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WEEKLY MISCELLANY.

Devoted to the Intellectual and Moral Improvement of the Young.

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HALIFAX, N. S. JANUARY 7, 1864.

SINCERITY.

Sincerity is in words what honesty is in deeds—the best policy. The want of it—insincerity—arises from many sources in the human character. In some it springs from a love of concealment and intrigue. In others it is caused by a dread of consequences which they suppose would result from a disclosure of the truth. In others it arises from a false love of approbation—the flattering of others seeming to them a sure way of gaining their object.

To the first of these classes all that can be said is, that they possess a feature of character which they ought to keep in check; as if indulged, it cannot fail to procure them contempt, and frustrate the views which they hope to realize.

To the second class we would say, that, like all cowards, they are apt to miscalculate the supposed danger. They will allow that to incur a considerable danger to escape a small one, can only be the mark of an imbecile mind. In most circumstances the danger of telling the truth can be calculated with success; but no one can tell what mishaps are to ensue from either saying what is false or suppressing what is true. In general, the straight-forward course only threatens us with a slight loss of the respect of others, which the majesty of sincerity is almost sure immediately to restore; but what an awful responsibility we incur by undertaking to endure the miseries by which we are to be overpowered at the moment when it is discovered that we are not only guilty of the fault, but have destroyed our honour in a vain endeavour to conceal it. Timid persons of this kind often imagine there is danger where there is none, and act the hypocrite for nothing, humbling themselves by a violating sense of doing what is mean and

wrong, when a candid and conscientious course would give them that approbation which sincerity never fails to command.

Insincere discourse towards others, for the sake of gaining approbation, is so contemptibly foolish, that they must be weak indeed who are guilty of it. All false acts for obtaining the respect and admiration of others, are labour in vain, and create contempt in the discerning. Insincerity is much more liable to be detected than may be imagined, if not by the immediate object, at least by some other person.

There is a kind of insincerity which must not be overlooked. It is the abuse of innocent jesting. Some give themselves up so entirely to an ironical and bantering kind of discourse, full of whimsical slang, that their real sentiments are at length buried beneath a mass of rubbish. Persons of this kind live in a perpetual masquerade, and grow old with the rattle in their hands; aiming at no higher gratification than that of being laughed at.

In the indulgence of every kind of dissimulation, in whatever circumstances, there is much danger, and cannot be carried into effect without injury to virtue. To all who may be disposed by nature or "evil communications" to the vice of insincerity, we would not only represent the obvious disadvantages which follow the practices of vice, but also the great advantages which accrue from the opposite virtue. No one can estimate the vast number of evils which afflict society on account of the necessity of being guarded against possible insincerity, or the happiness which would attend the world if truth prevailed more generally; without feeling that he cannot practise a virtue more useful to his kind, or accord to any fellow creature greater praise than to say that he is sincere. But besides the lustre with which we are invested by the practice of sincerity, there is the comfort of the still brighter and more blessed light which it kindles in our own bosoms. He who is conscious of sincerity can scarcely know fear.

OLD TREES.

A chestnut tree is now growing on the side of Mount Etna, in Sicily, the trunk of which is hollow, and is 180 feet in circumference; one hundred horses can be sheltered at once within its interior. There is a walnut tree near Balaklava, in the Crimea, that is at least a thousand years old. The cedars of Lebanon are the remnants of the forest from which Solomon built the Temple more than 3,000 years ago. There are oaks now growing in England which were planted before the Norman conquest. The yew trees are still older. One in the churchyard of Braburn, in Kent, is now more than 3,000 years old. The same cypress which sheltered the troops of Fernando Cortez, in Mexico, is standing now, and others are there like it, which are 4,000 years of age. The mammoth pines of California are the most wonderful trees in the world, growing 400 feet high, and attaining a circumference in proportion. These trees are two or three thousand years old. One of them required five men twenty days to bore it full of pump auger holes, the only way to fell it, and then it was so nicely poised that it stood till the same men spent two days more in driving wedges with a battering ram into one side of the cut to topple it over. The expense of cutting it down was \$550. It is by no means improbable that some of the olive trees near Jerusalem are the same that stood there when the Saviour was on the mount and in the garden.

Family Department.

We had better study how to bear actual misfortune, than perplex ourselves about that which may possibly befall us.

A farmer returning home in his wagon, after delivering a load of corn, is a more certain sign of national prosperity than a nobleman riding in his carriage to the opera.

To be angry about trifles is mean and childish, to rage and be furious is brutish, and to maintain perpetual wrath is akin to the practice and temper of devils; but to prevent or repress rising resentment is wise and glorious, manly and divine. — WATTS.

To Cleanse the Hair.—The yolk of eggs act in the same way as soap in removing the dandruff, but having little or no alkaline qualities, does not, like soap change the color of the hair, nor render it harsh, as spirit does; but, on the contrary, makes it soft and silklike. It is used thus: Beat up the yolk of an egg (perfectly free from the white) with an equal quantity of soft water or rose water; apply it to the hair with a very soft brush (a shaving brush is best) until a good lather is produced; then clean it all well off either with soft water, or rose, elder, or orange-flower water. If a new-laid egg, the better.

Cutting Butter in cold weather.—To cut a slice of butter from a large roll in cold weather, first dip the knife in hot water, and all trouble of breaking the butter will be avoided.

Cough Syrup.—Take one ounce thorough-wort, one ounce of slippery elm, one ounce of stick-licorice, and one ounce of flax-seed. Simmer them together in one quart of water, until the strength is entirely extracted, then strain carefully, and add one pint of best treacle and a half-pound of loaf-sugar; simmer them all together, and when cold bottle up tight for use. This is the cheapest, best and safest medicine for coughs in use. A few doses, of one tablespoonful at a time will alleviate the most distressing lung cough.

Hasty Pudding.—Set some milk on the fire, and when it boils put in a little salt. Stir in by degrees as much flour as will make it of a proper thickness. Let it boil quickly a few minutes, beating it constantly while on the fire. Pour it into a dish, and eat it with cold butter and sugar. Some persons add eggs to this.

For Chapped Hands.—Mix a quarter of a pound of unsalted hog's lard, which has been washed in common and then rose-water, with the yolks of two new laid eggs and a large spoonful of honey. Add as much fine oatmeal or almond-paste as will work it into a proper consistence, and rub in well before going to bed.

How to clean Kid Gloves.—To wash kid gloves, have ready a little new milk in one saucer, and a piece of brown soap in another, and a clean cloth, folded three or four times. Spread the glove neatly on the cloth; take a piece of flannel; dip in the milk; rub well with the soap then apply briskly to the glove, holding it firmly with the left hand, and rubbing it downward towards the fingers. When well cleaned, let it dry, and it will look as good as new.

To Purify Water.—Pounded alum possesses the property of purifying water. A tablespoonful of pulverised alum sprinkled into a hog's-head of water (the water stirred at the time) will, after the lapse of a few hours, by precipitating to the

bottom the impure particles so purify it that it will be found to possess nearly all the freshness and clearness of the finest spring water. A pailful containing four gallons may be purified by a single teaspoonful.

Apple Meringue.—This is a simple dish, but very attractive-looking, and very pleasant to eat. Take some stewed apple which has been carefully prepared and is entirely free from lumps. It must be strained through a cullender if necessary. Put it into a pudding-dish; beat up the whites of two eggs with not quite as much sugar as you use for frosting; heap this upon the apple; let it stand in a cool oven long enough to become slightly brown. The apple may be flavored with lemon, wine or cinnamon. Any other fruit may be used. This kind of frosting is often put on lemon and other pies which have no upper crust.

REPTILES.

Of old, when the waters that covered the earth had subsided, there were, according to tradition, and the limited discoveries of geologists, left stranded amid the ooze and mud certain monsters or reptiles which were hideous and repulsive in form. These are said to have been chelonians or those belonging to the tortoise family; saurians or lizards, and ophidians or serpents. Reptiles do not undergo any change of nature, and are always air-breathers, although cold-blooded; they have neither mamme nor breasts for sucking their young, nor yet hair nor feathers. By the two former peculiarities they are distinguished from fishes and batrachians, and by the two latter from mammals or those which do not suckle their young, and from birds. Reptiles breathe air by lungs, like birds and mammals, but the pulmonary circulation is incomplete, only a part of the blood being sent to the lungs, while from the ventricles of the heart a mixed arterial and venous blood is sent to the other organs. The number of species of reptiles is set down at 2,000 or less than that of mammals or birds; most of them are terrestrial, but some, it is said, can sustain themselves in the air.

Some reptiles live habitually in the water, swimming by means of flattened fins (as the turtles) or by a thin tail, as in crocodiles; others dwell in subterranean burrows.

Every degree of speed is found among reptiles, and while some are fitted for running over dry sand, others are better

adapted to climbing trees, or ascending smooth surfaces. The means of defence which nature has provided reptiles are many, and, although their appearance is sufficient to terrify most animals, yet they are furnished with other safeguards, which render an attack upon them, to say the least, unpleasant. The crocodile and turtle are sufficiently protected against ordinary assault; the agility of the lizard serves him well, for he darts into his hole at the expence, possibly, of his tail, which is soon reproduced. The great boa can prevail over every foe but man, and the poisonous fangs of other serpents and the bristling spines of the horned lizard are amply sufficient to guard them from the attacks of predaceous and other ill-disposed members of the animal kingdom. Reptiles are very useful to man in various ways; some fulfil the law of their being by catching insects, while still others serve as food, or supply material useful in the arts. The muscles of reptiles are red, though paler than in mammals and birds; they preserve their irritability for a long time after death. Tortoises have been known to live eighteen days after their brains have been removed. Life seems in a marked degree independent of the brain, as they vegetate rather than live; and being comparatively insensible to pain, they grow slowly, live long, and are very tenacious of life. The sense of touch is dull, whether exercised by the skin, toes, lips, tongue or tail; taste must also be dull, as the food of reptiles is swallowed without mastication. Reptiles eat and drink comparatively little, and are able to go a long time without food; most of them are oviparous, their eggs being hatched by the heat of the sun. The young when born are able to provide for themselves, and are generally indifferent to the mother, who has neither the joys nor the sorrows of maternity.

LAKE SUPERIOR IN WINTER.

The people who live in those cold regions tell large stories respecting the snow and the ice which they have to encounter. Winter sets in pretty early there: and when it comes, it locks up that immense lake as fast as a miser ever locked his strong-box.

Then the residents of that upper country are almost completely shut out from the rest of the world, and so they remain till late in the spring, the boats com-

mence running again. If you will look at the map, you see that it is a long distance from Marquette, or Ontonagon, to any point accessible by a railroad. Fond du Lac, on Lake Winnebago, is the most northerly place yet reached by the locomotive. There is a term between the close of the navigation of the lake and the fall of sufficient snow for sleighing, when scarcely any one attempts to make this journey. But when the ground is covered with snow, sometimes people go through in their sleighs. How do you think the inhabitants of Lake Superior receive their mails in midwinter? Once a week a dog train runs through from different points on the lake to Green Bay, and back again over the same route.—The conductor finds his way through the woods by the marks on the trees. A gentleman of my acquaintance told me he made the journey in this manner once.—The dogs were under perfect control, and seemed to consider their task in the light of amusement. Philosophical dogs I think they must have been. When night came, my friend said he dug a kind of cellar in the snow, made a floor of hemlock branches, built a huge fire, wrapped himself up in a buffalo robe, and slept as soundly as he ever slept in his life.—Sometimes he was waked by the barking of wolves, but knowing that they were miserable cowards, and were afraid of a fire, he easily fell asleep again. It took him some six days to reach Lake Winnebago.

I have no doubt that those of you who reside in the sunny South, think that the cold of Lake Superior must be almost intolerable. But such is not the fact. The mercury sinks very low, it is true, but the atmosphere is dry, and one can bear intense cold with less inconvenience than he experiences in the latitude of New York, during the month of March. All the Lake Superior people with whom I conversed about the winter season, assured me that they were as happy there as they used to be in their more southern homes. One gentleman, a physician, said that during one entire winter spent in Marquette, he never put on an overcoat but once, though he spent a great part of his time in the open air.

THE AFRICAN RHINOCEROS.

The black rhinoceros resembles in general appearance an immense hog; twelve

feet and a half long, six feet and a half high, girth eight and a half feet, and of the weight of half a dozen bullocks; its body is smooth, and there is no hair to be seen except at the tips of the ears and the extremity of the tail. The horns of concreted hair, the foremost curved like a sabre, and the second resembling a flattened cone, stand on the nose and above the eyes; in the young animals the foremost horn is the longest, whilst in the old ones they are of equal length, namely, a foot and a half or more; though the older the rhinoceros the shorter are his horns, as they wear them by sharpening them against the trees, and by rooting up the ground with them when in a passion. When the rhinoceros is quietly pursuing his way through his favorite glades of Mimosa bushes (which his hooked upper lip enables him readily to seize, and his powerful grinders to masticate), his horns, fixed loosely in his skin, make a chopping noise by striking one against the other; but on the approach of danger, if his quick ear or keen scent makes him aware of the vicinity of a hunter, the head is quickly raised, and the horns stand still and ready for combat on his terrible front. The rhinoceros is often accompanied by a sentinel to give him warning, a beautiful green-backed and blue-winged bird, about the size of a jay, which sits on one of its horns.

RAIN.

Did you ever say, "It is foggy, this morning?" and did you know that this fog is a vapor or steam caused by heat, which rises from the land and water, and ascends into the atmosphere till it is condensed or thickened by the cold? This converts it into clouds, which return again to the earth in the form of rain, hail, or snow.

Probably there is not a drop of water on the globe that has not passed again and again through this form of fog and vapor.

Some few years ago, during a heavy snow storm, we left the cars at Havre de Grace to cross the river Susquehanna; the cabin (which was the whole length of the boat) was filled with steam, that had escaped from the boiler. This vapor or steam arose to the ceiling, which, being cold, with a body of snow over the roof, condensed it, and made little drops

of water, that fell to the floor; and this was rain, just as you see it out of your window sometimes. And the mode of its formation was precisely similar in this case to all others.

OPEN AIR.

The most of us are apt to think, in these cold and piercing spells, that if we are well-sheltered, well-fed, well-clothed, and well-warmed, we shall be able to snap our fingers in the face of Old Boreas, and let him blow on his bugle till he is tired. Well, and we dress, and feed, and hug the fire, and make the most of it; indoors for a time is a realized heaven. But presently nature throws out her silent hints. We grow languid; our fire is not so pleasant a fire as it was; we don't care so much for our food as we thought we should; and things generally go wrong with us. What can be the matter now? Have we not everything about us that heart could wish to make us warm and comfortable? Could mortal ask for more? O, no; but still we are restless, uneasy, dissatisfied. What is the trouble? Simply this, we need of the same very wintry air we have been at such pains to protect ourselves against. We need to run out into the cold, and buffet the same north wind we so much affect to dread. Open air is what we want—and exercise, that brings healthy digestion, sound sleep and high spirits. And we find at length that we cannot do without it. If we make the attempt, we surely wither and die. We may enjoy as high a pulse in the sleets and snows of January, as under the soft suns that open all the roses of June.

WHY THE FINGERS ARE NOT OF A LENGTH.—A master, in illustrating on this question, made his scholar grasp a ball of ivory, to show that the points of his fingers are equal. It would have been better, says Sir Charles Bell, had he closed his fingers upon his palm, and then asked whether or not they correspond. The difference in the length of the fingers serves a thousand ends, adapting the force of the hand and fingers to different purposes—as for holding a rod, a switch, a sword, a hammer, a pen, a pencil, engraving tools, &c., in all of which a secure hold and freedom of motion are admirably combined.

To Contractors.**GOVERNMENT BUILDING,
Market Square.**

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Commissioners for Erection of above Building, will be received at the Office of the Secretary, until 12 o'clock, on **MONDAY**, the 1st day of February next, from all persons desirous of contracting for same, according to plans and specifications which may be seen on and after Monday, the 4th inst., in the large room of the Nova Scotia Marine Insurance Building, Bedford Row, fourth story.

The building is to be of Freestone, 3 stories high, and measures 125 feet long by 54 wide, more or less, and any further information required in reference thereto may be had on application to Mr. David Sterling, Architect, Hollis Street.

Tenders must be accompanied with a guarantee from two responsible persons, who are willing to become security for the faithful performance of the contract entered upon.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN DUFFUS, Chairman.

A. G. JONES, Secretary.

Halifax, 2nd January, 1864.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDER**HEAD QUARTERS,**

Office of Adj. Gen. Militia,

HALIFAX, DEC. 31, 1863.

THE Inspection of the Nova Scotia Militia having terminated for the present year, and Major General Hastings Doyle, the Commander-in-Chief, having personally inspected several of the Regiments, and having received very favorable reports of those which he has not seen, from the Inspecting Officers, has much pleasure in thus publicly recording the very great satisfaction he has felt in ascertaining the great progress this Force has made in so short a space of time.

His Excellency is perfectly aware that the present state of efficiency could not have been attained unless all those Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers, who were concerned in the training, had zealously performed their duties, and that the men had not responded as readily as they did to the call of duty; it is also gratifying to the Commander-in-Chief to find that the conduct of the men of the Militia assembled for training, was universally such as to merit his entire approbation, proving at the same time, their great intelligence, and their peculiar capacity for the Military Profession.

It must however be borne in mind that the Militia of this Province is still in its infancy, and that much, very much, still requires to be done to put that force in a

really efficient form, and the Commander-in-Chief therefore calls upon Commanding and other Officers of Militia to persevere in the zealous discharge of their duties, hoping that by the Commencement of the next annual training, the Commanding and Company Officers of the Force will complete the all-important, although minor details of organization, amongst others that of forming Companies into Squads, so requisite for the proper performance of the various duties required.

The Major-General desires also in conclusion, to express his best thanks to the Officers of the Militia Staff, and the Non-Commissioned Officers of the Staff under their Command, for the very zealous manner in which they have performed their duties, and which, in a high degree, has led to the success of the Militia Movement.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

R. B. SINCLAIR, A. G. M.

Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping.

THE undersigned have been appointed by the Committee of Lloyd's Register, London, their resident Surveyor for the Province of Nova Scotia. Shipbuilders and Ship Owners in Nova Scotia requiring to have their vessels surveyed for classification in the Register Book of this Society will please make application for the present at the Office, Windsor, N. S., where copies of the Society's Rules and any necessary information can be obtained.

JOSEPH I. TUCKER,

Dec. 17.

Lloyd's Surveyor.

News of the Week.**EUROPEAN NEWS.**

The R. M. steamship Africa arrived this evening, with English dates to the 26th ult.

A great fire occurred on Friday night, in the vicinity of Milk-street and Wood-street, Cheapside, London, which destroyed upwards of £100,000 worth of property.

Mr. Thackeray, well known as a popular writer, died on Christmas eve, at his residence, Kensington, Palace-gardens.

The French Government appears to think the project of a Congress may yet be accomplished, but with a preliminary meeting of the Ministers of the several nations to arrange the business.

The Spanish papers favourable to the Congress are of opinion that Spain ought to demand the restoration of Gibraltar, and that the Ministry should accede to this national object.

ENTRY OF THE FEDERAL TROOPS INTO HOLSTEIN.—Altona, Dec. 24.—At eight

o'clock this morning the Saxon regiment of Kronpring infantry entered the town. The Danes did not leave Altona until the Federal troops appeared. As soon as the Danes had passed out of one street it was instantly decorated with the German and Schleswig-Holstein flags. The Federal Civil Commissioners alighted at the Town hall, from the balcony of which is suspended a large German flag. A meeting was held of the citizens of the town, when Prince Frederick was proclaimed legitimate ruler of the country. A proclamation of the Federal Commissioners has been issued, announcing their assumption of the administration of Holstein and Lauenberg, without prejudice to the only temporarily suspended rights of the sov. reign.

The King of Bavaria has received the Prince of Augustenburg with all the honours due to a sovereign Prince.

It is positively stated that Hanoverian troops will relieve the Austrians quartered in this city, and that the whole of the Austrians will march into Holstein.

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.—Another proclamation of the Polish National Government has been published in Warsaw, in which the origin and object of the insurrection are again stated. The proclamation points out as principles of the movement, "Equality of all inhabitants before the law and free landed property for the peasantry." The proclamation states in conclusion that the insurrection will be continued with undiminished vigour."

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Bishop Colenso's trial commenced at the Cape on the 17th ult. in St. George's Cathedral, before the Metropolitan Bishop of Cape Town and two suffragans, the Bishop of Graham's Town, and the Bishop of the Orange Free State. The accusing clergy, the Dean of Cape Town and the Archdeacons of Graham's Town and George Town, were present to support the charges they had preferred. Dr. Bleek, curator of the Grey Library, attended on behalf of Bishop Colenso, and read a letter from the Bishop denying the jurisdiction of the Court, and handed in a formal protest against the proceedings. The Dean of Cape Town supported the charges. The trial was expected to extend over several days.

The Federal steamship Vanderbilt returned to Cape Town from the Mauritius, and remained in Table Bay until October 27. She then proceeded to Angra Pequena, the Confederate rendezvous, and carried away a quantity of coals, stored on Penguin Island, which was annexed to Cape Colony two years since. The Vanderbilt also seized the British barque Saxon, of Cape Town (in British waters it is said), that vessel being supposed to have been laden with part of the cargo of the Federal barque Conrad, captured

by the Alabama, and converted by Captain Semmes into a tender to the Alabama, and re-named the Tuscaloosa.—The Vanderbilt then put a prize crew on board the Saxon, and sent her to New York for condemnation. The crew of the Saxon, with the exception of the mate, said to have been shot by a Federal officer, were transferred to a coasting vessel and forwarded to Table Bay.

SHIPWRECK OF A GERMAN EMIGRANT SHIP.—300 LIVES LOST.

It has been briefly announced that an emigrant vessel which left Hamburg for Australia a short time since with about 400 persons on board was lost on the coast of Holland during the recent storms, and that nearly every soul on board perished. One of the few survivors has furnished the following narrative of the wreck:—"About 300 men were drowned or died in the terrible night from Thursday to Friday, and among these were the captain and the aged doctor. No clothing was saved, as all was washed away and strewn on an unknown coast. Of the *Wilhelmsburg*, one of the largest vessels sailing from Hamburg, nothing remains but a portion of the afterpart, which, in consequence of the strength of the deck, still remains a little above water. We left the city for sea, having on board from 315 to 320 passengers, and had a fair wind. We had not been long at sea when we encountered a westerly wind, which increased from day to day, until it became a storm which we could make no head against, and were driven back to the coast. In the night from Thursday to Friday the storm raged so violently that the sails which were stowed were blown away, and those which were set were more or less split. None of the sailors dare venture up the masts, and we feared that they would go every minute. The vessel was driven about in a terrible manner by the winds and the waves, and at last she could no longer be steered. About one o'clock the captain gave orders to sound with the lead. *V* did so, and, to our horror, found only 17 feet of water. We saw that we were lost, and in a few minutes the ship struck forward, and, with a terrible shock, she afterwards struck aft. The rudder then gave way. We immediately proceeded to cut away the masts, but they broke off like sticks, and their wreck beat great holes in the deck, through which the water poured and filled the 'tween decks.—Another fearful crash was heard, and the ship broke in two amidships. All who were in the fore-part of the vessel and 'tween decks were drowned, as the one sank with all who were there and the other was full of water. Thus 250 lives were sacrificed to the waves in the space of a few minutes. It was a fearful sight. Yet we could do nothing. In such a moment one has enough to do to think of

himself, and has also enough to do to save himself. The after-portion of the vessel also sunk in a few minutes, but was not entirely covered with the water. The lower portion held together, but was imbedded in the sandy bottom. Now, however, one sea after another rushed over the deck, tore away the bulwarks and carried off all who could not hold on firmly. We all jumped into the largest boat, which was firmly jammed in between the wrecks of the masts and water vessels. Behind me and before me lay dead and wounded, and among these was the captain. Thus cowering together in the boat, exposed to every sea which swept the vessel, sometimes lying on the dead, at other times packed between corpses, I awaited the dawn of day. It was quite seven o'clock when we saw a northern barque in the distance, with her masts cut away, but otherwise holding together, drive upon the strand. Her crew launched their long boat, and fortunately succeeded in landing. We followed this example, although our boat leaked. Men now came forth from behind the masts and water vessels and from every corner of the deck, almost all blue with hunger and frost, but anxious to get to land.—There were about 10 more than the boat would carry; but, as these were passengers, some of the crew were compelled to remain behind, and amongst these I was one. The boat left us with the promise that we should soon be fetched from the wreck. The boat, however, soon stuck fast, and those who were in her were compelled to wade to dry land. The tide now ebbed, and as the boat lay high and dry we were compelled to try and save ourselves, as we could expect no help from the shore. We therefore patched up a small boat, the stern part of which had been broken away by the waves, and this frail barque we launched in the darkness into the sea. The waves fortunately drove us to the shore, and then we got out and waded towards our comrades.—The next night, like the last, we were forced to spend without a shelter; but at all events we were not exposed to the waves. On the evening of the next day some men arrived, and we were conveyed to the nearest village in waggons. We then learned that the land was the island of *Terschelling*, and here we remained till we could be sent to *Harlingen*. Of the 300 passengers only 24 men and one woman was saved, and, with the remnant of the crew, are reduced to a state of utter destitution. They are now at *Hamburg*, where they have been treated kindly; but one or two have left for *England*, with the intention of finding their way to *Australia* in another vessel."

THE WAR IN NEW ZEALAND.—A despatch has been received from *New Zealand*, dated the 5th Oct., from Lieutenant-General *Cameron*. He states that

the force under his command continued to occupy the same position as at the date of the last despatch. The boats fitting to carry guns were ready to enter the *Waikato River*, and he only awaited the arrival of the iron steamers from *Sydney*, previously referred to, before commencing active operations. Several engagements had taken place in which, with one exception, very serious loss had been inflicted on the enemy.

SAN DOMINGO.—A steamer has arrived with news from *San Domingo* of the 20th ult., confirming the defeat of the insurgents, and stating that a great number of them had asked for pardon.

HYDROPHOBIA.—*Mr. Goggin*, a confectioner of *Limerick*, was on Tuesday so might bitten by a pet monkey. The skin of his little finger only was slightly torn, but the wound seemed a mere scratch and at first gave him no pain. He soon felt, however, a sort of irritation in his wrist. It gradually extended to the parts above the elbow, and they became swollen. Medical men were then called in, when it was discovered that the patient exhibited symptoms resembling those of hydrophobia. He died on Sunday, after suffering great pain. The monkey some time before had killed a cat and a dog.

THE EXAMINATION AT ST. JOHN OF THE "CHESAPEAKE" CAPTORS.—*St. John* Jan. 4, P. M.—The examination of *Collins*, *McKinney* and *Seely*, charged with being concerned in the *Chesapeake* affair, was commenced before the Police Magistrate of *St. John* this morning.—At the outset, counsel for prisoners took exception to the form of warrant; also contended that the case did not come within the extradition treaty,—the offence having been committed on the high seas, and not within American jurisdiction. Magistrate reserved judgment on these points.

Captain *Willet's* evidence was then taken. He modified his first statement, as to the number of shots fired at him, and now says there were but two or three; otherwise his evidence was substantially the same as his published statement.

Cause was adjourned until Wednesday next.

The Court-room was crowded with spectators during the examination. There was but little excitement.—By *Tel. & Chronicle*.

The Reporter says.—A letter from a leading mercantile firm in *New York* city to another in *Halifax*, states that the feeling in reference to the "*Chesapeake*" affair is increasing in intensity, and that the press is arguing strongly in favor of non-intercourse with these provinces.

"I CAN'T WRITE."

"I can't!" "I can't!" "I can't write a composition!" It comes from a score of youthful voices, and a score of hearts are aching at the very thought of the matter.

You can't? There's a fib! You can't "cross the Atlantic in a paper boat," or make a voyage to the moon, for these are impossibilities. But the art of putting words together in our mother language is a safe and easy possibility—quite within the bounds of a boy's or girl's ability.

You mean to say that you don't like to write, or that it is difficult for you to write. Your dislike for compositions rests upon the difficulty that you find in writing them. The ease with which we accomplish anything depends largely upon our manner of doing it. Let me tell you how you may write a composition with ease and despatch.

Choose a familiar subject. Hope, Truth, Virtue, Government, Education—away with themes like these. It would "puzzle a lawyer," and a smart one, too, to write a decent essay upon these abstract themes. A descriptive subject will suit you best. Describe a school-house, a church, a dwelling-house, or any object of interest. If you are a farmer-boy, tell the uses of the various farming utensils with which you are acquainted. Name the different kinds of farm employment, and the order in which they come. If you are the son of a mechanic, tell the uses of the saw, plane, hammer, &c. If you are a little housekeeper, initiate your schoolmates into the mysteries of house-keeping. It is impossible for you to write a good composition upon a subject with which you are unacquainted. In the words of another "If there is no water in the well, you may pump forever without effect."

Again: Study your subject before attempting to write. You can do this in your walks, or while your hands are engaged in domestic employment. Ask yourself many and various questions about the subject. The answers to these questions will form your composition. For example, if you propose to write about "the horse," ask such questions as these: What is the horse? Is he one of the domestic animals? Is he ever found in the wild state? Where? Are there different species of the horse? What is

his shape? What is his size? What is his color? Is he useful to man? What are his uses? The answer to this question will form an interesting part of your composition. What are his habits? Is he easily tamed? When tame is he manageable and obedient to his owner? What is his food? To what age does he live? Is he remarkable for his intelligence? You may conclude by relating stories in regard to the intelligence or any other characteristic of the horse.

I repeat it: Study your subjects before you attempt to write. It is not strange that you find difficulty in writing when you sit down with your pen in hand, and "wait for ideas to come." Nor is it strange that you often have to wait so long.

Follow the above directions, and you will soon learn to "write a composition" with ease and despatch.

A SLEEPY PASSENGER.

Sometime ago, Monsieur M., a merchant of Leige, took passage in a railway car on the route between that city and Paris. He bought a ticket for a first-class place, and entered the train which left Leige at half-past two o'clock, P. M. He appearing to be the only person in that car, and feeling fatigued, he wrapped himself up in his cloak and stretched himself at length upon the comfortable seat for a nap, and was soon sound asleep. After some time—he did not know how long—he awoke and found that the train had stopped, and that night had now commenced to fall.

"We are at one of the stations," thought he, and lay down again. After a second nap he again awoke at a standstill.

"It seems there are a great many stopping-places on this road," said Monsieur M. Then once more stretching himself, he was soon in the arms of the drowsy god.

In the morning, the rays of the sun penetrating the car-window roused the sleeper, who, after shaking himself, rose and looked forth. The train, he supposed, had again stopped. Wishing to know how far he might be from Paris, he poked his head out of the window, and calling to a workman wearing the uniform of the railway company, asked if the train would "start soon?"

"Start!" exclaimed the workman, with a look of astonishment, "why, sir, you have got two hours to wait yet!"

"Two hours! What do you mean? Is this the sort of way the 'fast train' travels? What is the name of the station?" "Leige," replied the other.

The astonished merchant, now wide awake, sprang from the car and soon found his informant was quite correct. The conductor of the train of the previous day, having found that he had one car more than was necessary, had detached the one occupied by Monsieur M., and left it standing in the depot. Having knocked at the door, and receiving no answer from the sleeping traveller, it was naturally supposed that the car was empty.

Monsieur M., took a "fresh start" two hours afterwards, but slept no more until he arrived at Paris.

QUEER TOM.

Tom Flossofer was the queerest boy I ever knew. I don't think he ever cried. I never saw him. If Fleda found her tulips all rooted up by her pet puppy, and cried, as little girls will, "Tom was sure to come round the corner, whistling, and say:

"What makes you cry, my infant? can you cry tulips? do you think every sob makes a root or a blossom? Here! let's try to right them!"

So he would pick up the poor flowers; put their roots into the ground again, whistling all the time; make the bed look smooth and fresh, and take Fleda off to look at a pretty snake, or hunt hen's nests in the barn. Neither did he do any differently in his own troubles. One day, his great kite snapped the string, and flew away, far out of sight. Tom, stood still one moment, and then turned round to come home, whistling a merry tune.

"Why, Tom," said I, "aren't you sorry to lose that kite?"

"Yes! but what's the use? I can't take more than a minute to feel 'bad'; 'sorry' will not bring the kite back, and I want to make another."

Just so when he broke his leg.

"Poor Tom," cried Fleda, "you can't play any mo-o-o-re!"

"I'm not poor, either. You cry for me; I don't have to do it for myself, and I have a splendid time to whittle. Besides, when I get well, I shall beat every boy in school on the multiplication table: for I say it over, till it makes me sleepy, every time my leg aches!"

Tom Flossofer was queer, certainly; but I wish a great many more people were queer that way.

LOCAL AGENTS FOR THE
Weekly Miscellany.

County of Halifax.

Mrs. Margaret Crooks, Lawrencetown.
Messrs. Luther Sterns, Dartmouth.
William Blakeney, Jeddore.
William A. Cox, Oldham.
John Lingley, Waverley.
James Sutherland, Gay's River.
R. B. Taylor, Gay's River Road.
Joseph Lantz, Indian Harbour.
John Booth sen'r. Prospect.
James Gardner jr. Musquodoboit Harbour.

Samuel L. Henry, Upper Musquodoboit.

D. F. Lockerly, Bedford.
Neil Bollong, Pope's Harbour.
Henry G. Leslie, Spry Bay.
William Bissett, Lower Ward.

County of Colchester.

Messrs. Thomas Baird, Onslow.
J. B. Calkhan, Truro.
Hugh McIntosh, Head of Bay, Tatamagonche.
Hugh Dickson, Upper Onslow.
Walter B. Hingley, Kempt Town, Salmon River.

Saml. C. Cox, Upper Stewiacke.
Simon McDonald, L'r Stewiacke.
Andw. K. Graham, Five Islands.
P. Fulmor, DeBert River.

County of Cumberland.

Messrs. M. E. Hewson, River Philip.
Levi Borden, Pugwash.
Michl. K. Pugsley, River Hebert.
Wm. B. Lodge, Maccan Mountain.
James Finlay, Head of Amherst.
Jos. Atkinson, Maccan Interval.
John McNeil, Wallace Ridge.
Gilbert Seaman, Minudie.
John Bragg, Windham Hill.
Oliver King, Tidnish Cross Roads.
W. E. Angervine, Wallace River, Six Mile Road.

Archd. Robertson, Fox Harbour.
Wm. Grant, Parrsboro' Shore.
George H. Forshner, Head of Wallace Bay.

Chas. D. Rockwell, Rockwell Settlement, Amherst Shore.

Donald McAuly, Amherst Corner.
Andrew Taylor, East Branch River Philip.

County of Pictou.

Messrs. Wm. Fraser, New Glasgow.
Alex. Fraser, Middle River.
Thos. R. Fullerton, Sutherland's River.

John McGilvray, Knoydart.

Mrs. C. M. McDonald, Forks, M. Riv.

Messrs. Christy McDonald, French Riv.
D. McDonald, Bailey's Brook.
William Dunbar, West Branch East River.

Geo. McKay, Mount Thom.

John Forbes, Bridgeville, E. Riv.

Alex. Fraser, McLellan's Brook, East River.

Jas McDonald, Piedmont Valley

County of Hants.

Miss Theresa B. Wolfe, Falmouth.
Mary Cox, Lower Selma.

Messrs. James McDougall, Five Mile River, Shubenacadie.

John T. Cochran, Newport.
John W. Lavers, Up'r Rawdon.

Evan McPhee, Nine Mile River.
Jos. Mosher, Mid. Kennetcook.

Joshua Fish, Highfield, Newport.
Samuel Kerr, Antrim.

Daniel Huntly, Hantsport.
Osmond O'Brien, Noel.

King's County.

Messrs. J. W. Borden, Canning.
C. S. Davidson, Berwick.

William Gilliatt, Church Street Cornwallis.

Amos Bill Jacques, Waterville, Aylesford.

Thomas Farnsworth, Morden.
Cyrus Webster, Sheffield Mills, Cornwallis.

Oliver Lockhart, Lockhartville.
B. W. Chipman, Ayleford.

James H. Hamilton, Walbrook, Horton.

Samuel L. Fitch, Kentville.
John Casey, Beach Hill.

John Strong, Wolfville.

County of Annapolis.

Messrs. James E. Chipman, Middleton.
R. Graves, Port Williams.

R. M. Shaw, Clementsport.
T. A. Margeson, Margaretville.

Geo. Wells, Saw Mill Creek.
Alfred Hoyt, Lequille.

John W. James, Lawrencetown.
Alfred Troop, Granville Ferry.

Israel McNayr, Springfield.
Timothy C. Munro, Maitland.

Robt. A. Dakin, L'r Granville.

County of Digby.

Messrs. Enos Patten, Brookville.
John Smith, Petite Passage.

John O. Morse, Sandy Cove.
John W. Powell, Long Island.

L. McKay, St. Mary's Bay.
Charlton Sabeau, New Tusket, Clare.

Ambrose Poole, Cedar Lake.
Clement M. Melancon, Chica-ben, Clare.

County of Lunenburg.

Messrs. J. W. Andrews, Bridgewater.
C. Publicover, Blandford.

Jacob Mosher, Petite Reviere.

Queen's County.

Messrs. John R. Hall, Brooklyn.
Ephraim Mack, Mill Village.

Z. P. Armstrong, East Port Medway.

Elkanah Morton, Middlefield.
John S. Morse, Brookfield.

Phillip Fancy, Pleasant River.
Joseph J. Letson, Port Medway.

John W. Scott, Liverpool.

County of Yarmouth.

Messrs. Benj. C. Robbins, Arcadia.
Freeman C. Parry, Beaver River.
James H. Hamilton, Kempt.

County of Shelburne.

Mrs. Nancy Snow, Port Latour.
Messrs. Leonard Knowles, Barrington West Passage.

Robert Currie, Lewis Head.
X. A. Chipman, Locke's Island.

James McKay, Clyde River.

County of Guysborough.

Messrs. S. McGuire, Salmon River Lake.
E. C. Cunningham, Guysboro'.

Jas. H. Feltnate, White Head.
Jas. W. Whitman, Manchester.

Jonathan Hartley, Pirate Harbor.
William Sawers, Cross Roads, Milford.

George Norris, Cape Canso.

County of Sydney.

Messrs. Donald Sinclair, Goshen.
F. S. Cunningham, Harbor Road.

Robt. Chisholm, Pomquet Forks.
Jas. Randall, Little River Shore.

John McMillan, St. Andrews.
Jas. McDougall, Marshy Hope.

E. Corbett, Harbor-au-Bouche.
Donald McMillan, Head Lochabar Lake.

A. Stewart, Foot Lochabar Lake.
Levi Irish, Little River.

Charles McGillivray, Glen Road.

County of Cape Breton.

Messrs. D. McPhee, Low Point Shore.
P. T. Clarke, Coxheath.

Walter Young, Lingan.
Donald Gillis, Lewis Bay.

County of Victoria.

Messrs. R. McKenzie, Great Bras d'Or.
Murdoch McKenzie, Munro's Point, St. Anns.

John Burke, Ingonish.
Donald Gillis, Big Interval.

Neil McAskill, Cape North.
H. McIntosh, Bay St. Lawrence.

John McNaughton, St. Patrick's Channel.

County of Richmond.

Messrs. Angus McNeil, D'Escousse.
Jas. Smith, McPherson's Ferry.

William Urquhart, Rear Lands, Sporting Mountain.

Rod'k. Bethune, Loch Lomond.
Josiah Hooper, Forchu.

John Murchison, Grand River.
J. R. P. McLean, River Bourgeois.

Daniel Fraser, Grandique Ferry.
R. G. Morrison, St. Peters.

County of Inverness.

Messrs. J. H. Trcmain, Port Hood.
Angus McMaster, Low Point, Strait of Canso.

Arch'd. McIntyre, River Dennis.
John Ross, N. E. Branch Margaree.

Alexander McEachern, Boom.
Chas. McMillan, Lake Ainslie, East Side.

Hugh McDonell, Judique.
Jas. S. Lawrence, Margaree.

Angus McInnes, West Lake Ainslie.

Prince Edward Island.

Messrs. Laird & Harvie, Charlottetown.

FEED MY LAMBS.

Mark! the gentle Shepherd speaking,
Sweet and clear his accents fall,
Gentle as the day-dawn breaking,
At the early morning's call.

"See my lambs for food are crying;
Bear them in your arms away
From the fields where wolves are lying,
Lurking round to tear and slay!"

Kindly feed them, Salem's daughters!
In the pastures fresh and green;
Lead them to the living waters,
Zion's sons, where ye have been.

Feeble are their steps and weary,
Bid them in the field abide;
For the wilderness is dreary
And beset on every side.

Guide their footsteps (prone to wander)
In the good and narrow way;
Lead them to the covert yonder,
To the cooling shade by day.

Let the love-notes ever charming,
Soft in lucid numbers flow,
Every painful fear disarming,
Let them naught of terror know.

Guide them gently, they are precious
Children of a Saviour's love;
Keep them till the Shepherd Jesus
Calls them to his fold above.

Kindly feed them, Salem's daughters!
In the pastures fresh and green;
Lead them to the living waters,
Zion's sons, where ye have been.

PRIDE.

How proud we are—how pleased to show
Our clothes, and call them rich and new,
When the poor sheep, or silk-worm wore
That very clothing, long before!

The tulip and the butterfly
Appear in gayer garb than I.
Let me be dressed fine as I will,
These worms and flowers are prettier still.

Then I will set my heart to find
Such things as beautify the mind—
Obedience, wisdom, truth, and love,
Are things which God and man approve.

MENTAL RECREATIONS.

SOLUTIONS OF QUESTIONS IN LAST NO.

Enigma.—Earth; heart; hart; art;
rat; tear; ear; tea; eat.

Charade.—An-tip-odes.

Riddle.—Glass; lass

PHYSICAL BENEFITS OF SUNDAY.

The Sabbath is God's special present to the working man, and one of the chief objects is to prolong his life and preserve efficient his working tone. In the vital system it acts like a condensation bond; it replenishes the spirit the elasticity and vigor which the last six days have drained away, and supplies the force which is to fill the next six succeeding days; and in the economy of existence, it answers the same purpose as, in the economy of income, is answered by the Savings Bank. The frugal man who puts aside a pound to-day, and another pound next month, and who, in a quiet way, is always putting away his stated pound from time to time, when he grows old and frail, gets not only the same pounds back again, but a good many more besides. And the conscientious man who husbands one day of every week, who, instead of allowing the Sabbath to be trampled on, and torn in the hurry and scramble of life, treasures it devoutly up—the Lord of the Sabbath keeps it for him, and length of days and hale old age give it back with usury. The Savings Bank of human existence is the weekly Sabbath.

CURIOUS PITCHER.—Prominent among the curiosities at the Hermitage, once the home of General Jackson, is a wooden pitcher, remarkable both for the artistic skill displayed, and the celebrity of the tree from which the wood was procured. It is made of wood from the elm tree under which William Penn made the celebrated Indian treaty. The pitcher was presented by the coopers of Philadelphia; and though it is not larger than a common cream jug, it contains seven hundred and fifty staves. The hoops, lid and handle are of silver; the bottom is a magnifying glass, by looking through which one is enabled to see the joints, which are invisible to the naked eye.

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

By Telegraph to Morning & Evening Papers.

St. John, Jan. 2, 1864.—Letters from officers in General Banks' army say that the cotton held by the planters in Texas will soon come to market, amounting to 300,000 bales.

New complications are reported to have arisen about the removal of French tobacco from Richmond. It is supposed that French vessels will not be allowed to ascend James River.

Jan. 4.—The Confederates have driven in the Federal pickets at Winchester, and it is supposed the Confederate movement was only a scent, though several regiments were engaged.

Archbishop Hughes died in New York last evening.

A tremendous snow storm at West St. Louis, Chicago, Buffalo, on Thursday and Friday, accompanied by intense cold, blockading railway trains and suspending business. The thermometer in Chicago on Saturday last was 28° below zero.

Advices from New Orleans report that the Union forces are making steady progress in Texas, occupying place after place without opposition.

General Magruder has issued a proclamation, declaring that the defence of Western Texas will not be abandoned.

Evening.—Gen. Burnside has been ordered to report at Washington.

Confederates are fortifying Rome, Resaca, and Atlanta.

Union troops in winter quarters at Chattanooga, Huntsville, Lookout Valley, and along Nashville Railroad.

On Thursday night, four Confederate prisoners were frozen to death on car at Jeffersonville, Ohio.

Jan. 7.—Admiral Baily reports officially, that several expeditions on the Florida coast have destroyed valuable salt works and buildings. Entire damage, \$3,000,000.

31 contrabands obtained their freedom. The same officer reports destruction of small Conf. steamer; also, capture of British schooner "Edwin," from Havana.

An expedition from Newbern met enemy near Washington, N. C., and routed them, and killed a number of men.

New Hampshire State Convention has nominated Lincoln for the Presidency.

A number of gentlemen belonging to the church and congregation worshipping in St. Andrew's Church in this city, waited upon their pastor, Rev. George Boyd, on the morning of New Year's Day, and presented him with a purse containing \$160, as a token of their appreciation of his services amongst them.—Reporter.

The salary of the Governor-General of India, which is the highest in the gift of the Crown, is £30,000 a-year, exclusive of allowances, which may be estimated at £10,000 more.

THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD.—The only native of Great Britain who holds an important position about the French Court is a Scotchman, named Campbell, who superintends the royal studs under General Fleury. Mr. Campbell lived with the Emperor of the French when the latter resided in England, and accompanied the Emperor in the Italian wars.