THOUGHT,  
 Of all earth's madmen *most deserves* A CHAIN.

On the 25th of April the grenadier company of the 8th regiment arrived in batteaux, from Kingston, on their way up the country. They were allowed to remain during the 26th to refresh themselves after a long journey, and were to have proceeded on the 27th. During the 26th my father and I were in town, and while returning to the garrison in the evening, we were overtaken by Captain M'Neile, of that company, who was also going there. On our way he informed my father of the various arrangements he had made for the remainder of his journey to the place of his destination, and spoke as confidently of being in Fort George, the next town, on a certain day, as if no untoward circumstance could intervene; or as if uncertainty and disappointment were not, alas! too constantly, the companions of man. When we arrived

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at the garrison all was bustle and activity ; the American fleet had appeared off the harbour, and from its manœuvres it was supposed that York was the place of its destination.

The troops were under arms, and although the greatest activity prevailed in making the necessary dispositions for the defence of the place, very little apprehension was entertained for its safety ; which was rather surprising, since the whole amount of the regular forces, including the grenadiers of the 8th regiment, did not exceed 300 ; the militia, &c. composing a few hundreds more.

Early on the morning of the 27th the enemy's fleet appeared, steering directly for the harbour : the troops were again formed in the barrack square, and kept in readiness to march off to oppose the landing of the enemy, when it should appear what point they would choose for that purpose. We had a small battery at the garrison, another at the governor's house,

a short distance farther up the lake shore, and a third about half a mile beyond it, in the same direction.

About seven o'clock the fleet, consisting of a frigate of 24 guns, a brig of 18, and fifteen armed schooners, sailed round Gibraltar Point, steering towards the uppermost battery. The morning was very fine; the lake quite calm; and the fleet, gliding slowly upon its surface with a gentle breeze, and in regular order, the frigate leading, the others following in a line, and each towing several large boats for the purpose of landing the troops, had an elegant and imposing appearance.

As soon as it became evident where the enemy intended to attempt a landing, our forces were ordered off to oppose them.—Well do I yet remember that fatal morning.—Oh! how my heart bleeds, even at this distant period, when memory represents to my view the devoted band cheerfully marching to offer themselves a useless, but honourable sacrifice at their country's

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shrine! What could a few hundreds, even of *British* soldiers, be supposed to effect against the overwhelming superiority of force that their adversaries opposed to them, consisting of a greater number of thousands than they had of hundreds?— But as it is not the part of British soldiers to surrender at discretion, or quietly to resign the post of honour, without at least making an effort to repel their invaders, the desperate experiment must of necessity be made, and melancholy indeed was the result!

The grenadier company of the 8th regiment consisted of 119 as fine men as the British army could produce, commanded by the brave and elegant Captain M'Neile. I saw the generous hero, at the head of his valiant company, in the prime of life, and prompt to obey the call of honour, march off—but, ah! I saw him, and the most of his little band, return no more! thirty alone escaped the havoc of that day!

All the regulars that could be spared from the batteries advanced beyond the uppermost one, and as the enemy attempted to land, opened a spirited fire upon them; but, as the latter were so numerous that it was impossible to oppose them all, some landed above where our little force was posted, got into the woods, and coming down in their rear cut them off in great numbers. Captain M'Neile was the first who fell upon this melancholy occasion; the sergeant-major of the 8th, a remarkably fine looking man, was the next, and the carnage soon became general.

While this part of our force was contending with the enemy in the woods, an unfortunate accident occurred in the battery opposed to the fleet, which proved a death-blow to the little hope that might have been entertained of a successful issue to the proceedings of the day. A gun was aimed at one of the vessels, and the officers, desirous of seeing if the ball

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would take effect, ascended the bastion: in the mean time the artillery man, waiting for the word of command to fire, held the match behind him, as is usual under such circumstances; and the travelling magazine, a large wooden chest, containing cartridges for the great guns, being open just at his back, he unfortunately put the match into it, and the consequence, as may be supposed, was dreadful indeed! Every man in the battery was blown into the air, and the *dissection* of the greater part of their bodies was inconceivably shocking! The officers were thrown from the bastion by the shock, but escaped with a few bruises: the cannons were dismounted, and consequently the battery was rendered completely useless.

I was standing at the gate of the garrison when the poor soldiers, who escaped the explosion with a little life remaining, were brought in to the hospital, and a more afflicting sight could scarcely be witnessed. Their faces were completely black,

resembling those of the blackest Africans ; their hair frizzled like theirs, and their clothes scorched and emitting an effluvia so strong as to be perceived long before they reached one. One man in particular presented an awful spectacle : he was brought in a wheel-barrow, and from his appearance I should be inclined to suppose that almost every bone in his body was broken ; he was lying in a powerless heap, shaking about with every motion of the barrow, from which his legs hung dangling down, as if only connected with his body by the skin, while his cries and groans were of the most heart-rending description.

Although Spartan valour was evinced by our little party, it proved unavailing against the numbers that pressed them upon all sides ; and in consequence of the loss of the battery, and the reduction that had been made in the number of our troops, their ground was no longer tenable ; but after nobly and desperately withstanding their enemies for several hours, a retreat

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towards the garrison became inevitable, although every inch of the ground was obstinately disputed.

The governor's house, with some smaller buildings, formed a square at the centre battery, and under it the grand magazine, containing a large quantity of powder, was situated. As there were only two or three guns at this battery, and it but a short distance from the garrison, the troops did not remain in it, but retreated to the latter. When the Americans, commanded by one of their best generals, Pike, reached this small battery, instead of pressing forward, they halted, and the general sat down on one of the guns: a fatal proceeding—for, in a few minutes, his advance guard, consisting of about 300 men, and himself, were blown into the air by the explosion of the grand magazine.

Some time before this horrible circumstance took place, the vessels had commenced firing upon the garrison, which obliged the females, children, &c. to leave it; we

therefore retired into the country, to the house of an officer of the militia, where we remained a short time ; but, feeling anxious to know the fate of the day, I left the house without the knowledge of my mother, and was proceeding towards the garrison, when the explosion took place. I heard the report, and felt a tremulous motion in the earth, resembling the shock of an earthquake ; and looking towards the spot I saw an immense cloud ascend into the air. I was not aware at the moment what it had been occasioned by, but it had an awfully grand effect : at first it was a great confused mass of smoke, timber, men, earth, &c. but as it rose, in a most majestic manner, it assumed the shape of a vast balloon. When the whole mass had ascended to a considerable height, and the force by which the timber, &c. were impelled upwards became spent, the latter fell from the cloud, and spread over the surrounding plain. I stopped to observe the cloud, which preserved its round shape while it remained within

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my view. I then advanced towards the garrison, but had not proceeded much farther until I discovered our little party collected in a close body between the town and that place, which latter they had been obliged to evacuate. After observing their motions for a short time, I looked towards the garrison, when I became the melancholy spectator of what I had never witnessed upon any former occasion, and what I had little anticipated upon this. Just as the flag-staff caught my eye I saw—and oh! how my young feelings were harrowed, and my patriotic pride humbled at the sight!—I saw the “meteor flag” of England bow, by impious, traitorous hands,\* to the then triumphant, “star-spangled” banner of America!

Finding that the garrison, which was very near me, was in the possession of the Americans, and, consequently, that all was

\* The English flag was hauled down, and the American substituted, by a sergeant who had deserted from the British army.

over, I returned to the house where I had left my mother, and shortly after I reached it a soldier came to us, with directions to proceed to the town as fast as possible.

We had a 26 gun frigate upon the stocks at York at the time, the capture or destruction of which was probably the principal object the Americans had in view in this expedition: the yard where it was building was about mid-way between the town and the garrison; and as the enemy were not sufficiently good soldiers to improve the advantage they had obtained, by following our troops immediately after they got possession of the garrison, but, on the contrary, remained in it for sometime afterwards—the second error highly disadvantageous to them this day—our people had fortunately an opportunity of consuming the ship, and thereby preventing it from falling into their hands. This was a particularly happy circumstance, since the possession of it would have rendered them complete masters of the lake for a long



time, and most probably during the remainder of the war.

On reaching the town we found the soldiers evacuating it, on their retreat towards Kingston ; and there being no other alternative, we joined them, just as we were, and left the town.

As in the morning we had very foolishly entertained no apprehension whatever of being defeated, but left our quarters confident of soon returning, and walked out from the breakfast table as if to look at some curiosity, we brought no clothing with us more than we wore at the moment ; and, consequently, left York about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, to commence a journey of 200 miles through the woods of America, at an inclement season, without an outside garment of any description, or a second pair of shoes. The snow had just thawed also, which, with the heavy and copious rains, usual at this season, rendered the roads, that are bad at best, almost impassable.

We met the light company of the 8th regiment at the end of the town, where they had just arrived, after marching from Kingston; and, without making the least halt, were obliged, to their *great satisfaction*, no doubt, to turn and “mark the self-same track again.”

At a short distance from town we met several of the inhabitants of the country going to it, who made no scruple to express themselves well satisfied with our *success*, and their new masters. We had walked but a few miles when the weather changed, and it began to rain heavily, which, with the late hour of the evening, induced us to take shelter in the first house we came to: this was a small cottage of only one apartment, eight miles from York, where we were obliged to stay for the night, as the next house was two miles farther on.

The main body marched on before us, and left my father and Lieutenant C—with their families, and a few wounded men, women, and children. People un-

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acquainted with scenes of this kind can form but a very faint idea of them from any description that could be given ; they were new to us at the time, and I should not be surprised if this would have been more than sufficient to satisfy the most enthusiastic *lovers of novelty*, had any such been present.

We were too numerous to be accommodated with any thing to eat, as the people of the house were poor ; but luckily we had the remains of a leg of mutton, and some bread, that we brought out with us in the morning.

I had often heard it remarked, that people sometimes experience great changes during their lives, an observation that occupied very little of my attention, until I saw it very forcibly exemplified upon this occasion. One of our officers, until the day before, could not think of dining before parade, on any account ; it was such "a shocking bore" to be disturbed at his wine ; at this time the *bore* was strangely reversed,

it being a *dreadful one* to have neither dinner nor wine to be disturbed at.

There was but one bed in the house, but this would have been of little service, even in a separate apartment, as the piteous cries and groans of the wounded, the squalling of children, and lamentations of the women, together with our individual feelings for the loss of property, &c. were quite sufficient to banish sleep from our eyes.— After the most unpleasant night of our lives, whose lengthened hours passed tediously away, we hailed, with peculiar satisfaction, the first dawn of day.

It had rained very heavily during the whole night, but we entertained a hope that it would cease with the approach of morning; in this, however, we were disappointed, for it continued with such severity as to compel us to remain in our miserable sheltering place, without a morsel to eat, as we had distributed the little we had the night before, until about nine or ten o'clock, when it abating a little from pour-

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ing in torrents, we prepared for our journey. Badly as we were circumstanced in other respects, we were fortunate enough to procure a *carriage* to travel in. The reader may perhaps feel a little curiosity to know of *what description* this was, and also inclined to congratulate us on the lucky event: therefore in order to gratify the one, and enable him to do the other with the more effect, it may not be amiss to inform him that it was a good strong *cart*; and what was *particularly pleasant*, considering the state of the weather, our expectation of being pursued by the Americans, and a very strong desire for something to eat, it was drawn by two *very speedy* animals, a *yoke of oxen*.

The females and children were put into this *delightful* vehicle, and my father, Mr. C., and the wounded men walked; the whole forming a procession that might have afforded amusement to a person fond of *strange sights*. We had two miles to go to the first house, where we hoped to break-

fast ; a distance that, owing to the wretched state of the roads, and the slowness of the oxen, occupied nearly two hours ; and a copious shower of rain having fallen the whole time, we had a very *comfortable* and *respectable* appearance when we reached it. I believe this was almost the first time in my life that I was taught to appreciate a breakfast, it having been always, until this period, a *matter of course* ; I had scarcely ever considered its *real* use or value ; but upon this occasion I learned that a good blazing fire and a comfortable breakfast, are not among the least of the good things of this life. Here my mother and Mrs. C. purchased two small Indian blankets, all that were to be had, as substitutes for cloaks, at the *moderate* price of *ten shillings* each.

Being informed that the Americans were marching after us—a report most probably raised by the people of the house, with the view of getting us away ; as, although we were very comfortably accommodated, our

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*loyal* landlord and landlady expressed great anxiety to see us off, evidently lest the Americans should discover that they had entertained us—about twelve o'clock we left this house in our *fly van*, and after a *comfortable* ride in the rain for about four hours, we stopped for the night in a small house, *five* miles from that in which we had breakfasted.

Here the accommodations were miserable; but our conveyance being so slow, and the rain so excessive that we could remain under it no longer, we were glad to put up with them. We got tea, &c. but with respect to beds, they were out of the question: a large fire was made, and a quantity of straw shaken upon the floor; and those who chose to avail themselves of it might "stretch their weary limbs" upon it; but for those who were not so disposed, there was no other alternative than to submit patiently to the inconvenience.

On the following morning we proceeded to a house two miles farther down,

where we breakfasted. At this place we found the quarter-master-sergeant of the regiment waiting for us with my father's horse: he had been wounded during the latter part of the action, and not being able to walk, my father had had him put upon the horse, with which he retreated with the main body. The horse proved a great acquisition to us, and became very useful afterwards, when in some instances no waggon or other conveyance could be procured; my father and mother riding together, while my brother and I walked, and, in turn, walking while we rode.

The majority of the inhabitants of this part of the country evinced great disloyalty as we proceeded, being much gratified with the success of the Americans; and, considering they had nothing to fear from us, did not hesitate to avow it. In many instances they concealed their horses, waggons, &c. in the woods, to avoid accommodating us with them, and told us they had none. Upon one occasion, the

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fourth morning of our march, as we could not procure any kind of conveyance at the house we had stopped in all night, we were obliged to walk two miles to the next house: here the trick alluded to had been practised; but two or three wounded men who had remained there all night, and were waiting for us, being aware of it, informed my father, who was very much exasperated at the idea. On threatening the proprietor to have him deprived of his property, and expelled from the country, he very deliberately brought a couple of waggons, well appointed, out of the wood, after protesting, a short time before, that he had no such thing.

As the main body preceded us, they made the provisions so scarce along the road, that it frequently happened we could get nothing to eat from an early hour in the morning until late in the day, which, with the fatigue of walking, proved a useful stimulus to the exercise of our patience. Previous to this march I had always had a

great dislike to cheese ; but one day, after travelling a considerable distance without being able to procure any kind of food, on reaching a house where, it may be supposed, the first thing we asked for was something to satisfy our *real* hunger, some bread and cheese were set before us ; and I could not imagine, upon that occasion, how it was possible that I should have had an aversion to what I then considered one of the most delicious things I had ever tasted.

Some districts of this country were, comparatively speaking, tolerably inhabited, but others were mere woods for many miles ; therefore we sometimes met with good accommodation, at others quite the reverse. Upon some occasions we were agreeably surprised by the appearance of a fine mansion, but much more frequently a few farm houses, or cottages of new settlers met our view, after hobbling several miles along a miserable road, through a thick wood.

A few days after we commenced walking, our shoes became quite worn : this I

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felt to be the greatest hardship I had encountered, as the roads were, in many places, excessively bad, and my feet so sore as to afford me great pain; and to replace them with new appeared hopeless, before we should arrive at Kingston. However, when about half way between that town and York, we found a large cask of *ammunition* shoes, or shoes provided for the soldiers by government, which had been left at a house by the light company of the 8th regiment, on their way up the country. These afforded a very seasonable supply to many who were with us, and among the rest I took a pair; but as I was very young, the smallest I could find were considerably too large for me; and they being very strong, and unbound, the hard upper edges cut my ankles, so that between shoes and feet I was in fine "marching order."

We at length arrived at a place called Myer's Creek, at the head of the bay of Quinté, where we found a small sloop, which we engaged to convey us to King-

ston. The following morning it rained very heavily for several hours, and the wind being directly contrary for us, my father considered it adviseable not to put out, as the vessel was not such as to warrant the expectation of gaining much against a foul wind; but Mr. C., who professed great skill in maritime affairs, assured him it would *beat* remarkably well, and persuaded him to embark and make a trial, as "there could be no danger of our being unable to *return*," in the event of not succeeding.—About one o'clock, therefore, the whole party, which completely filled the vessel, having embarked, we set sail, and stood out of the creek.

The bay is about two miles broad at this place, and we made the opposite side tolerably well, but when we tacked about, owing to some circumstances which I do not perfectly recollect, we were not only incapable of making any progress *down* the bay, but could not *even return* to the opposite side where we had left. After several ineffec-

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tual attempts we were obliged to leave the vessel and go ashore ; and as the night was approaching we went into the first house we came to. Here we met with a very cool reception : upon enquiring if we could be accommodated for the night, the mistress of the house said, “ she supposed we *must* ;” and as we were very wet we sat down before a large fire in the kitchen, upon which there was a great family pot : in this our hostess was making stir-a-bout of Indian meal, called “ suppawn ” in this country. After it had boiled a long time, she asked us if we would have some of it, and being very much in the habit of answering *such questions* in the *affirmative*, we partook very heartily of what we considered a very nice dish ; and about *nine* o'clock she put on the tea-kettle, and very *kindly* made tea for us. They had the best bread at this house that we had seen since we left York.

On the following morning, when about to leave them, we wished to purchase some to take with us, but they absolutely refused to sell us a single loaf.

Being provided with waggons, we left this inhospitable spot, and our unfeeling host and hostess, and proceeded on our journey, under a heavy rain. After travelling ten miles we reached a ferry-house, and discovered, to our *great satisfaction*, that the only conveyance across the bay, which was two miles broad, was a small wooden canoe, capable of carrying only three or four persons at once. As there was no remedy for the inconvenience, we were obliged to set to work very patiently, and cross *by degrees* : but we had by this time been so accustomed to little annoyances and disappointments, that we thought nothing of them.

To add to our comfort, the rain continued to fall in torrents, and the wind was much stronger than we could have desired with our "frail bark," in crossing such an extent of water ; but the people were so unkind and averse to us, and the accommodations so bad, that we were glad of the opportunity, however miserable, and even

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dangerous, of getting into a more hospitable region.

Several hours being spent in crossing, we at length succeeded in getting all over in safety ; but we had to walk half a mile to the inn of a village, at the river Trent ; and our appearance along this road was not less amusing than upon many former occasions. The road was so soft and bad that the younger children could not walk. Mr. C., therefore, took one of his upon his back, while some of the soldiers took others, and my father got my sister upon his. We were as completely bespattered with mud as trudging along such a road was capable of making us ; and, when we reached the inn, if a company of strolling players had been performing " Henry the 4th " in the village, we could have personified a detachment of Falstaff's *well appointed* corps for them to a great nicety.

Here we obtained excellent accommodations and hospitable attention : the landlady provided Mrs. C. and my mother with

dry clothes, and one of the soldiers carried their gowns, &c. to the river, and washed the mud off them. We soon forgot all the hardships of the day in these comfortable quarters, or only remembered them for our evening's amusement; and after a good night's rest we were as ready as ever to encounter new.

In the morning we procured a batteau, and having erected a kind of awning over it, with long rods, covered with a tarpaulin, we embarked.

In a few wet days, during which nothing remarkable occurred, we arrived at Kingston, after a journey of fourteen days, upon every one of which it rained in a greater or less degree; and our shoes and clothes being completely worn out, and drenched with rain, it may naturally be supposed we made a very *showy* appearance on landing. It is a remarkable fact that, although we were but lightly clothed, not a great coat being in the whole party, the season inclement, and so rainy



that our clothes were wet through almost every day, not a single individual among us caught cold, or derived any internal injury whatever from the hardships we had undergone: a striking corroboration of that beautiful saying of Sterne's Maria, "God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb."

When we arrived at Kingston it had all the appearance of a seat of war, it being so full of troops that all the merchants' stores were converted into barracks; the R. C. church into an hospital, in addition to the regular barracks and hospital: ships of war were building, and various public works carrying on with the greatest activity.

One day, while taking a walk in the country, I met three armed soldiers escorting a deserter. As I passed the unfortunate man I glanced at him, and his eyes meeting mine, I fancied from their expression that I could read in them the momentary feelings of his mind; they seemed to me to say, "Oh! that like you I were wandering wherever my fancy directed,

unconcerned with respect to my superiors, free from guilt, and having nothing to fear!" This imagined exclamation struck me very forcibly, and gave a thinking turn to my mind. "That poor man's countenance," thought I, "is expressive of misery: under his present circumstances he is debased to the lowest ebb of human degradation; poor, mean, despised; a fettered captive, marching with a quick pace to condign, impending punishment."

Some secret agent whispered in my ear at the instant, "See in him your brother, an emblem of yourself, perhaps a better individual than yourself!" I started with horror and indignation at the idea; my pride was up in arms in a moment against the insulter; but conviction, with invincible power, flashed across my mind, disarmed it of all its virulence, and humbled it into a quiet admission of the fact! "When at a distance you first observed this man approaching, you looked down upon him, as from a lofty elevation, and considered him

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so much your inferior as scarcely to deserve a thought, except, perhaps, a momentary feeling of pity at the unfortunate situation into which his folly had plunged him, and seemed to forget that, like you, he is a child of Adam. But, like you, he is a descendant of that fallen creature : like you, he was born in sin, and “ prone to evil as the sparks fly upwards ;” made of the same materials, and by the same hand ; fed and clothed by the same common parent ; and will you dare to offend that parent, his and yours, by exclaiming, with proud disdain, “ *my brother indeed !*” What could be advanced in reply ? The fact appeared undeniable, and I was constrained to yield a tacit acknowledgment.

But an emblem of myself ! this appeared worse still. “ But,” said my monitor, “ in what respect are you different from this man ? He willingly subjected himself, and that by a solemn oath, to legal governors, for certain considerations faithfully to obey their commands : he was made acquainted

with his duty before he engaged to perform it: no more was subsequently required of him than to conform to his free, unforced oath, and perform that reasonable duty, which it would have been his interest and advantage to fulfil; inasmuch as it enjoins sobriety, regularity, abstinence from vice, various requirements conducive to his health and comfort, with an attention to the occupation for which he was engaged. But this, notwithstanding the train of evils he was aware was consequent on the violation of it, his depraved, perverse nature could not be satisfied with, because it restrained him within happy bounds; he must be *at liberty*, he must have his own way, and *now* see the *consequence*!

“You too have engaged by a solemn oath, before men and angels, to submit to the authority, and obey, as far as possible to your weak nature, the commands of the King of Kings: it, too, is a *reasonable* service, and not without its reward:—Oh! no, its reward far surpasses an equivalent

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for the best services (though miserable and insignificant at best) you are able to perform ; and yet, you too, by reason of your depravity, have deserted your leader ; you have fled from your duty, rendered yourself obnoxious to the laws you have offended, and you are at this moment fettered, and in chains, under the care of guards that will not be bribed to allow you to escape, who are conducting you to that awful bar, where you must answer for your delinquency : and trifling is that punishment which this poor man anticipates, when compared with what awaits you, unless the great extenuating plea can be urged on your behalf !”

But possibly he is better than myself !  
 “ Yes—Much as you may despise him, perhaps when placed on a level with him, and your respective merits weighed in the balance, you may be ‘ found wanting.’—This man has, to judge from appearances, been brought up in poverty, ignorance and misery ; his mind, probably, instead of be-

ing made sensible of its natural deformity and depravity, has been vitiated still more by bad example and precept; instead of being taught to know and fear and love his Maker, he has only heard his sacred name to blaspheme it; and instead of being instructed to reverence religion and its professors, he only knows it as a subject of ridicule and derision. To this miserable man little has been given, and, of course, of him but little can be required. But with *you* the case is materially different: from your earliest infancy you have been made acquainted with the things that belong to your everlasting peace; you have been instructed in your duty to God and your fellow-men; you have constantly had pressed upon your attention the necessity and advantage of "walking worthy of the high vocation wherewith you are called," and the consequences of either improving or abusing the sacred treasure committed to your care. When *you* transgress, therefore, you do so against the clearest light,

against the loudest clamours of conscience, against the fullest conviction of your mind ; and your offence is infinitely greater than that of the man from whom the advantages have been withheld which have been lavished upon you.

“ And here you have another striking display of the exalted character of virtue, and the debasing nature of vice. This man, previous to giving way to the baneful influence of the latter, was on a level with those by whom he is guarded : now he is degraded far below them. Observe them as they march along, and with what different feelings do you regard them ; the one an honourable character, who has devoted himself to the service of his country, and is ready to offer himself a sacrifice for her defence or honour, and as such, entitled to your esteem ; the other a miserable miscreant, exciting your pity and contempt. While vice debases man below his natural level, virtue exalts him far above it, there being no situation in life below which vice cannot

degrade a man ; while there is none so elevated above which virtue cannot raise him."

A few days afterwards the unhappy man was tried and condemned ; and on the morning appointed for the execution, my youthful curiosity, still panting for new objects, led me to witness the tragical scene.

As we lived at the opposite part of the town from the barracks, whence the procession moved to the place of execution, I proceeded to a street through which it must pass ; and just as I reached it, the dead march, which the band was playing, broke, in sad and solemn notes, upon my ear : every hollow roll of the muffled drum seemed to warn the unhappy victim of his approaching dissolution ; every concluding note of the parts of the piece appeared to measure his remaining moments, and to remind him that but a few more remained between it and his appearance in the august presence of his Maker.

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cession came up, then accompanied it as it moved slowly on to the time of the dead march, whose lengthened notes appeared to sympathize with the sufferer, in being unwilling to hasten that awful moment, big with such important results to him.

The band led the way; the coffin, the gloomy cradle of death, borne on men's shoulders, followed next; and immediately behind it, pinioned, and guarded on either side by soldiers, the unfortunate victim to the offended laws of God, of honour, and of his country. The troops of the garrison, a long train, with measured steps, and serious countenances, brought up the rear.

Young as I was, I was deeply affected by the solemn and mournful scene, and indulged in the serious thoughts that it excited. As the poor man occasionally cast his eyes on the surrounding objects, I fancied I understood the secret effusions of his mind. "These objects, so fair, so pleasing to the view, with what different interest are they regarded by me and

the multitude that accompany me ! The latter, expecting to see them again, perhaps very often, scarcely notice them : but I, *I* now give them one parting glance, and I must see them again no more for ever ! How strange does it appear to me, and oh ! what secret pangs accompany the reflection ! that of the immense crowd I now behold, I am shortly to be singled out, to serve as a momento, a warning to them of the perishable, short-lived nature of man : and while their thoughts and attention are entirely engrossed with my melancholy fate, in commiserating my untimely end, and deploring my removal from this gay and pleasing scene ; they perhaps overlook the solemn fact that my fate is no uncommon one, but that, with a little variety in the mode, they all in turn, as well as I, must close their eyes upon this world for ever, and tread those gloomy, unknown caverns of the dead, which, in a few more fleeting moments, I must venture to explore !—Oh, vice ! vice ! wilt thou never

cease to glut the ravenous jaws of death's grim tyrant with the half-worn bodies of thy infatuated votaries! wilt thou still persist, with ruthless hand, to shorten the contracted span of human life, and hurry thy victims off the stage of existence before their Maker calls them! wilt thou still prevent them from taking advantage of the precious, the invaluable time allotted to them for the purpose of preparing to meet their God with acceptance, by poisoning their minds with thy vain delusions, and ensnaring and leading them to ruin by the tempting, but unsatisfying, deceitful, and fatal baits thou art continually exhibiting to their view! Who, among my late comrades, that shall shortly witness the recompense I am about to receive at thy hand for having devoted myself to thee, will be deterred from thy service? Who among them, that shall shortly behold me falling a sacrifice at thy hateful shrine, shall abandon thee for ever on account of thy base ingratitude, and enrol themselves under the sacred ban-

ners of virtue? If fifty, if twenty, nay, if even one should, by my death, be extricated from thy fatal grasp, of what infinite service would the melancholy example be productive! then indeed might it be said that benefit may accrue even from vice.

He marched with a firm step, and serene countenance; and as he sometimes raised his eyes, which seemed to express a mixture of hope, confidence, and supplication, to heaven, I imagined I could still further read in them the inward workings of his soul—"I have indeed deviated from the path of virtue; I have transgressed the laws of God, by breaking a solemn covenant which I sealed, by calling upon him to witness; I have brought upon myself shame, disgrace, and death; and although I have rendered myself worthy of the severest chastisement of Providence, yet his dispensations towards me have been marked with great mercy. He has allowed me the opportunity of becoming acquainted with my spiritual state by nature and by

practice ; and instead of cutting me off, in an unguarded moment, ‘ in the very blossom of my sin,’ he has afforded me time and inclination to call upon him for mercy and forgiveness ; and has assured me, that although my life has passed away in the neglect of this momentous duty, yet that even at the eleventh hour he is willing to take a repenting sinner into the warmest embraces of his love.”

A ray of hope and joy now seemed to beam from his thoughtful eye, and diffuse itself over his whole countenance, and appeared to express that the painful feelings, natural in circumstances such as his, were in a great measure removed ; and that he was even able to triumph over the horrors that darkened his few remaining moments. However, I thought I could discern a momentary dejection and anxiety suddenly overcloud this gleam of sunshine. These, thought I, must have been occasioned by the recollection of his wife and nine children, whose widowed and fatherless state has cross-

ed his mind, and disturbed its tranquillity : but in a few minutes they disappeared again, and his countenance resumed the calmness and hope that had just before animated it. This, I conceived, resulted from that sacred promise flashing across his mind for his comfort, and bidding him to resign them to His care, which He, to whom he looked at this awful moment, had made, to be “ a father to the fatherless, and the widow’s friend.”

In a short time the procession reached the place of execution, a large common outside of the town. Here the troops were formed into three sides of a square ; the coffin was placed in the centre, and the unfortunate culprit seated upon it, with his back towards the open side of the square. A bandage having been tied over his eyes, a firing party, consisting of six men, advanced into the centre of the square, and stood a few paces in front of the sufferer. The adjutant then read his sentence aloud, after concluding which he made a few signs to

the firing party, the last, by a white handkerchief, being the awful signal to launch the fatal bullets at the prisoner. The unhappy man, on receiving their fire, gently fell on his left side, a lifeless corpse.

The troops were again formed into divisions, and, after marching close past the deceased, returned to their quarters.

As desertion was very frequent at this time, the Indians were employed to intercept the deserters in the woods, and were allowed a reward for every soldier, dead or alive, they brought into town. One morning the barrack yard presented a melancholy and shocking scene. Three or four of the Glengary regiment, who had been shot in the woods by the Indians, lay extended on the ground: one of them had received a ball in the breast while in the act of kneeling and aiming his musket; and his death had been so instantaneous that he became stiff in that position, his arms being extended, and one knee bent; probably owing in a great measure to the

intense frost that prevailed at the time, it being the depth of winter. One man of my father's regiment was found frozen to death at the foot of a small precipice, which, from the appearance of the snow on the side of it, he had frequently attempted to ascend, but had become overpowered by the frost before he could accomplish it. He was suspended during the day to the upper end of a long post, in a conspicuous situation, at the barracks: and the head of one of De Watteville's regiment, brought in at the same time, was placed upon the top of a long pole, in full view of his late comrades. This treatment of the dead bodies of the unfortunate men, may, perhaps, appear very barbarous, and unbecoming a British army; but when the pernicious effects of desertion in time of war are taken into consideration, particularly at such a critical period as this was, as the Americans had become very successful in the upper part of the country, and the loss of the men being trifling when compared with the



consequences that might result from the enemy being put in possession of the information that deserters might carry to them ; the necessity of putting a stop to the baneful practice will be found to have tolerated every method that could be resorted to for that purpose.

END OF THE RECOLLECTIONS.

### THE JOURNAL RESUMED.

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Tuesday, 19th July, 1825—Having engaged a passage on board the brig Greenhow, bound for Newry, I embarked in the evening, and on Wednesday we again took leave of "Old Quebec." The morning was fine, with a gentle breeze. A ship getting under weigh displays a lively, active scene. "Man the windlass!" was the first order of the mate: the windlass was quickly manned, and the seamen commenced weighing the anchor—and, as the great chain cable clanked along the deck, and the sailor sent

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forth his long and slow-toned "yeo—heave—oh!" the sounds reached the ear with more important meaning than merely that the anchor was raising from the bottom.— They reminded me that I was once more about to be exposed to the dangers of the great, stormy, trackless ocean, which I had but recently escaped; that the gay and interesting scene then before me would soon fade from my sight; that I was about to leave this pleasant country, where I had been spending a few weeks most agreeably, and which had formerly been one of the

"Seats of my youth, when every sport could please."

And however strange it may appear, I could fancy that in the coarse and boisterous voice of an uncultivated, and too frequently profligate and profane sailor, may be heard that of wisdom and instruction also, in cases of this kind. "You are about to undertake a long and dangerous voyage: you have committed yourself to the care and guidance of men who,

SUMED.

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 the brig Green-  
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of themselves, are incapable of preserving you from, and leading you clear of, the dangers that lie every where in your way : trust not *alone* to them, therefore, but apply for protection and safety to Him who has given the ocean its bounds which it cannot pass ; and who, being able to say to it, ‘ thus far shalt thou go, and no further,’ can also say to it, ‘ these I permit to pass over in safety, see that thou do them no harm.’ ” But although these sounds reminded me of satisfactions then ended, yet did they also bring to recollection that I was just commencing a voyage that would restore me to my family, who would hail with joy the moment of my arrival, and receive me with feelings of pleasure. They represented the happiness I must derive from the meeting, after a long separation ; and these considerations were much more than sufficient to counterbalance any feelings of regret that might accrue from the former.

“ Man your topsail sheets, and overhaul

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your clue-lines and buntlines!" cried the mate; the seamen sprang to their places with the greatest alacrity, and the command was soon executed. The topsail haliards, or rope by which the topsail is hoisted, was next ordered to be manned, and the hoisting was accompanied by a lively song, the words of which, being the extemporaneous composition of the seaman who led, afforded me a good deal of amusement.— One man sung, and the rest joined lustily in the chorus. The following is a specimen:—

Oh rouse him up,	<i>Newry girls,</i>
Chorus—Oh, yeo, cheerly ;	Oh, yeo, cheerly ;
<i>Now for Warrenpoint,</i>	Rouse him up cheerly,
Oh, yeo, cheerly ;	Oh, yeo, cheerly ;
Oh mast-head him,	Oh, with a will,
Oh, yeo, cheerly ;	Oh, yeo, cheerly ;
Cheerly men,	Oh, oh, yeo,
Oh, yeo, cheerly ;	Oh, yeo, cheerly.

From some of these few simple words, the effusions of the heart, at the moment, no doubt, an important inference is plain.

“From the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh,” is a faithful saying; and, it is evident, from some of this man’s expressions, that although separated, by an immense tract of ocean, in “a far country,” and lately accustomed to new scenes and new acquaintances, yet “home, sweet home,” had not lost its attractions, nor had it been obliterated from his memory by them; but, on the contrary, had probably been increased and endeared to him. He felt what had been once felt before, by an individual who could express the sentiment in far more enchanting strains; and who, in giving a thought to his country, could exclaim,

Where'er I roam, whatever realms to see,  
My heart, untravelled, still returns to thee!

He now, in common with the rest of the crew, seemed to hail the moment of return with lively satisfaction; and, not unadvisedly, employed the mention of country, home, and their fascinations to his comrades, as a heart-touching stimulus to exertion in the duty they were performing.

And oh! how enviable must this man's case have been, in the estimation of many of those who had left the country, in company with him, to which he was then preparing to return! What must have been their feelings as they caught the last glimpse of that vessel which had brought them to a distant land, but which, in revisiting the land of their fathers, the land of their nativity, of their dearest connections, of all that had hitherto engrossed their affections, returned, alas! without them! While those on board were realizing the sacred satisfaction connected with the idea of again soon beholding all they held dear; the others, in losing sight of them, as the vessel vanished behind the head-land of Point Levy, felt the only link that yet seemed to remain between them and their country, broken in a moment for ever.

Oh! how grateful should those be to Providence, whose milder fate it is never to feel those pangs of separation from all the

endearing ties with which the affections of their hearts are interwoven ! that they are permitted to enjoy comfort, ease, and convenience, under the much-cherished paternal roof, instead of being obliged to wander in search of them to a far-foreign land, to the land of the stranger, and too, too frequently, the *pitiless* stranger ! If they only knew the “ great price ” of the “ pearl ” they possess, surely they would appreciate it more, and be more thankful to the great bestower of it.

We were now under weigh, with a light breeze, and the ship glided gently down the harbour. The master that brought the vessel out to Quebec was to leave her here : he had come on board to see us off, and as he left us, the crew gave him three cheers ; and when the new master came on board shortly afterwards, he was received with three animated cheers also. I was sorry, however, that there was but little sincerity in the latter : while walking the deck, I had heard their conversation upon the sub-



ject, a little before the master reached the vessel, and when they commenced cheering, I was disgusted with their hypocrisy. It reminded me of the ancient Israelites, who drew near with their mouths, and honoured God with their lips, while their hearts were far from him.

Had I seen less of the world I should have been at a loss to conceive how they could have been guilty of so much duplicity; but that is so common in it that it ceases to excite any surprise, even in the minds of those who have only had a glance into it.

I was certainly very much astonished at the first glaring instance of this vice that I remember to have witnessed: it occurred at a small town in Lower Canada, where my father's regiment was quartered for a short time. I had gone from Montreal, where I was at school at the time, on a visit to my family; and during my stay the regiment was ordered suddenly down the country. As the town was on the eastern side of the

St. Lawrence, and no regular communication was held with Montreal, except by the steam-boat ; and as the latter took the regiment to Quebec, I was obliged to wait its return. My host and hostess were Dutch people ; the former considerably advanced in years. One morning a young gentleman of their acquaintance, who had just arrived from Quebec, entertained us with an account of a prank he had lately assisted in playing upon a young man, a mutual relation of the parties, who had been lately married.

Formerly a custom prevailed in Canada, though now but seldom used, for a number of people to collect about the house of a newly married man, late on the evening of his wedding, and daub the whole front of it with mud, and every kind of filth. It was in putting this custom into practice that our visitor had been engaged ; and the old people enjoyed the particulars of the account very much, laughing heartily at it.

The young man proceeded on his jour-

ney the following morning; and, what was very remarkable, before I left the town, the gentleman, the victim of the sport, arrived also, and, of course, came to the house. He, too, gave us an account of the affair, but with very different feelings, and in a very altered strain: he was much exasperated at their relation's conduct, and exclaimed against him in very indignant language. My worthy host and hostess, apparently of a very *sympathetic* disposition, and, through politeness, I suppose, willing to be "all things to all men," pretended to feel precisely with him upon the subject, informing him that the other had been there a short time before, and had mentioned the proceeding, not concealing from them that he had taken an active part in it: upon which they had said to him, "*And more shame for you;*" and had expressed themselves "*very indignant at his conduct!*"

From inexperience of the world I had formed very erroneous views of it, representing it to my mind as *I considered it should*

*be*, and therefore did not entertain the most distant idea that there could be any thing of this kind in it ; it may be easily judged, therefore, with what surprise I, who had been present upon the former occasion when this old pair were so much amused, heard them express themselves in this manner. I was confounded, and concluded that this must have been a solitary instance of such depravity ; I thought it could scarcely be paralleled : it has frequently presented itself to my mind since, and with it the amusing idea of my simplicity, and unacquaintance, at that time, with *men and manners*.

I have frequently considered it a circumstance to be deplored, that, in too many instances, the words, and even actions, of the people of the world are no criteria by which to judge of their real sentiments.— One may have friendship professed, perhaps favours bestowed, and may be inclined to conclude from them that sincere friendship is the cause of all, from ignorance of the motives or intentions of the

party they proceed from; but in a short time, perhaps, some trifling circumstance occurs that exposes the real sentiments of the mind, and one finds that all had their source in self-interest, or some baser principle.

Lord Chesterfield has said, that half a dozen *real, sincere* friends are as many as a man can meet with in the whole course of his life. I imagine that the individual who can calculate upon that number may consider himself possessed of a *large stock*; but I apprehend that not a few, who have seen life *in its vicissitudes*, are willing to admit, as correct, the poet's assertion upon the subject,

Friendship, like love, is *but a name*,  
Unless to *one* you stint the flame.

And as for a Damon and Pythias, I believe it would easily soften a heart as cruel as that of Dionysius to meet with them in the present day.

When we reached the entrance of the

harbour we had a full view of the Falls of Morency, a beautiful cataract nearly one hundred feet high, formed by the river Morency falling into the St. Lawrence.— The water assumes the appearance of foam immediately after leaving the bed of the river, and of course retains it to the bottom of the fall. The sun shining upon the spray, and the vapour that rises from below glittering in his beams, render the cataract a magnificent sight.

From this point the spectator is presented with a delightful prospect. On the left, while his heart is gladdened with the comfort and neatness displayed by the handsome, cultivated farms, his eyes are charmed with the churches, shore, &c. of Point Levy: a little further to the right, the famous city of Quebec stands full before his view.

Seated, in proud defiance, on the summit of a lofty rock, commanding each approach, far beyond the reach of harm from the weak attempts of any hostile fleet, while her tin-

clad roofs and spires, like radiant costly gems, or richly spangled robes, reflecting Phœbus' beams, glitter in lustre bright, she seems the haughty queen of Cabot's northern world. Enclosed on every side by high and well-built battlements, and secured by massy towers, she looks down, with conscious majesty, on the stream that flows beneath—and now, with angry frown, commands its tides away—the obsequious stream obeys, and, loath to incur her dread rebuke, from her northern front recedes, with force impetuous; when, like Jordan's stream of old, as Levi's tribe approached, it retires far away, and leaves its bed so dry that, where ships, in stately pomp, upreared the spreading sail, and swept its heaving breast, the rude Canadian, with his horse and cart, drives whistling o'er: the cattle, tired of sun-burnt grass, their slighted fields forsake, and sally forth to feast on rising spots which, clothed with waving sedge and sprit, afford a rich repast: the ships, with humbled pride, of

their native floods bereft, with one side on the ground, the other towards the skies, like man whose breath is reaved away, lie moveless on the strand.

Again, she cries—Return!—the obedient tides attend, and as before, to shun her rage, they fled with rushing force, so now, to court her smiles, they hasten promptly back, and in a mighty deluge come roughly pouring in. The ground again is lost—a lake now re-appears. The heedless grazing herd, unconscious of the trick that nature plays, still feed securely on, until at length encircled by the stream, and borne upon its waves, they betake themselves to swimming, when, with eyes fixed on the land, they exert their ponderous force, and, with many an awkward plunge, regain the well-known shore. The ships, once more upraised by the returning flowing tide, erect their sails on high, and gently floating on the deepening flood, their wonted powers resume.

In front, the thickly inhabited and hand-



some country of Beauport, Charlebord, Lorette, Montmorency, with the falls, all bounded by mountains, appear in picturesque beauty, and on the right is the Isle of Orleans; forming altogether a most extensive, beautiful, varied and complete landscape. The large ship, the Baron of Renfrew, was lying at anchor between the Falls and Isle of Orleans, and contributed to the perfection of the scene.

We soon lost sight of Quebec after sailing round Point Levy, and proceeded slowly down the river. In the afternoon we met several vessels from England and Ireland with passengers: they were sailing up with a strong fair breeze, which, although quite unfavourable for us, I could not envy them. I remembered the satisfaction we had derived a short time before from the prospect of an approaching conclusion to our long and tedious passage, and, no doubt, that of their crews was no less.

The wind continuing strong up the river until Saturday evening, prevented us from

making much progress since we had left Quebec. On that night we were at anchor, and experienced very unpleasant weather: we had awful thunder and lightning, accompanied with heavy rain. A large ball of fire was seen falling into the water, about half a mile from the vessel. I was in the cabin at the time, and the windows being open, I found a very strong smell of sulphur come in by them.

During the storm the wind changed, and on the following morning we made all sail: about one o'clock the pilot left us, and in a short time we were past all the inhabited parts of the banks of the river.

Here, then, I had to bid adieu to free, happy, pleasant Canada; where, among the few subjects of regret I had met with, was the heartless idea associated with the fact, that even in this country the poverty of numbers of my distressed countrymen, on their landing, who have emigrated to it, has been such as to have procured for them and their compatriots

the distinguishing appellation of "*Bas de soie*," or, silk stockings.

Tuesday—As the shores of Canada receded from my view, by the "dark blue sea" interposing its gently undulating surface between them and me, and concealing them from my sight, perhaps for ever, I felt justified in taking my final leave of them, with the following exclamation:—"Farewell, ye happy, peaceful shores—where Freedom has reared her golden standard: Peace has planted her olive branch: Ceres' horn overflows with plenty: the daemon of faction is unknown, and whence bigotry is in a great measure banished. Where, as the stranger approaches, coming from enslaved Europe, enslaved, compared with you, he inhales a freer, purer air. Long may your inhabitants enjoy their inestimable advantages and privileges: may they ever stand forth in the ranks of honour to frustrate every attempt of tyrants, who might wish to bind them with their hateful chains, and deprive them of the dear, the

invaluable rights of men, which once lost are not easily recovered!"

Friday, 29th July—We arrived of Cape Ray, on the south-west coast of Newfoundland; the next morning we lost sight of it again, and committed ourselves to the great western ocean. We had an uncommonly fine passage across the Atlantic, there never having been necessity to "call all hands," or "reef the topsails;" a circumstance of very rare occurrence, and which was quite a novelty to all on board, consequently we met with no incidents worthy of notice.

Wednesday, 17th August—We were again delighted with the sight of "Old Erin's" shores, as the high land of Dungarvan appeared to view. "Hurra for *ould* Paddy's Land once more!" exclaimed one of the sailors. "By my *sowl* I'll soon have a *blow out* now!" said another. "A *blow out* of what?" asked one of his companions. "Of *champ*, to be sure," replied the poor fellow.

As the land appeared in sight, a fresh excitement to our gratitude and praise to the Divine Being, for his protection and kindness, appeared with it. We once more gazed upon our native land, I trust with those warm and enthusiastic feelings of patriotism and pleasure that are natural to every man at the sight of his country, after having been from it a considerable time.— And what a great addition to my satisfaction would I have experienced had I been able to hail it in the same terms in which I had bid adieu to the last country I had left, “hail! ye happy, peaceful shores, &c.!” But ah! no, thought I, this is a gratification I must at present be a stranger to! While the sight of its shores affords me delight, a glance at the state of its inhabitants and affairs brings to view matter of deep and heartfelt regret, and wrings from my bosom, with the most poignant anguish, the pathetic exclamation of a lamented Irish patriot, upon a former oc-

casion, " Oh! my country! it is *now* that I feel for thee!"

Thursday—We were so completely becalmed above the Tusker light-house, that when the tide ebbed it brought us down a considerable distance below it.

On Friday we were off Dublin Bay, where we were also becalmed until Sunday evening. On the morning of that day several steam vessels passed us at a distance, some going to the city, and others from it towards England.

Perhaps there are few situations in which the great utility and superiority of steam navigation, and the great advantages arising to society from this most important invention, would strike the mind more forcibly, or be more appreciated, than that in which we found ourselves at this time. While our vessel was lying motionless upon the water, perfectly unmanageable by those on board, under the entire influence of the tide, which, in other places, might have borne us quietly, during the existence of a

serene sky, and delightful weather, to that destruction which in general is only dreaded from storms and tempests, and which all our exertions could not evert; the steam vessels could not only proceed on their *opposite* courses, independent of wind and tide, but also with a great degree of velocity. Those on board of them could go wherever their business led them, unconscious of the embarrassment and delay that we were labouring under.

This invention has almost removed the great and frequent interruptions to business of every kind, that were formerly experienced, where it was influenced by, or depended upon communications by water; and when we consider the vast extent, frequency, and high importance of those communications, and the great disadvantages arising heretofore from their dependence upon the inconstant winds, we arrive at some idea of the obligations which the world lies under to the genius who, under the direction of Providence, discovered the

invention that has in a great measure enabled man, in the prosecution of his affairs, to place himself even beyond the control of the very elements.

While these ideas respecting the utility and advantage of navigation by steam occurred to me, I amused myself also, for a short time, in reflecting upon the various characters who might possibly have been on board the vessels. There, perhaps, thought I, goes the distinguished statesman, on business of high importance to the nation. His arrival is to be announced by peals of joyful thunder; and while the whole metropolis, perhaps kingdom, is in agitation by his visit; while splendid mansions are thrown open for his reception, and the busy voice of welcome and congratulation hails him wherever he appears; and while the multitude, aware of his approach, crowd the strand, eager to obtain a sight of him, the poor, houseless, friendless wretch steals, unobserved, from the same vessel as she moors in port, and makes



his way, unnoticed, through the crowd, to seek, in some humble shed, an obscure and comfortless lodging!

In contemplating this great difference that the world makes between two beings, originally the same, formed of the same materials, and descended from the same common parents, the mind is lost in astonishment. In all probability their destinies were equally undirected or uninfluenced by themselves; this difference, in most cases, is accidental to the parties, without being owing to their own conduct or exertions: man has, every thing considered, but little share in the making of his circumstances, and yet this wide difference *does* exist. It is strange, it is incomprehensible to our weak and shallow understandings; but, being ordained by infinite, infallible wisdom, it *must* be right.

The mischievous demagogue, perhaps, with "vile intent," to set the nation "by the ears." Professing himself a warm patriot, a zealous and sincere advocate for the

rights of his countrymen, and sensibly touched with their wrongs and sufferings, he pretends to employ his exertions, and, perhaps, considerable talents, with a view to obtain them redress, while at the same time, in order to gratify his ambition, forward his private views, avenge former injuries, or some such motives, those talents and exertions are used to the injury, not the benefit of his countrymen, to the continuance or increase of their oppressions, not their removal, and a whole nation become the dupes of a few artful and designing men ; and thereby plunge themselves into difficulties, and incur restrictions that they might otherwise have been exempt from.

The man of business, perhaps, who, intent upon gain, and only occupied with the speculations he has been entering into, aspires not at the applause or gratitude of his countrymen, who probably ascribe but little merit to him, conceiving his motives to be merely selfish and interested ; and is perhaps

himself unconscious of the benefit he is producing to his country; although upon consideration we find that by employing his capital and talents in his quiet and unobserved way; in providing employment for the labouring class in various ways, thereby affording them the means of acquiring an honest and comfortable subsistence; in finding a vent for the overplus of the produce and manufactures of the country, and supplying it with the commodities of other countries in return, he is actually conferring much greater and more substantial advantages upon his country than the last mentioned character, notwithstanding all the glare of popular approbation and gratitude with which he is intoxicated, and which the multitude blindly bestow upon him, to their own ruin or injury.

There, perhaps, goes the midnight assassin or ruthless murderer—his hands yet reeking with his neighbour's blood.—Covetous of his fellow's property, and unwilling to submit to the slow and honoura-

ble method of acquiring wealth by industry, and attention to some lawful employment, he has found it impossible to deprive his neighbour of his, without bereaving him of his life also. He has therefore imbrued his hands in innocent blood ; perhaps hurried an unprepared soul into the presence of its awful Maker, without allowing one moment to cry for mercy ; and possibly, after the horrible deed was committed, finding it necessary to escape, even without his intended booty, hurried to the shore, fortunately, as he thought, found a vessel just leaving, embarked, and for the moment, eludes the hand of justice.—What then must be his feelings and impressions at this time !—With the guilt of murder on his head, aware of the consequences if apprehended, and probably with but a very faint hope of escape, does he secretly wish the deep may open her mouth and swallow him, before his shame be exposed to the world ?—Ah, foolish, dangerous wish ! Is he unmindful that all the punishment man is capable of

inflicting is but trifling to that which awaits, in another world, the impenitent, unpardoned murderer!

The pious Missionary, perhaps, on the important business of his profession; who, having devoutly and zealously engaged in his Master's cause, has resigned all the satisfactions and enjoyments, the elegancies and comforts of civilized society, every thing that tends to make this life desirable, in order to become the messenger of "glad tidings of great joy" to the heathen nations, who have long "sat in darkness and the shadow of death;" to make known to them the salvation from eternal misery, purchased for them by the atoning blood of the Son of God; to acquaint them with the glorious character and exalted attributes of God himself, of whom they have hitherto entertained very false and erroneous ideas.

His religion, the real, genuine religion of the gospel, has enlarged his mind, expanded his views, and kindled in his breast

the sacred flame of charity and brotherly love, which, now no longer confined within the narrow limits of his country, but extended to the whole human race, has taught him to consider all men his brethren, as belonging to the same family, and equally entitled to the same advantages and privileges ; and while he observes, with delight, one portion of this large family in full possession of those inestimable spiritual advantages that an acquaintance with the Scriptures and their Creator affords, he looks abroad with compassion to distant lands, where a much larger part of it are yet entirely unacquainted with them.— With a lively interest in their welfare, a breast glowing with an ardent desire of seeing all men participate in the blessings of redemption, and an earnest longing for the extension of the Saviour's kingdom, he devotes himself to the performance of what his conscience tells him is his incumbent duty—a duty of the most important and laudable character ; in the accomplish-

ment of which he has to encounter difficulties, obstacles, and dangers that, with other motives and views, and under other circumstances, would bear a most fearful, formidable and discouraging aspect.

He commences with the perils of the sea, to which he may be long exposed ;— after escaping these, he must place himself at the mercy of savages who, with the prejudices caused by early impressions, in favour of the opinions and modes of worship they have been accustomed to from their earliest years, are ready to display an inveterate hostility to a stranger, who intrudes upon them with a view to change their sentiments for his, upon a subject that, of all others, men least like to have meddled with ; and while he endeavours to introduce a new mode of worship, and new ideas of religion, he finds himself under the perilous necessity of displaying the inconsistency and absurdity of the old.

He looks forward with joy to the glorious reward held out to his view for his labours,

privations, and the sacrifices he has made. He anticipates, with rapture, the sacred satisfaction he is to derive from imparting to his fellow-creatures those important truths that have been productive of such glorious consequences to those who have already been made acquainted with them ; and he rejoices in becoming an humble instrument, in the hand of Providence, towards the fulfilment of Isaiah's consoling prophecy, that

The beam that shines from *Zion's* hill  
Shall lighten *every* land ;  
The King who reigns in *Salem's* towers,  
Shall *all the world* command.

There, perhaps, goes the adulterer, glorying in his shame, glorying in the commission of one of the foulest crimes that disgrace human nature, and bearing with him, in triumph, his guilty and ruined prize ! To accomplish his base designs he has been under the necessity of divesting himself of every noble feeling of the heart, of every principle that raises man above



the brute : he has sacrificed every claim to the respect of his fellow men, incurred the displeasure of heaven, and, blindly led by the impulse of depraved nature, for the gratification of his vicious and brutal propensities he has plunged himself into disgrace and infamy. He has torn his unfortunate victim, perhaps, from a husband, once dear to her as her own soul ; whose society and regard, until she became acquainted with her seducer, afforded her the highest degree of earthly enjoyment and happiness ; from a lovely and innocent young family, who now ask for their "mamma" in vain, and wonder that the mention of her name should excite such despair and anguish in the mind of their wretched father. He has rendered miserable her unfortunate husband, until now happy in the supposed, probably real, affections of her who was wholly possessed of his, who, with the dear innocent pledges of their former mutual love, was the principal source of all his enjoyments, of all his

care and anxiety, who participated in all his satisfactions, and cheered him in the gloom of adversity. He, wretched man, hears the dreadful intelligence with consternation and anguish, aggravated most probably by the circumstance of the execrable author of his bitter sufferings having been the object of his esteem and warmest friendship ; admitted into his house, and to the enjoyment of his hospitality, with the most unsuspecting confidence ; in return for which he has cruelly and ungratefully planted thorns—thorns of the most envenomed and rankling wound, where he had gathered roses of the most fragrant kind ! He has blasted the fond hopes, and destroyed the fair prospects of his benefactor, who, in the loss of his peace, his honour, and almost every thing dear to him here, is almost desirous to have involved that of his life also. The interest and welfare of his family, however, demand his attention, and recall him to the exercise of his various duties ; while the future destiny of the lately beloved partner

of his life presses heavily on his distracted mind. She, poor, deluded, wretched creature! is soon to reap the fruits of her folly and crime. Can it be expected that he, who was capable of such villany towards the man that had loaded him with benefits, thereby imposing a weighty debt of gratitude upon him, will be too sensible to the calls of honour to forget the duty he owes to her who, for his gratification, has left a fond husband, an amiable and endearing family, a comfortable and once happy home, and relinquished all the exalted satisfactions arising from these, and imprudently and most wickedly cast herself upon his protection? Ah! no—The unfeeling wretch that could be guilty of the first crime, after his brutal desires are satiated, the evil consequences of his conduct begin to develope themselves, and the unfortunate dupe of his perfidy, and partner in his crime, begins to be a burden upon him; unmindful of the sacrifices she has made for his sake, and impatient of the cumbrous,

and now no longer delightful charge, he resolves to forsake her! Now commence her sufferings—Deserted by him to whom alone, under existing circumstances, she could look for support; rejected and despised by the virtuous; destitute of the comforts, nay, even the common necessities of life, what *must* follow!

If by her folly she has plunged her husband into an abyss of misery and woe, the blow now recoils with equal, if not redoubled force, upon her own devoted head. If her heart be not callous to every tender feeling, if reflection be not entirely excluded from her mind, the recollection of home, the irreparable injury done to her husband and her forsaken family, the disgrace she has brought upon her friends, the awful and appalling situation in which she has placed herself, remorse for the past, and terror and dismay for the future, excite in her breast sensations perhaps no more easily conceived, by those unacquainted with them, than described.

Here, then, is misery—misery of the most complicate and afflicting kind!—An unfortunate man bereaved, in an unexpected moment, of the present possession, and future prospect, of the most delightful pleasures; his beloved wife snatched from his fond embrace; his young and helpless family deprived of the benefit of being brought up under the auspices of a tender and affectionate mother; his home, that but lately possessed attractions, and afforded comforts such as could no where else be found, now converted into a lonely wilderness; recalling to mind former joys, now vanished for ever! A lovely woman, once happy, now rendered miserable, and hurled to ruin: an extensive circle of friends of both parties plunged into affliction by the melancholy event! and all for what? merely for the momentary gratification of one of the vilest and most worthless of mankind!

He, too, has, in all probability, been the seducer of virgin innocence, he has brought to shame and ruin a young, lovely, inno-

cent and unsuspecting female, who, deceived by his false and specious insinuations and professions, reposed confidence in his integrity, and, in an evil, unguarded moment, permitted herself to be deprived of her honour, her character, and her innocence! She who was hitherto the delight and consolation of her, perhaps aged, parents; and by her amiable conduct and unremitting attention to their wants and comforts, was soothing their rugged descent to the grave, has now, through his villany, been the means of strewing it with thorns, and bringing down their hoary hairs thither with shame and sorrow!

See her now, who, but a short time ago, was the pride and delight of her family, the object of envy to many, one of society's brightest ornaments, admired and esteemed by her acquaintance, exemplary for morality and virtue, whose modesty and delicacy would have been affected at meeting the glance of a stranger of the opposite sex; how changed! how fallen! See her now,

I say, parading the streets, and staring the passing stranger in the face with unblushing effrontery, and enticing him from the path of virtue into a fatal, destructive snare!— The object of terror to the virtuous of her own sex, of the contempt and scorn of the good, and of the insult of the unfeeling and rude of the other! See her in the theatre and places of public resort, glittering, but with powerless and undazzling lustre, in the gaudy finery of dress; and, divested of that natural modesty and backwardness of her sex which recedes from, rather than courts the public gaze, placing herself in the most conspicuous situations, making a display of her countenance and figure, and dispensing around her borrowed, deceitful and dangerous smiles, to allure the inexperienced to ruin and disgrace! See her in private, lost to virtue, with every good impression apparently obliterated from her mind, instigating her unhappy followers to acts of the most atrocious character, which have, in too many instances, brought them

at last to an ignominious and untimely end !  
Oh melancholy and most afflicting thought,  
that she, whose friendship and society,  
in the days of her innocence, would have  
afforded the most exalted satisfaction and  
enjoyment, should now, through the perfidy  
and artifices of a villain, lead the unwary  
soul down to the chambers of death !

These, vile seducer of virgin innocence !  
these, base, hateful and execrable adulterer !  
are the melancholy, agonizing and destruc-  
tive effects of your iniquity. For " one  
moment's guilty pleasure " see what lasting  
pain and sorrow you bring upon numbers  
of innocent and virtuous people, who would  
recoil, with horror, at the idea of acting  
towards you, as you have done towards  
them ! But in this accumulation of sor-  
row, the result of your depravity, do you  
remain untouched, unaffected, without  
your share of it ? Surely not—If you have  
any remains of humanity yet existing, your  
conscience must cry aloud against your  
proceedings : anguish and remorse must



afflict your guilty breast, the wounds you have inflicted upon others must be felt by yourself. A retrospective view of your life must "harrow up your soul," and in the prospective surely nothing presents itself to you but "a fearful looking-for of judgment and fiery indignation!" And shall I, exasperated and indignant at a review of your crimes, consign you, with merited curses, to that awful doom? Shall I invoke heaven for the sudden execution of the sentence upon your guilty head? No—It rather becomes me, in charity, to entreat you to regard your actions in their real, hideous, and offensive light; and, while in mercy you are allowed the opportunity, stop short in your iniquitous career, implore pardon of your justly and grossly offended Creator, and, with his assistance, "go and sin no more."

The soldier, perhaps, under orders to depart for a foreign country, to fight the battles, redress the grievances, or support and extend the glory and advantages of his own.

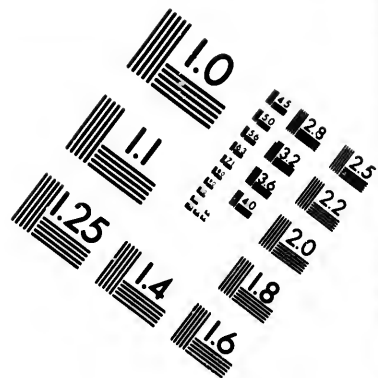
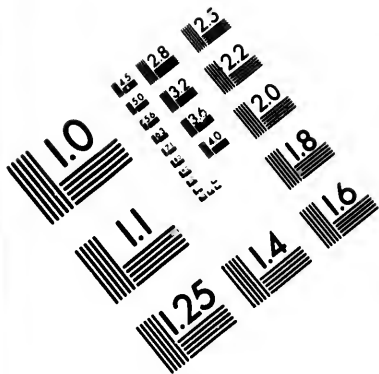
He receives the command to quit his country, and all its endearing attractions, perhaps to return no more, to expose himself to all the dangers and hardships that man can be liable to ; the perils of the sea, the point of the bayonet, and the cannon's mouth ; a sickly climate, the treachery of professed friends, and open hostility of enemies ; hunger and thirst, excessive fatigue, drenching rains and scorching sun, &c. without uttering a murmur, or deploring the peculiar inconveniences of his profession, but rather with cheerfulness and satisfaction. With promotion in view he overlooks all the toils and difficulties, and even danger of death he has to encounter, in order to arrive at it.

On the field of battle he has the distressing sight before him of his friend, who, but a few minutes before, was in the bloom of life, gay and active, jovial and entertaining, falling prostrate at his feet in the agonies of death, expiring in torture, without having it in his power to alleviate, for a

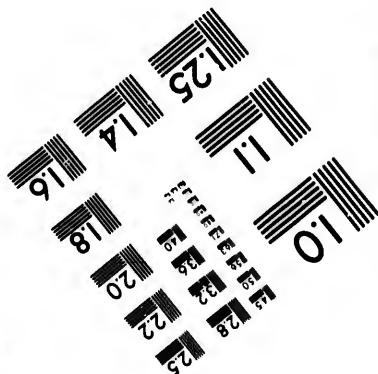
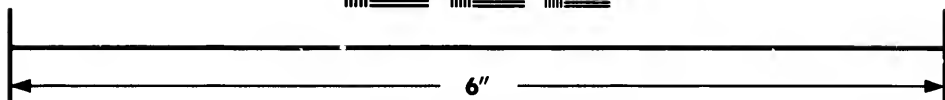
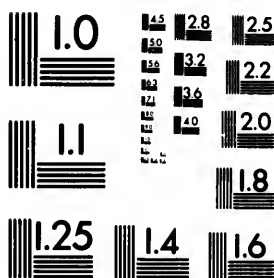
moment, his dying pains, or afford him any relief; and witnessing, perhaps, in this suffering of his friend, but a picture of his own fast approaching fate. Possibly the next ball is the awful messenger to summon him from the scene, and in a moment put an end to his career, by burying his hopes with his glory in the dust!

When we reflect upon the melancholy consequences of war, with the numerous and dreadful calamities it produces to mankind—thousands of lives sacrificed; the wife, in a moment, made a widow, and deprived of her only support; cast, helpless and destitute, upon the world, to buffet with all its hardships, and suffer great privations; children rendered fatherless, and plunged into sorrow and misery; their mother's hopes respecting them blasted in an instant, and she encumbered with the oppressive charge of protecting and providing for them; fathers deprived of their sons; mothers and sisters overwhelmed with distress at the loss of children or bro-





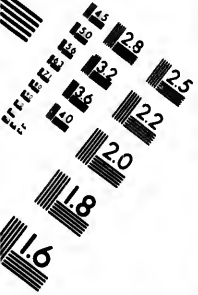
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thers ; whole families hurled, in an unpropitious moment, to poverty and misery, by having their property destroyed, or taken forcibly from them before their eyes, without daring to make one effort to save it :— when we remember that all these calamities, and many more, are brought upon whole nations, possibly merely to gratify the ambition or revenge of a single individual, under the specious pretext of benefitting the public, what great reason have we to deplore the fate of those countries, the form of whose government exposes them to such horrors, at any time their princes may feel disposed to involve them in them : and, on the other hand, how grateful should the consideration cause every subject of the British crown to feel to Providence for favouring him so highly in the form of his, which is such as to preserve him from those miseries, when the mere caprice of his prince or rulers would bring them upon him : and by the great majority of the people having, through the

medium of their representatives in parliament, a voice in the councils of the nation, they have the satisfaction of being able to oppose every attempt of government to involve them in the calamities of war, except when the interest and welfare of the country, the injuries or insults of foes, or other equally laudable causes render it indispensably necessary.

There, perhaps, goes the libertine, who, preferring folly to wisdom from his earliest years, displayed in his schoolboy days what his after life would bring forth. At that season of life when the mind was unembarrassed with the cares of the world, and in a proper state for the reception of those seeds of improvement and knowledge that would have in riper years enabled him to reap an abundant and profitable harvest from them, he would not permit them to take root, but cast them from him with disdain, and allowed noxious weeds alone to occupy their place, and spring up abundantly.— The corrections and remonstrances of his



teachers, the baneful consequences of similar conduct in some of his school-fellows, and the happy effects of good and obedient behaviour that he observed in others, all proved insufficient to have a salutary effect upon him : he played truant, neglected his lessons, associated constantly with vicious companions, who poisoned his mind by their wicked precepts and examples, and he continued in his vile and froward course.

As he approached manhood, instead of attending to the duties of the vocation in life for which he was intended, and endeavouring to obtain a complete knowledge of his business or profession, he neglected every thing relative to it ; and, notwithstanding all the representations and exhortations of his kind parents or guardians, and their endeavours and stratagems to reform him, he was deaf to their admonitions, and still persisted in his folly.

Arrived at man's estate, and getting the reins of government in his own hands, he had a full opportunity, by indulging in his

evil and uncontrolled propensities, of exhibiting the consequences, and reaping the fruits of his former perverse conduct. Instead of devoting his time to his lawful and necessary affairs he neglected them, and abandoned himself to sinful and ruinous pleasures and pursuits, that destroyed his constitution, wasted his property, and hurled him to ruin and disgrace.

See him, who might have been an honourable, respected, and useful member of society, enjoying the comforts, and real legitimate pleasures of life, by omitting to cultivate the bright advantages that Providence had bestowed upon him, now an outcast from society, hated and spurned by every respectable individual of his acquaintance ; and, perhaps, from having been concerned in some outrage on the decorum of society, obliged to make a precipitate flight from the scene of his folly, to be a stranger, a vagrant, in some distant land ! This, and too frequently even worse, is the end of profligacy like his ; and although melan-

choly examples of its baneful effects are daily to be met with, they are not sufficient to deter others from devoting themselves to it!

The deeply involved debtor, perhaps; his affairs in such a desperate state, and probably such aggravated circumstances attending his failure, that he is obliged to abscond. Influenced by ambition, instead of confining the extent of his business to that of his capital, he has waded far beyond his depth; he has undertaken things that he was quite unable to perform, and entered into engagements that he could not fulfil; and in this predicament, yet with a hope of one day recovering himself by some lucky turn of fortune in his favour, he was unwilling to forego the chance of that circumstance, and still endeavoured by stratagem, and even deception, to hold his ground for some time.

By means of artful and plausible representations, he perhaps induced some of his friends, who felt for his situation, and were

desirous of assisting him, to lend him money; others, confiding in his integrity, to lend their names on his behalf to bonds or other legal instruments, by which he was bound; unmindful of the possible consequences of such a proceeding, and little suspecting that his representations and assertions were totally false and unfounded. His ill fortune, or rather the unhappy effects of his temerity and imprudence, still pursued him; "the lucky hit" was never made, his visionary hopes were blasted, and instead of improvement in his affairs, they became every day worse and worse, until at length his ground was no longer tenable, and owing to some unlawful proceedings which he had been imprudent enough to have recourse to, he has been compelled to seek safety out of his own country!

It were well if all the evil consequences of his misconduct were confined to himself, and that by escaping the hand of justice, the whole matter terminated: but no—this is frequently by no means the case,

His deceit and cruelty have, by inducing his friends to be concerned with him in bills, &c. involving their responsibility, made them, in some instances, the sole sufferers, by his imprudence. Some, perhaps, even reduced to the lamentable and distressing necessity of abandoning their country, home and acquaintance, of breaking up their establishments, relinquishing their business, and of being cast destitute upon the world!

The young adventurer, perhaps; who, deeply affected by the melancholy state of the unhappy Greeks, while his indignation and revenge have been roused by the atrocities of the barbarous, blood-thirsty infidels; and inspired by the noble, generous sympathy for Christian wrongs and sufferings which, in ancient days, pervaded, and was the pride of all Europe; that excited her kings to league together, and, at enormous expence, transport their armies to a great distance, and, in person, undertake to revenge the insult and violence offered to their holy re-

ligion and its professors by profane and cruel infidels, has determined on devoting his fortune and life in the sacred cause.

When the mind turns to Greece, to its present state, the melancholy effects of the revolt of its inhabitants against their hateful oppressors, and their glorious, but I fear ineffectual struggle to shake off the insupportable yoke, what painful feelings are excited! After having long groaned under an ignominious burden, too heavy, too painful to be borne—to which death itself was naturally considered preferable by them—they have endeavoured to relieve themselves from it. Great, arduous and daring was the enterprise; nothing but an incapacity any longer to endure their sufferings could prompt to it; a courage and desperate bravery, no less than that which inspired their ancestors of Thermopylæ, alone could resolve upon it.

Oh! ill-fated, wretched Greece! how does every generous bosom heave with anguish at a review of your desperate, deplor-

able situation ! how are the vindictive and angry powers of the mind roused into action against your cruel destroyers !—Your plains drenched with the blood of your brave, unconquerably brave, devoted sons ; though not unmixed with that of their perfidious enemies ! Your rocky precipices stained with that of some of your fair, your lovely daughters, who have chosen the dreadful alternative of destroying themselves and their offspring, by flinging themselves from their lofty summits, rather than allow their detested enemies the savage satisfaction of adding them to the number of their victims ! Your rivers choked with the shapely and delicate forms of others who, with the same view, have, in despair, rushed into their waters, to find in them a refuge from their fury, while another portion have been inhumanly butchered—butchered without remorse, by fiend-like, merciless barbarians !

Oh Greece ! Greece ! how changed are you now from what you once were ! You, whose armies could not only defy every

foreign enemy, and effectually repel their attacks, but could also carry their conquering arms into the most distant countries, and astonish the world with their achievements! You, whose inhabitants, from their attainments in arts, literature and refinement, looked to be imitated by all other nations, and spurned, with disdain, the idea of receiving improvement from any other people: Oh, how humbled! how fallen! Your children, now, mere rebellious slaves of a people who are a disgrace to the other nations of Europe, and contemned and held in abhorrence by them!

And *is* this—*must* this—*can* this be permitted! Oh, how long!

—— Will *no one* save,  
Will *no one* snatch thee from th' o'erwhelming wave!

Where are now the generous, the sympathetic Crusaders? Where are those noble spirits who, even in dark, and, comparatively speaking, barbarous times, have repaired with alacrity and devotion, though perhaps,



under the then existing circumstances, with mistaken zeal, and erroneous views, to free a Christian country and Christian people from their impious persecutors? Ah! they are, long since, removed hence; their swords are sheathed; their bucklers are laid aside; the arms that wielded them are mouldered into dust, and the minds that actuated them are gone with them! Oh that we had them *now*! Oh that such were in existence in the present day! then would Greece be relieved from her impious, her insolent, her pitiless tyrants; then would the sacred standard of the Cross wave in triumph, undisturbed, upon her walls and towers; and the blood-stained Crescent no longer disgrace Christian Europe!—But ah! why do I sigh for them, why do I wish them here! They are gone! and have left behind them a posterity callous to many of those feelings that ennobled them; a posterity who can hear with apathy and indifference of a Christian people suffering the most unparalleled

cruelties ; sufferings that should cause the blood to run cold at the recital of them, that should “ cause the *very stones* to rise and mutiny !”

We are told that this is an unavoidable calamity ; that existing circumstances forbid the interference of any of the European governments in favour of the Greeks : that the balance of power, which is so necessary to be preserved, might be affected by such intermeddling : that it would be establishing a bad and dangerous precedent for the government of one country to tolerate and encourage rebellion among the subjects of another : that, possibly, such interference would again involve Europe in the horrors of war. These and other reasons are urged for standing aloof, and, with most unchristian coldness, hearing the dreadful accounts that every week brings from Greece.

For my part, I pretend not to be a politician, but I must humbly entertain the idea, that *some* measure might be adopted

by the Christian powers, in order to put a stop to the dreadful carnage among the Greeks. Let Greece be made an independent state; let her be divided among some of the European nations; even compel her infamous masters to mitigate the laws by which she is governed; *any thing at a*l*i* rather than allow her inhabitants to be inhumanly massacred.

If a sense of impropriety in intermeddling between a government and its revolting subjects be the reason why no assistance is afforded to the Greeks, whatever might be the general established practice among nations, surely I should think a case such as theirs might and ought to warrant a deviation from the regular rule. In general it is understood that the subjects of a government are to be treated, in some degree, with humanity and tenderness, allowed some possibility of dragging out their lives with at least a *shadow* of independence, of self command, of self importance: but was this the case with the unfortunate

Greeks? The Turks' system of governing them, with the atrocities exercised towards them, are too well and generally known to require an answer here. If, then, those atrocities were such as to offend humanity, to excite the commiseration even of hearts not the *most* tender and compassionate, would it, or could it be considered a crime to *relieve the distressed*, a duty commonly enjoined by the moralist upon all men? If it is an act of philanthropy and religious duty to relieve the suffering African *Heathen* from the cruelties exercised upon him by professing *Christians*, could it be called a dereliction of duty to save the *Christian* from the merciless barbarity of the *Infidel*?

With respect to the danger of involving Europe in war, it must be said that *one* Christian power is not called upon *alone* to step forward to the relief of the Greeks, but it is the duty of *all Christendom* to unite and deliver their Christian brethren. It may be considered visionary to talk of

making several nations unanimous in opinion upon the point : it is not visionary to talk of it when their mutual safety and interests require it ; and why should it be so when their honour, their duty to God and man demand it, without being in the least degree prejudicial to their interests or political welfare ?

I would say to them, “ You are Christians ; you admire and applaud your great Master’s golden rule, to ‘ do to others as you would they should do to you ;’ the voice of nature constrains you entirely to approve of it ; you acknowledge it a part of your religious duty to conform to it, and yet here is a direct, an impious disregard of that duty !”

But the cruelties they hear of are committed at a distance ; they feel no immediate ill effects resulting to themselves from them, and they *pretend* to be *greatly shocked*, but, apparently, soon forget and overlook them with cruel indifference !

There, perhaps, goes the great landed

proprietor, leaving his native country where he has been reluctantly remaining a short time, arranging matters relative to his estate, and probably receiving his rents, a considerable sum, which has been, in numerous instances, extorted by violence and cruelty from his suffering and impoverished tenantry.

He is hastening to the sister kingdom, or some foreign country, to waste, in luxury, extravagance and folly, what should naturally be expended in his own, in order that those who are toiling for his ease might enjoy the benefit arising from its expenditure among them: and by draining the country of its wealth, without making any kind of return or compensation whatever for the injury done to it, he is impoverishing the inhabitants, draining its resources, fettering and ruining commerce, and, of course, ultimately injuring himself by causing his property to depreciate very considerably in value.

Instead of residing on his estate, where

he might be in the full enjoyment of the pure, innocent, satisfying and delightful pleasures that the country is known to afford to the virtuous and enlightened mind ; instead of employing the superfluity of his income in the improvement and embellishment of his estate ; affording employment to the labouring class of his tenantry ; building comfortable cottages for their accommodation ; encouraging agriculture ; relieving the wants of the distressed ; watching over the interests of his tenants ; dispensing equal and impartial justice among the contentious ; preventing cruelty and oppression ; repressing disorder and riot ; and destroying the seeds of rebellion that might be generating in the country—and these, and many other equally useful and praiseworthy duties, might be attended to by him, yielding him in return a peaceful satisfaction at the moment, and the review of which would afterwards afford delight, unmixed with any bitter or unpleasant reflection—instead of enjoying the so-

ciety of a few select friends ; all the comforts, conveniences and elegancies of life ; innocent pleasures ; useful and laudable employment of his time ; a serene mind ; the approval of God and his conscience ; the praise of the world ; the veneration of his inferiors ; the admiration and esteem of his equals ; the friend of the good, and the terror and suppressor of the bad ; the comfort and delight of his family, and an ornament and treasure to his country ; instead of enjoying all these noble and exalted satisfactions, and few will pretend to say they were not within his reach, provided he were a *good* man, he resigns them all for the short-lived, unsatisfying, and ruinous follies of the town !

There, he is, perhaps, constant in his attendance at the scenes of dissipation and vice : the gambling house is a favourite resort, and the broadest and shortest road he can find to lead him to destruction.— Here, in a few hours, nay, even minutes, he frequently squanders away immense



sums, that would have been quite adequate to the noble and exalted purposes before-mentioned, in the company of unprincipled men who, without remorse, can desolate his family, reduce him to poverty and ruin, and exult in the acquisition of their ill-gotten wealth!

And what *pleasure* does he receive *in return* for his losses? In the very act his reason must upbraid him for his madness; the most intense and perplexing anxiety disturbs his thoughts, and sets his mind upon the rack while his fate is pending; and when the die is cast that determines against him, despair, anguish and dismay take possession of his breast, and torture their wretched victim.

He returns to his family with a heavy and agonized heart, deploring his infatuation, which, without yielding him any enjoyment in return, has deprived him of the means that were to have provided for their comfort and convenience; the funds for defraying the necessary expenses of

his house and family having been appropriated to the discharge of "debts of honour," (what a prostituted word! by the bye, how much more apposite would be *folly* or *infamy!*) which could not, *upon any consideration*, be omitted nor deferred; while the honest, industrious tradesmen, &c. who have accommodated him with their goods to a large amount, and are suffering great inconvenience for want of the sums due to them, are allowed to call repeatedly for them, and as often to be turned away, in disappointment and vexation.

With a view to recover his losses he is induced by hope, which whispers a flattering tale in his ear, to "try his fortune *once more.*" Various success attends him for a while, still holding forth the prospect of a fortunate issue: a bad throw occasionally, however, not only snatches from his fond grasp what he had just acquired, but obliges him to make some new sacrifice, to enable him to retain his chance of succeeding eventually. His bad fortune

still pursues him; and, after a long and anxious struggle, he is at length compelled to relinquish it, with a further sacrifice of his fortune and happiness.

He is, possibly, by these means, at last reduced to the melancholy alternative of surrendering his extensive estate and beautiful residence into the hands of his creditors, until his debts be liquidated; and to be exiled, in miserably reduced circumstances, from his native land to a land of strangers, prejudiced against him on account of his country and religion, and ready upon all occasions to offer insult and contempt to him who, until now, commanded the respect and submission of thousands. His family that had been accustomed to luxury and unbounded affluence, with all the advantages and enjoyments arising from them, reduced to a scanty income, removed to a distance from their home and society, and experiencing hardships and privations that they never could have anticipated, and for which they are but ill qualified, leaving a

sting in his conscience, to the poignancy of which every day adds its share !

He is, probably, a member of Parliament, and, in his seat in the house, can propose measures for the amelioration of his unhappy country, and rail at the ministry for their supineness in adopting means for its improvement ; while at the same time he is himself one of the greatest of all its enemies ; for no measure that I can conceive could be adopted by the legislature, capable of counteracting effectually the paramount bane of Ireland, that of the non-residence of the nobility and gentry, which drains it of its wealth without returning any equivalent whatever for it. Some measures might afford a trifling temporary relief, but none can prove an effectual antidote for its disorders, and restore prosperity to it, but the residence of the landed proprietors. Money is the main-spring of all the affairs of life ; it keeps the great and complicated machine of worldly transactions in motion ; and without it, business of every

kind is at a stand ; consequently the country whose wealth is continually drained from it must be involved in poverty and distress.

He perhaps seldom reflects upon the degree of responsibility attached to his situation and circumstances in life, although the opportunity and power of being so extensively useful prove it to be very great.

He, to all appearance, loses sight of the real design of Providence in bestowing such a profusion of his blessings upon him, and the consequences of abusing them ; and yet he is expressly told, that “ of him to whom much is given, much will be required.”\*

From a view of the case of this individual a useful conclusion may be deduced. While the man who, by strict and constant attention to some lawful employment derives a comfortable competency from his industry, observes the man of fashion and

\* The foregoing observations are, in their application, of course, limited to a *portion* of the class of individuals referred to, and not to be understood as general.

figure, in splendid equipage, rolling, in all the external pomp and show of wealth, through the streets, and attracting the gaze and admiration of the silly, unthinking multitude, let him not unhesitatingly pronounce that man his superior in happiness ; let not a single sigh of discontent, envy, or covetousness follow that man, I would say, but let him pass on, with the reflection, that perhaps on a comparison with him as great a balance might be discovered in your favour with respect to *internals*, as against you in *externals*, or that the state of your mind might be considered by him much more enviable than you conceive his external circumstances to be ; and that therefore he is, possibly, rather an object of your pity than your envy. Neither attempt to flatter yourself with the idea that, (supposing him to be in the situation alluded to,) were you in his place you would not have acted so imprudently as he has done, and thereby still seem to warrant a secret desire for an equality with him ; but remember that you

are naturally possessed of passions and desires similar to his, and that probably your exemption from their evil effects is rather owing to the impossibility of gratifying them, or freedom from temptation, than to any inherent goodness in you.

Monday, 22d August—I rose early, and on going upon deck was gratified with the delightful sight of the Rostrevor and Carlingford mountains, just a-head of the vessel.

However pleasant the feelings of the traveller may be at the sight of his country, after having been absent a long time, yet as he approaches the particular spot in that country where he is acquainted, and that brings his own residence almost in view, then are his sensations raised to the highest degree of satisfaction. The anticipation of home, and a happy meeting with his friends, makes him almost fancy the enjoyment of the reality, but in a moment "recollection at hand" removes the delusion, which gives way to an almost unconquerable impatience for the desired

event: this increases rather than diminishes as the distance becomes shorter, and the happy moment approaches.

Influenced by such feelings, how necessary, too frequently, are prudence and reflection to regulate and control the violence of the emotions of the mind, and prepare it for any unexpected change in the existing auspicious appearances! I was, upon this occasion, again taught this lesson.— About twelve o'clock, while indulging the fond idea of soon reaching home, which, from the appearances of the moment, I considered must be realized, the wind being quite favourable, the weather particularly fine, the entrance of the harbour but a short distance from us, and two pilots on board, who entertained no doubt of the vessel reaching Warren Point with the tide that was then flowing, I went below for a little, and on returning upon deck, to my great surprise, and perhaps disappointment, found the vessel enveloped in a thick fog. This circumstance rendered our arrival in



the harbour that evening very doubtful: there was still a probability of it, however, and I was willing to entertain a hope of it.

When we had sailed a sufficient distance to induce the pilots to believe we must be near the light-house, the fog being so very dense as to prevent us from seeing it, "all hands" were placed on "the look out," and in a few minutes we heard the sound of the light-house bell, which was rung in order to apprise us of the distance and direction we were in from it. At length one person cried, "There it is!" when it immediately became faintly visible through the fog, very near the vessel. "All was now right," according to the general opinion; we crossed the Bar in safety; the only danger previously apprehended was now removed; one of the pilots left us here, the other knew exactly the course to steer, and spoke with so much confidence as to dispel every doubt of reaching the Point that evening. The crew placed entire confidence in his skill and long-trying

acquaintance with the harbour, and gave full scope to the delightful idea of hailing their homes, families and friends in a few, very few hours.

I too, equally confident of my hopes being realized, went down to the cabin to dress, and prepare for going on shore; but while occupied in this way, and when least expecting it, my disappointment was complete. About four o'clock I heard the cry "She's aground!" and almost at the same instant, by the pilot, "Put the helm hard a-port!" "She's aground!" "She's aground!" resounded from one end of the vessel to the other.

I hurried up on deck, where I witnessed a very different scene from what had existed when I had been up last: the vessel was fast in the mud near Greenore Point, which, however, we could not see for the fog.

Rage and disappointment exhibited themselves in their most hideous forms in the countenances and expressions of the

sailors, who were transported by them, and order and subordination appeared to be forgotten. The men were ordered up the masts to furl the sails; this seemed an intolerable and most vexatious task, and they almost hesitated, apparently lest their disappointment should thereby be confirmed beyond hope. They went about it, however, with great reluctance, murmuring and cursing the pilot for his ignorance and stupidity.

The kedge anchor was taken out and dropped a-stern of the vessel, and every exertion made to set her afloat, but the tide being at its height, every effort proved fruitless. The harsh and unjustifiable expressions and conduct of most of the ship's company to the pilot, excited in me such a strong feeling of sympathy for him, and my thoughts at the moment were so much engaged with his most unpleasant situation, that I almost forgot my own disappointment.

As there was no possibility of getting a

boat at this hour to take me up to Warren Point, I was under the *agreeable* necessity of making myself as contented as possible for the night ; which, however, was not a very difficult matter, since I had the *consolation* of being aware that we were *safe ashore*, only a few miles from home.

The following morning a boat from the shore came along side, which the master and I engaged to take us up to the Point, and in a short time we left the vessel.

While proceeding up the bay, I was reminded of a brig that had sailed up, after a long voyage, the day before we sailed for Quebec. Upon that occasion I was impressed with the circumstances attending her safe arrival. Her owner, and those concerned in the voyage, had long been in a state of anxiety respecting her safety, and the success of the adventure ; the families and friends of those on board were deeply interested in her fate ; every gale that blew excited their alarm and apprehension ; the crew had been exposed to hardships and

dangers of the most fearful kind: these were then all removed; suspense was at an end; fear gave place to joy; hardship and danger were forgotten, and her arrival was hailed with satisfaction by all parties.

We were then about to encounter the perils they had braved and escaped: we could not hope to be in similar circumstances in less than four months; it was a long time to look forward to, particularly as it might be very eventful, but the nature of those events being as yet concealed in the womb of time. Hope fondly whispered "all will be well," but accident, or rather the great disposer of all events might determine otherwise. That time, however, has now elapsed, thought I, and it appears but as yesterday that the same objects met our view that now delight it; they bear the same appearance which they did then; we perceive no particular indications of a long lapse of time, and, with a trifling difference, (the situation of the vessel not being such as to warrant or excite any ap-

prehensions respecting her safety,) the case of the brig, crew, &c. just alluded to, is one with ours. About twelve o'clock we landed at Warren Point.

The Christian's life may be, with great propriety, as it has often been, compared with a voyage by sea. When he first becomes acquainted with his situation, and the grand scheme of his salvation, he resolves to take advantage of the latter, and therefore undertakes the voyage. He may possibly have the prospect of a long one through life: he encounters storms and tempests of a fearful and painful kind; in some cases these are not of long continuance, nor frequent, in others there is little else. But, although the storms be great and the waves high; although he be troubled and afraid; his privations and sufferings painful to endure; yet the winds, though boisterous, being favourable, they waft him to the desired port at last; and no sooner does the haven appear, and the weather-beaten vessel enter in safety, than

all the pains and sufferings that were experienced, though grievous to be borne while they existed, are forgotten as though they had never been, and succeeded by joys unspeakable, pleasures “such as eye hath not seen nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive.”

This certain result, then, should be no small inducement to undertake the voyage; particularly as it differs from that with which it is compared, inasmuch as, with the proper pilot on board, there is no danger of foundering, wreck, or other fatal accidents, incident to the other.

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