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THE PEOPLE'S MAGAZINE, AND WEEKLY JOURNAL.

Vol. I.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1847.

No. 44.

THE FATHER IS COMING.

BY MARY HOWITT.

The clock is on the stroke of six,
The father's work is done;
Sweep up the hearth and mend the fire,
And put the kettle on!
The wild night-wind is blowing cold,
'Tis dreary crossing o'er the wold.

He's crossing o'er the wold apace,
He's stronger than the storm;
He does not feel the cold, not he,
His heart it is so warm.
For father's heart is stout and true
As ever human bosom knew.

He makes all toil, all hardship light;
Would all men were the same,
So ready to be pleased, so kind,
So very slow to blame!
Folks need not be unkind, austere,
For love hath reader will than fear!

And we'll do all that father likes,
His wishes are so few;
Would they were more—that every hour
Some wish of his I knew!
I'm sure it makes a happy day
When I can please him any way.

I know he's coming, by this sign,
That baby's almost wild;
See how he laughs, and crows, and stares,
Heaven bless the merry child!
His father's self in face and limb,
And father's heart is strong in him.

Hark! hark! I hear his footsteps now—
He's through the garden gate;
Run, little Bess, and ope the door,
And do not let him wait!
Shout, baby, shout, and clap thy hands
For father on the threshold stands!

SIR GEORGE SIMPSON'S OVERLAND JOURNEY ROUND THE WORLD.

(Continued from Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.)

'The Aleutian islands are now far less valuable than they once were. The human inhabitants hardly muster one to ten of their early numbers, having been thinned, and thinned, and thinned again—for here there is no mystery in the case—by hardships and oppression. They were ground down through the instrumentality of the natural wealth of their country; they experienced the same curse in their fur-seal and their sea-otter, as the Hawaiians in their sandal-wood, and the Indians of Spanish America, in their mines of silver. To hunt was their task; to be drowned, or starved, or exhausted, was their reward. Even now, under better auspices, and more humane management, the Aleutians are, in every respect, servants of the Russian-American Company, acting as labourers at the establishments, and as hunters throughout the whole country from Behring's Straits to California; while they almost entirely feed and clothe themselves without obtaining supplies.' Nor is Kamschatka better off. 'The favourite maxim of most of the public officers, great and small, in Siberia, is, that "God is high, and the emperor far off;" and of this watchword the

Kamschatkales are sure, from their unfortunate place on the map, to enjoy the fullest benefit." So far from making a profit by this oppression, the emperor loses; paying five thousand rubles a year beyond the amount of the local revenue to the persons who take the trouble of plundering his subjects.

The sea of Ochotsk, is completely land-locked, being in this respect, as well as in size and general situation, not unlike Hudson's Bay. The waters are shallow, not exceeding about fifty miles from land, an equal number of fathoms; and rarely given, even in the centre, above four times the depth just mentioned. The population of the town of Ochotsk, 'is about eight hundred souls,' though forty years ago, it amounted, according to Langsdorff's estimate, to about two thousand. The diminution is ascribed, and with great appearance of truth, to the circumstance, that the town has since then been supplanted as a penal colony by the mines—a change which the neighbourhood had no reason to regret; for the convicts, always the worst of their class, were continually escaping, to prey on the public, like so many wild beasts. A more dreary scene can scarcely be conceived. Not a tree, and hardly even a green blade, is to be seen within miles of the town; and in the midst of the disorderly collection of huts is a stagnant marsh, which, unless when frozen, must be a nursery of all sorts of malaria and pestilence. The climate is at least on a par with the soil. Summer consists of three months of damp and chilly weather, during great part of which the snow still covers the hills, and the ice chokes the harbour; and this is succeeded by nine months of dreary winter, in which the cold, unlike that of more inland spots, is as raw as it is intense. Sir George saw little of the people of this dreary place. In summer, if the weather be fine, a dread of the noxious vapours of the marsh keeps them at home; and if the weather be not fine, then the rain and wind have the same effect. In winter, the cold of course is too severe for frequent exposure; although walking in snow-shoes a trifle of eighty or ninety miles a day, is esteemed a recreation by the gentlemen.

Leaving Ochotsk, they set forth in a caravan, under the guardianship of some of the Yakuti tribe, for Yakutask. 'If there is anything in earth or air more formidable to these poor fellows than a Cossack, it is the "Spirit of the Forest"—a personage invested, in their imagination, with almost unlimited power, whether for good or for evil. In the branches of the trees along the road were suspended numberless offerings of horse hair, the gift being probably selected as an emblem of what the giver valued most; the extemporaneous songs seemed to be dictated by the hope of conciliating the great unknown; and at supper, the first spoonful was invariably thrown into the fire, to purchase a sound sleep from the genius of the place. As every locality has its own elf, the Yakuti, when on a journey, have no respite—soothing one object of terror after another, and only multiplying their tormentors as they increase their speed.' On their way through this remote nook of Asia, they were constantly meeting with numerous travellers and rich caravans, although some such scene as the following occasionally reminded them that they were not exactly within the precincts of civilization:—'While crossing a point of woods, we were surprised to hear loud shouts from some party a-head of us. Our Yakuti, however, returned the cries, while our horses apparently as intelligent in the matter as their owners, grew very restive. To increase our perplexity, the fellows who had begun the commotion were now seen; still vociferating as loudly as ever, with a band of cattle scampering wildly before them; and our curiosity was soon tinged with fear, when we observed our attendants making ready their knives for some desperate work. We did not know what to make of all this, till at length we perceived a huge she bear and her cub making

off, apparently as much frightened as any of us, at a round trot. We now ascertained that the bears are both fierce and numerous on this road; and as the natives have no fire-arms, they let Bruin get pretty much his own way, excepting that they do sometimes propitiate him, as if he were himself the "Spirit of the Forest," by all sorts of grimaces and obeisances. Two horses had been killed in the neighbourhood only the day before, very probably by the same animal that had caused the present alarm. Before the two brutes were out of sight, we passed the herd of cattle, the drivers riding the bulls with as much indifference as if they had been on horse-back.

The town of Yakutsk enjoys a temperature which keeps its cellars frozen all the year round, although for a short time in summer the thermometer stands at 106 degrees of Fahrenheit in the shade! It is, nevertheless, a great emporium both of the fur and ivory trade; the materials of the latter being the bones of an extinct animal preserved in the frozen soil of eastern Siberia. 'Spring after spring, the alluvial banks of the lakes and rivers, crumbled under the thaw, gave up, as it were, their dead; and beyond the very verge of the inhabited world, the islands lying opposite to the mouth of the Yuna, and as there was reason for believing, even the bed of the ocean itself, literally teemed with these most mysterious memorials of antiquity. The ivory again fetches from forty to seventy roubles a pood, or from 1s to 1s 9d a pound, according to the state of preservation. The tusks are found to be fresher as one advances to the northward—a circumstance which seems to corroborate the notion that the climate has had something to do with their continued existence in an organic form. Though in mere amount, this branch of commerce is of comparatively little value, yet it is well worthy of honourable mention, as having in a high degree promoted the progress of geographical discovery. It was in the eager pursuit of the bones of the mammoth, that most of the northern islands were visited and explored—*islands which, when taken in connection with their mysterious treasures, invest the Asiatic coast of the Arctic Ocean with an interest unknown to the corresponding shores of America.*'

The voyage up the Lena was uneventful, unless a dance may be considered worthy of record. 'The music was the screeching of some half-dozen old women; and the floor was occupied by only one man and one woman at a time. First, the lady would endeavour to escape from her lover with an amusing display of coyness and coquetry; and then the gentleman, in his turn, would draw off, while his mistress would strive, by every winning way, to coax the truant back again. At the conclusion of each dance, the fair performer gave me three kisses, conferring the same favour on each of the other strangers, excepting that our Cossack appeared to me to get, or perhaps to take, a double dose. All the people, whether drunk or sober, carried their civility to excess, kissing my hand frequently, and even the ground on which I had been standing, and showering on me their perpetual benediction of "may you never want bread and salt." Farther on, the travellers suffered a little from hunger and cold; 'for we had started in the heat of the day, without shoes, and with no other clothes, in fact, than our shirts and trousers. The peasants, taking pity on our forlorn state, made a grand fire for us, and offered us a share of their own supper, which consisted of black bread, a little salt, and a dish of cold water, which, that it might look as like soup as possible, was taken with a spoon. Immense piles of the unsavoury cakes rapidly disappeared; and each person, as he finished his meal, bowed to some images that stood against the wall of the best room, of which the door was open.' It is worthy of remark that on the banks of the Lena nettles are cultivated as greens for the table.

Irkutsk, the metropolis of eastern Siberia, 'presented a fine appearance, with its fifteen churches and their spires, its convents, its hospitals, and its other public buildings. But this favourable impression vanished as we approached; and we were disappointed at seeing so little bustle in the wide streets, and so many edifices going to decay.' From this place Sir George had looked forward to a trip to Kiachta and Maimatschin, the Chinese and Russian outposts, where the traffic between the two countries is carried on; but, for some reason not clearly explained, his design was frustrated.

Beyond Irkutsk, they found themselves in the midst of the convict population of Siberia, with whom the native peasants

contrasted favourably. 'Not only are the peasants of Siberia remarkable for their civility, but all grades of society are decidedly more intelligent than the corresponding classes in any other part of the empire, and perhaps more so than in most parts of Europe. The system on which Siberia has been, and continues to be colonised, is admirable alike in theory and in practice. The perpetrators of heinous crimes are sent to the mines; those who have been banished for minor delinquencies are settled in villages or on farms; and political offenders, comprising soldiers, authors, and statesmen, are generally established by themselves in little knots, communicating to all around them a degree of refinement unknown to other half-civilised countries.

'The villages are very numerous, not only on the road, but as far back on either side as we could see; and the people all looked healthy, comfortable, and happy. In any place where the post-house was out of repair, our police officer used to pounce on the best house for our use; and as the owners would neither make any demand nor accept any remuneration, we were generally obliged to compromise the matter by forcing a small gift on the host's wife or daughter. The dwelling in which we breakfasted to-day was that of a person who had been sent to Siberia against his will. Finding that there was only one way of mending his condition, he worked hard, and behaved well. He had now a comfortably furnished house and a well cultivated farm, while a stout wife and plenty of servants bustled about the premises.' Sir George considers Siberia 'the best penitentiary in the world.' 'When not bad enough for the mines, each exile is provided with a lot of ground, a house, a horse, two cows, and agricultural implements, and also, for the first year, with provisions. For three years he pays no taxes whatever; and for the next ten, only half of the full amount. To bring fear as well as hope to operate in his favour, he clearly understands that his very first slip will send him from his home and his family, to toil as an outcast, in the mines.' The mines and washeries, however, for which there is now a mania, are unfavourable to the settlement and cultivation of Siberia; although it is supposed they will ultimately support the agriculture they now embarrass, by affording a regular and extensive market for its produce.

The fine old city of Tobolsk, the ancient capital of Siberia, is admirably situated on two sides of the Irtysh; but its buildings present a melancholy spectacle of dilapidation and decay, and the population and trade are rapidly diminishing, in consequence of the general government of the province being transferred to Omok. From this place a single chapter brings the traveller to London, his journey round the world having been accomplished within the space of nineteen months and twenty-six days. We now close these interesting volumes, in the belief that the extracts we have made will induce all who have it in their power to refer to the book itself.

LUMINOUS INSECTS.

A few days ago we received a present we had long desired: one of the celebrated luminous beetles of South America, (*Elatér noctiluca*.) It resembled our common "snapping bug," except that it was double the size or more, and had a spot on each side of the head, which emitted a brilliant greenish light in the dark, and was sometimes so bright as to enable us to read a few words in a book. We had the pleasure of exhibiting it to many friends, and at a meeting of the Farmers' Club, where it was much admired. It was brought from Havana, in a joint of sugar-cane, on which it fed.

It died in a few days. It is not uncommon, we believe, in our most southern states.

Our attention having been thus particularly turned to luminous insects, we insert some extracts from a late writer, chiefly on the English glow-worm in our own country, though it is rarely to be seen. We have observed them three or four times in the course of our lives.

The glow-worm (*Lampyrus noctiluca*) is very common, but is local in its habits, being only found in certain places, and has been supposed to disappear occasionally for some time, and then reappear with its usual splendor. It is more generally found to inhabit the borders of paths and the other margins of woods or coppices, especially in low situations, where it is observable after the heat of the day is over, and when the dew is falling. The

females, which are more numerous than the males, deposit their eggs in the month of June or July, on grass, moss, &c. They are of a yellow colour, and are stated to be luminous, but it is doubtful whether the luminous matter so observed is anything but an excretion of the insect, appearing under the form of a congeries of minute brilliant points. The larvæ, after remaining quiescent for about five or six weeks, break their shells and make their appearance; when first emerged from the eggs they are small and of a white colour, but they rapidly increase in size, and become much darker, passing from a dark brown to almost black. The three stages of these insects, viz., larva, pupa, and imago, or perfect insects, are very similar to another. The larva is composed of eleven segments; it has six feet; two rows of reddish spots down the back; and is capable of emitting a phosphoric light from the last rings of the abdomen. The light appears like two brilliant spots, when attentively examined, during the fine nights in autumn, when they are creeping about in search of the food, which consists of small snails, &c.

About the space of one year and nine months the larvæ are changed, having however frequently cast off their skins, into the second or pupa state, in which they remain nearly quiescent for two or three weeks, when they change their last skins and become perfect insects. In this state the two sexes are easily distinguished, as the male appears like a perfect beetle, having wings and wing-cases; while the female, on the contrary, seems to have undergone hardly any change in appearance from that of the larva, except that she is much larger, and of a lighter colour. It is the female which is principally luminous in the perfect state. The male was generally considered incapable of exhibiting any light, until John Ray, the father of English naturalists, first pointed out that the latter sex was also in possession of this luminous property, but in a less degree; the light in it is only distinguishable when the wings are expanded, or when the insects are flying, as the luminous matter is hidden and much smaller.

The females of the glow-worm can occasionally conceal or eclipse their light. The author of the excellent "Natural History of Selborne" supposed that they regularly extinguished the torch between the hours of eleven and twelve; which has called forth the idea that it may be to secure themselves from becoming the prey of the nightingale or some other nocturnal bird; while the author of the "Journal of a Naturalist" considers that the summer light of the glow-worm is displayed as a signal taper.

A clear steady light has been observed as late on one occasion as the 28th of September, 1826, though very different in its sparkling from that of the summer months. The light of one, if placed on the watch-glass, is sufficient to ascertain the hour; nor is it an uncommon occurrence for anglers, &c., to place several of these insects on their hats, when they have been out in the evening, to cheer them after their day's sport.

We are informed by Mr. Macartney that the light-yielding matter reposes under the transparent portion of the skin, through which it is seen.

It was supposed by Dr. Darwin that the luminous appearance was owing to a secretion of some phosphoric matter, and a slow combustion arising from this phosphorus entering into combination with the oxygen inspired; Mr. Murray, however, has experimentally ascertained, "that the luminous matter does not contain phosphorus."

Mr. Murray has ascertained, by experiments, "that the light is not sensibly increased by the purest oxygen, and is not extinguished in hydrogen and carbonic acid gas;" and he found that the luminous matter continued to shine, without alteration, in oxygen, nitrous oxide, hydrogen, carbonic acid gas, cyanogen, olefiant gas, and nitrous gas; and the light is not extinguishable by being placed in water, oil, or even in different kinds of acids, such as muriatic, nitric, and sulphuric, but continued for some seconds. In a solution of pure caustic potassa it became of a bluish tint, and appeared to undulate; and in an uncture of iodine the light continued for a minute. In alcohol it lasted nearly two, and in ammonia it continued for a minute.

Some authors are of opinion that there exists a sensible degree of heat in the luminous matter, for it has been stated that the thermometer was affected by nearly a degree when the insect was allowed to pass over its bulb; while others have asserted that no heat is perceptible.

The glow worm is not the only insect which is capable of emitting a light, but there are several species in different orders which possess this property in common. The light is, however,

displayed from various parts of their bodies. Thus, in a rare insect, (*Pausus sphaerocerus*) from Africa, the globes of the antennæ, as we are informed, by Mr. Atzelius, were, to his astonishment, on opening a box, wherein he had placed one for security, able to spread a phosphoric light. Like, to use his expression, two lanterns. This so excited his curiosity that he was induced to examine this singular phenomenon several times during the evening. But on looking at it the following morning, he found the insect dead, and that the light had disappeared.

The next insect, an inhabitant of South America, is termed the fire fly (*later noctiluca*.) It is about an inch long, and one-third of an inch broad, of a dark brownish black colour, except a yellow eyelike tubercle, placed at each posterior angle of the thorax.

The light which proceeds from the two spots on the thorax is said to be sufficient for a person to read the smallest print, by moving one of them, when placed between the fingers with the light downwards, along the line; and, when several are put together in a glass or transparent tube, the light will be found sufficiently great to admit of writing by it. These singular creatures have doubtless lent a friendly light to many a tropical wanderer. No doubt the brilliancy of the spectacle alone is sufficient to raise the despondent spirit of a person who has lost his track in one of the deep American forests. Their splendour has been mentioned in the following words:

"I could not but admire the thousands and tens of thousands of fire-flies that spangled the gulf below, a tiny galaxy; they did not twinkle promiscuously, but seemed to emit their small green light by signals beginning at the head of the ravine, and glaring all the way down in a wavy, continuous, lambent flash; every fly, as it were, taking the time from its neighbour ahead: then, for a moment, all would be dark, until the stream of sparkles flowed down once more from the head of the valley, and again disappeared astern of us."

We are informed that these insects were formerly used by the Indians as lamps, so that they were enabled to perform their evening household works, to spin, weave, paint, dance, &c., by their light, as well as for the purpose of lighting them on their nocturnal hunting and fishing expeditions; when employed for the latter, one of them was tied to each of their feet.

They are also used by the Indians, by whom these insects are denominated *cucuj*, for the purpose of destroying the gnats or moschetoes in their abodes, which would become otherwise excessively troublesome. When required for this occupation, it becomes necessary for the Indians to place themselves on some eminence, with a lighted firebrand in their hands, which they wave about in the air; these insects, as well as others, are attracted by the light, and at the same time, we are told, the Indians often call out *cucuc*, *cucuc*; and after having secured a sufficient number, they return and let them loose in their residences, where the insect seeks the moschetoes about the beds, and the faces of those asleep. The same person also relates, that many wanton wild fellows rub their faces with the luminous matter of these insects, for the purpose of meeting their neighbours with a flaming countenance.

On certain festival days they are collected in great numbers, and distributed over the garments of the young people, who gallop through the street on their chargers, which are also similarly ornamented; thus producing, on a dark evening, the idea of moving figures of fiery horsemen. And also on similar occasions, the young men display their gallantry by decking their mistresses with these sparkling living "diamonds."

It is related by Mouffett, that, on one occasion, the insect caused in the West Indies the failure of some troops; for in the evening of the day on which they had landed, they saw an infinite number of moving lights in the woods, which they supposed were the torches of the Spaniards advancing upon them, and immediately betook themselves to their ships.

Madame Merian, in her work on the Insects of Surinam, gives the following curious account of the manner in which she was frightened by this insect:

"The Indians once brought me," says the lady, "before I knew that they shone by night, a number of these lanternflies (*Fulgora lanternaria*), which I shut up in a large wooden box. In the night they made such a noise that I awoke in a fright, and ordered a light to be brought, not knowing from where the noise proceeded. As soon as we found that it came from the box, we

opened it, but were still more alarmed, and let it fall to the ground in a fright, at seeing a flame of fire come out of it; and as many animals as came out so many flames of fire appeared. When we found this to be the case, we recovered from our fright, and again collected the insects, highly admiring their splendid appearance."

Parts of the lanterns are formed into armlets and necklaces, attached together by means of fine metallic thread, and worn by the higher ranks of the Brazilian ladies, by whom their splendour is considered exquisite and brilliant. They are valued by them at from £10 to £14.—*Natural History.*

THE CORMORANT.

The cormorant belongs to the family of gulls. It is about the size of a large Muscovy duck, and may be distinguished from all other birds of this kind, by its four toes being toothed, or notched, like a saw, to assist it in holding its fishy prey. The head and neck of this bird are of a sooty blackness; and the body thick and heavy, more inclining in figure to that of the goose than the gull. The bill is straight till near the end, where the upper part bends into a hook. They are very expert in catching fish, and used to be trained in England so that they would fish for their masters. Indeed, if we mistake not, they are still used in China for this purpose. A gentleman who had visited China several years ago, described the manner in which these birds perform their task. He says, "The birds are educated as men rear up spaniels or hawks, and one man can easily manage a hundred. The fisher carries them out into the lake, perched on the gunnel of his boat, where they continue tranquil, and expecting his orders with patience. When arrived at the proper place, at the first signal given, each flies a different way to fulfil the task assigned it. It is very pleasing, on this occasion, to observe with what sagacity they portion out the lake or the canal where they are upon duty. They hunt about, they plunge, they rise a hundred times to the surface, until they have at last found their prey. They then seize it with their beak by the middle, and carry it to their master. When the fish is too large they give each other mutual assistance; one seizes it by the head, the other by the tail, and thus carry it to the boat together. Thore the boatman stretches out one of his long oars, on which they perch, and on being delivered of their burden, they fly off to continue their sport. When wearied, he allows them to rest for a while; but they are never fed till their work is over. In this manner they supply a very plentiful table; but still, their natural gluttony cannot even be reclaimed by education. They have always, while they fish, a string fastened round their throats, to prevent them from devouring their prey, or otherwise they would at once satiate themselves, and discontinue their pursuit the moment they had done so."

The great activity with which it pursues, and from a vast height drops down to dive after its prey, offers one of the most amusing spectacles to those who stand upon a cliff on the shore.

It sometimes happens that the cormorant has caught the fish by the tail, and consequently the fins prevent its being easily swallowed in that position. In this case, the bird may be observed to toss its prey above its head, and very dexterously catch it, when descending, by the proper end, and to swallow it with ease.

THE OUTSIDE PASSENGER.

Some years ago a young lady took a seat in the stage coach. For many miles she rode alone; but there was enough to amuse her in the scenery through which she passed and the pleasing anticipations that occupied her mind. She had been engaged as governess for the grand-children of an earl, and was now travelling to his seat. At midday the coach stopped at an inn at which dinner was provided, and she alighted and sat down at the table. An elderly man followed and sat down also. The young lady arose, rang the bell, and addressing the waiter, said, "Here is an outside passenger: I cannot dine with an outside passenger." The stranger bowed, saying, "I beg your pardon, madam, I can go into another room," and immediately retired. The coach soon afterwards resumed its course, and the passengers their places. At length the coach stopped at the gate leading to the castle to which the young lady

was going; but there was not such prompt attention as she expected. All eyes seemed directed to the outside passenger, who was preparing to dismount. She beckoned, and was answered, "As soon as we have attended to his lordship we will come to you." A few words of explanation ensued, and to her dismay she found that the outside passenger with whom she had thought it beneath her to dine was not only a nobleman, but that very nobleman in whose family she had hoped to be an inmate. What could she do? How could she bear the interview? She felt really ill, and the apology she sent for her non-appearing that evening was more than pretence. The venerable peer was a considerate man, and one who knew the way in which the scripture often speaks of the going down of the sun. "We must not allow the night to pass thus," said he to the countess, "you must send for her, and we must talk to her before bed-time." He reasoned, with the foolish girl respecting her conduct, insisted on the impropriety of the state of mind that it evinced, assured her that nothing could induce him to allow his children to be taught such notions, refused to accept any apology that did not go the length of acknowledging that the thought was wrong, and when the right impression appeared to be produced, gave her his hand. The Lord of all, before whose judgment-seat every human being must hereafter stand, was for a season in the world, and the world knew him not. When he was on the earth, the Son of God was but an outside passenger. With what consternation will many of those who treated him with disdain recognize in the Almighty Judge of quick and dead, the despised itinerant from Galilee whom they scorned and derided! And as it was with him, so it is with his living representatives. By far the greater number of those who belong to the court of the Prince of princes have been outside passengers. What will be the feelings of many who have treated them contemptuously when they hear the words, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of my brethren, ye have done it unto me?" Happy would it be for the churches of Christ if all who belong to them were to remember habitually that they also have a Master who is in heaven; and that nothing is more clearly deducible from his instructions, than that every one who desires to enjoy his favour should be ready at all times to exercise courtesy towards an outside passenger.—*London Baptist Magazine.*

GREEN PEAS FOR WINTER.—The lovers of green peas will be pleased to learn that they can be preserved for winter use, by simply gathering them at the proper season for using them green, shelling them and drying them in the shade, and when well cured and perfectly dry, packing them away for use. When required for use they should first be immersed in warm water for ten or twelve hours, which will render them as tender and deliciously succulent as when taken from the vines. The best method of preserving them, after they have been thoroughly cured by the above process, is to put them into close jars or bottles. In this way, not only green peas, but green beans and green corn may be had the year round.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

APPLES OF GOLD.

"Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; try my reins and my heart. Psa. xxvi. 2. Search me, O God, and know my heart, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psa. cxxxix. 23, 24.

Would David, the man after God's own heart, not trust himself, but present his heart to the Lord to be tried? much less can or ought we to trust our hearts; for "he that trusts in his own heart," says the wise man, "is a fool." Prov. xxviii. 26. We have more reason to be afraid of our own hearts than of all other enemies. It is not necessary for us to know when, or by what means, the Lord searches our hearts; but every one that is really in a state of grace, and walking in the fear of the Lord, will pray to him to search the heart, and to deliver him from every wicked way. The Holy Spirit hath various ways of searching the hearts of his people, and makes use of different means with the same person. We are not to limit the mode or extent of his operations; but it is our duty to pray that he will in every thing guide us in the way that leadeth to everlasting life. Some may be worked upon very differently from what we have been; but the whole is under the direction of infinite wisdom, and tends to manifest the glory of divine grace in our salvation.

Lord, search my soul, try every thought;
Though my own heart accuse me not
Of walking in a false disguise,
I beg the trial of thine eyes.

—Bogatky,

SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATION.



THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.

"And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre.—Mark xvi. 2."

"We introduce above an engraving of the Holy Sepulchre, contained in the church of the same name, at Jerusalem; and shall take the opportunity of giving a short account of the church and its contents. That the church really does include the site of Calvary and of the sepulchre, is an opinion strongly disputed by Dr. Clarke and others. We shall not at present investigate this question, which more properly connects itself with our inquiry concerning the site of Calvary, which we reserve for another place. It may suffice for the present to observe that from the age of Constantine until the present, the Christians of the east and west have never, on any occasion, questioned that the tomb of Christ existed on this spot; and this was the very tomb, to deliver which from the infidels, streams of blood were shed by the Crusaders—the tomb which, for at least fifteen centuries, pilgrims, heedless of suffering and toil, have constantly been travelling from far countries to look upon; and within whose sanctuary rivers of tears of penitence, and strong emotion, have been shed by men of many languages and climes.

The foundation of the church of the Holy Sepulchre dates at least as far back as the age of Constantine. Eusebius has preserved a letter, in which that emperor directs Macarius, bishop of Jerusalem, to erect a church on this spot; and then gives a description of the church which the bishop erected under this order, and the dedication of which occupied eight days. About 300 years after, the church was ravaged by Khosroes II, king of Persia; but it was rebuilt by Modestus, bishop of Jerusalem. About the year 1009, the spot was desolated by Hakem, caliph of Egypt; and it is disputed whether it was rebuilt by that prince's mother, who was a Christian, or that the Christians were allowed to enclose the venerated spot with a new structure, at the instance of Hakem's son, at the solicitations of the Greek emperor Argyropoulos. "But," says Chateaubriand, "as the Christians of Hakem's time possessed neither the resources nor the skill requisite for the erection of the edifice which now covers Calvary; and as we find no indication that the Crusaders ever built any church for the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem, it is probable that the church founded by Constantine has always subsisted in its present form. The mere inspection of the architecture of this building would suffice to demonstrate the truth of what I advance." About thirty years ago, very soon after Chateaubriand left Palestine, this church, which had been preserved amid a thousand revolutions, was destroyed by fire,

After this general notice we may exclusively attend to the proper Church of the Sepulchre, which is thus described by Chateaubriand:—"This church is in the form of a cross; the chapel of the Holy Sepulchre constituting, in fact, the nave of the edifice. It is circular, like the Pantheon at Rome, and is lighted only by a *doom*, beneath which is the sepulchre. Sixteen marble columns adorn the circumference of this rotunda, and they are connected by seventeen arches, and support an upper gallery, likewise composed of sixteen columns and seventeen arches, of smaller dimensions than those of the lower range.

Upon the raised platform of white marble, with a parapet of the same, is a block of polished marble, about a foot and a half square, on which the angel is supposed to have sat when he spoke to the two Marys. The entrance from hence to the sepulchre itself is narrow and low—perhaps that no one may enter but in a posture reverently bent. The interior dimensions by no means correspond to the exterior. It is a small closet, rather more than six feet square by eight in height. Half its breadth, and about the whole of its length, is occupied by the sarcophagus, which is an oblong block of stone, on which it is said that the body of Christ was laid.

The sarcophagus "is strewed with flowers and bedewed with rose-water, and over it are suspended four and forty lamps, which are ever burning. The greater part of these are of silver, richly chased, a few are of gold, and were furnished by the different sects who divided the possessions of the church." So says Jolliffe; but Dr. Richardson says "There are seven silver lamps constantly burning over it, the gifts of different potentates."

It will be observed that this sepulchre is above ground, not a subterraneous tomb, as all the excavated sepulchres of the Jews were. Shaw, like others, accounts for this, observing, that all the surrounding rocks were cut away, to form the level of the church, so that it is now a grotto above ground. Clarke denies this, and remarks that all the rocks of Jerusalem are of compact limestone, of which there is no appearance about this place. The answer to this would be, that the rock of this venerated spot is everywhere covered with slabs of marble: and this answer it might be difficult to refute, when a further reference is made to the small dimensions of the interior, as compared with the exterior mausoleum, so that ample room is afforded between the outside walls and the alleged internal lining of marble, for the rocky walls of such a grotto as the sepulchre is said to be; while those same walls of rock afford the best reason for the contracted limits of the interior. While therefore we doubt that there is evidence to show that the

alleged sepulchre is not essentially a grotto, it by no means follows that, even if a grotto, it is to be considered the true sepulchre of Christ. If it were such (which we have not yet affirmed or denied), how much more gratifying and exciting to every reasonable mind would it have been, if left in its originally simple state, instead of being dressed out with the labour of art and the theatrical disguisings which we have described.

Godfrey, of Boulton, and his brother Baldwin were honoured with sepulchres in the church. Their original tombs were however destroyed, some years ago, by the Greeks; but the sword and spurs of Godfrey continued to be carefully preserved; and the tomb also have now been re-erected.—*Pictorial Bible.*

THE CONDITION AND PROSPECTS OF CANADA.

(From the Montreal Witness.)

Since our last issue, Parliament has closed a singularly labourious, and we hope, beneficial Session, during which the representatives of the people, judging by the amount of business done, must have worked almost without intermission. It is peculiarly pleasing to be able to render this testimony to our Legislators, without distinction of party, inasmuch as we have been obliged, pointedly, to condemn the way in which time was frequently trifled away in former years, on account of the intemperance of Members on both sides of the House.

The past Session may be looked upon as an epoch from which several of the great practical developments of the resources of the Province will date. It also affords indisputable evidence of growing prosperity and enterprise, as well as of increased population and resources. A glance over the list of bills passed, will explain our meaning. It will there be seen that a large proportion of the whole number, are for Railways and other roads—Telegraph lines—Mining and Manufacturing Companies—and increase of Banking Capital. The latter, with some of the former, it is true, are reserved for Her Majesty's consideration; but the greater part of them will probably be sanctioned at no distant date.

There is nothing more common than for men in business to look back to some former period as much better than the present, and to think that commerce is daily becoming less profitable and more precarious, and in fact, that prosperity is disappearing from the country: no view can be more erroneous. There is probably twice the amount of business—take it altogether—doing in Canada in the year 1847, than there was ten years ago; and there can scarcely be a doubt that the present amount will again be doubled by 1857. Now, although the rate of profit may not keep pace with the ratio of increase, as indeed it ought not, for a large business should always be done at a less ratio of profit than a small one, yet the whole amount of profit, is, and indeed must be greatly increased, in order to support the greatly increased number of persons engaged in carrying on the business of the country. A particular year, it is true, may not prove profitable in some one, or even in all branches of business, but, upon the average, any period of years must greatly exceed any former similar period, both as to the amount of business done and the amount of profit realized by all concerned.

Not only, however, should the business increase, as is really the case, but the safety and facility of doing it should also annually increase, on account of the gradual accumulation of capital in the hands of farmers, mechanics, and traders; but this we fear is not found to be the case. Now, why is this most important element of improvement deficient? Simply, we think, because of the mania, we might almost call it, of overtrading. Almost every man is doing more than his means will warrant.

In Britain, France, Germany, &c., if a trader or mechanic makes money, the first thing he does (we are speaking generally and according to the best of our information) is to take the discounts on his purchases, i.e., to do his business on the best possible terms, buying for cash and keeping himself easy all the time. If he continue to make money, and he is then likely to do so in an increased ratio, he buys a piece of property and builds a house for himself, still free of debt, and all the time his business may be nearly stationary as to amount, or if it have increased the increase is gradual, healthy, and easily managed. In Canada, on the contrary, if a trader or master mechanic makes a little money, his first object is to double the amount of his business, an operation which stretches his credit as far or farther than at first; makes him purchase at as great a disadvantage as when he began,

almost without means, and keeps him constantly in what is familiarly termed hot water. Nay, he usually buys property on credit and builds a fine new dwelling house and shop out of his creditors property. When things are at this point, if every thing go on prosperously, and if he do not continue to add new branches of business or extend the old, he may possibly, and with a great struggle, get through, but if a hard year come, if he make any of the ordinary losses in business, or if any of his creditors are restive, he must either compound with them or go into bankruptcy, when his estate will be found to realize little or nothing.

Let this great error of overtrading be corrected, and there remains no serious bar to rapidly increasing prosperity. The Bible declares, with great accuracy and distinctness, that "they who make haste to be rich, fall into a snare and pierce themselves through with many sorrows." When will men believe in the Bible in such a sense as to act on its precepts?

THE NEW IMMIGRANT SHEDS.

(From the same.)

The Hospitals at Point St. Charles have been so far completed as to permit of the removal to them of a considerable part of the sick from the old immigrant sheds during the past week. The hospitals consist of nineteen buildings, 100 feet long by 30 wide each, and one 200 feet by 20; the whole being arranged in seven rows of 300 feet long each, besides the intervals between the buildings, with a street between each row. The nineteen buildings which are thirty feet wide, are the hospitals, and contain three rows of single beds: this allowing about 16 inches between each bed, gives about 32 beds to the row or 96 beds in each—making room for nearly 1800 patients in the meantime. But, as it is desirable to dispense with the centre row of beds as soon as possible, the permanent hospital room should only be calculated at 1200. In these buildings the arrangements for ventilation are complete, there being not only a window opposite almost every bed, but a door for every four beds in the length, besides a ventilating roof, and arrangements to raise boards all round both at the top and bottom of the wall in case of need. These facilities for ventilation will, no doubt, contribute greatly both to the safety of the patients and their attendants. The buildings 20 feet wide is divided into store rooms and eating and sleeping rooms for the Doctors, Orderlies, Nurses, &c., in order that they may not be constantly exposed to infection as heretofore, even when taking their meals.

PASSION FOR FARMING.

A few years ago, a tiller of the soil was but little more esteemed than the tiller of a canal boat. To sow wheat and raise carrots, was not only ungentle, but "coarse and muscular." Within a short time, however, a passion for short horned Durhams and Mangel Wurtzel has broken out even among our more wealthy citizens, that's perfectly refreshing to common sense, and will prove of incalculable benefit to the country.

A man of fortune, now-a-days, looks upon himself as a snob, if he can't boast of one of the best regulated farms in the state, and a field of wheat that will turn in 70 bushels to an acre. Time was, when people boasted of their "turn outs" and equipages—their gold laced niggers and 1500 dollar carriages, but that time is gone, especially with our millionaires. To pride yourself on such things now, is to proclaim you one of the "upper vulgar."

To be considered an aristocrat in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, you must be able to boast of bulls, not bullion—of imported stock, instead of railroad. For one, we rejoice at this change. All that farmers needed to make it one of the most tempting, as well as profitable employments in the world, was fashion, and all it wanted to make it fashionable, was for our wealthy men to take hold of it. The good effect of the change already begins to show itself in every county in the state. Till men of fortune and study took to the plough, thirty and forty bushels of oats to an acre were quite a good yield. Last year, however, many of our farmers run their crops up to ninety and one hundred bushels; one gentleman, indeed, got as high as one hundred and twelve bushels to an acre! Formerly yellow corn, in the best hands, would give fifty bushels to an acre; last season it

amounted in some instances to *one hundred and thirty-nine bushels!* and what is true of oats and corn, is equally true of wheat, barley, hay, beans and live stock. The size of our hogs has nearly doubled within the last ten years. Formerly a porker that weighed four hundred pounds was something of a rarity; now, however, they are as common as three meals a day, or Dutch grocers in New York. Our beef steak arrangements have also been "beautiful and improved."

Till E. Corning took the surloin in hand, scarcely a good piece of beef grow any where in Albany. Now our markets, however, can at times show hands with New York or Smithfield. For all which we say, three cheers for fashion; for without fashion there would have been no science connected with agriculture, and without science our cattle would still have been of the hop-pole breed, and gramo a stranger. —*Albany Knicker.*

SELECTIONS.

THE END OF EDUCATION.—The multitude think, that to educate a child, is to crowd into its mind a given amount of knowledge; to teach the mechanism of reading and writing; to load the memory with words; to prepare a boy for the routine of trade. No wonder, then, that they think every body fit to teach. The true end of education is to unfold and direct aright our whole nature. Its office is to call forth powers or thought, affection, will, and outward action; power to observe, to reason, to judge, to contrive; power to adopt good courses, and to pursue them efficiently; power to govern ourselves, and to influence others; power to gain and to spread happiness. Reading is but an instrument—education is to teach its best use. The intellect was created not to receive passively a few words, dates and facts; but to be active for the acquisition of truth. Accordingly education should inspire a profound love of truth, and teach the processes of investigation. A sound logic, by which we mean the science or art which instructs us in the laws of reasoning and evidence, in the true method of inquiry and the sources of false judgment, is an essential part of a good education.

AN EXAMPLE FOR YOUTH.—A little boy in destitute circumstances was put out as an apprentice to a mechanic. For some time he was the youngest apprentice, and of course had to go upon errands for the apprentices, and not unprofitably to procure for them ardent spirits, of which all but himself partook, because, as they said, it did them good. He, however, used none; and in consequence of it, was often the subject of severe ridicule from the older apprentices, because, as they said, he had not sufficient manhood to drink rum. And as they were revelling over their poison, he, under their insults and cruelty, often retired and vented his grief in tears. But now every one of the older apprentices, we are informed, is a drunkard, or in a drunkard's grave; and this youngest apprentice, at whom they used to scoff, is sober and respectable, and worth a hundred thousand dollars. In his employment are about one hundred men, who do not use ardent spirits; he is exerting upon many thousands an influence in the highest degree salutary, which may be transmitted by them to future generations, and be the means, through grace, of preparing multitudes not only for usefulness and respectability on earth, but for an exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Voltaire, toward the end of his life, remarked to some of his infidel associates, that all their labour must be lost, and that it was utterly vain to try to put down Christianity so long as there was the Sabbath; so long as every seventh day men were compelled, more or less, to have their thoughts turned to the things of religion. Truly, therefore, even its enemies being judges, the Lord's day may be reckoned one of the chief bulwarks of the social, as well as religious constitution of this land.—*English Pres. Mes.*

THE BIBLE.—Casting away the fear of being accounted superstitious, cultivate the habit of looking at a Bible with respect and reverence. Open it with a kind of solemn pleasure; for God is there in all his greatness, and holiness, and love. Read it with thankfulness, for it is a grant to you, under the hand of God, and it is sealed to you by the blood of Christ, and the grant secures to you, if you be an humble believer, forgiveness and sanctification, and victory and heaven. It secures to you "all things," for "you are Christ's, and Christ is God's." When good old bishop Latimer was led to the stake, he took the Bible with him. He clung to it with holy affection. It had pointed out to him a Saviour; it had taught him how to live with comfort; it was now to teach him how to die in triumph.

IMPROVED CANDLE-WICKS.—An improved candle may be made by steeping cotton wicks in lumenwater, in which a considerable quantity of saltpetre (nitre) has been dissolved. By this means is obtained a pure flame and a superior light; a more perfect combustion is ensured; snuffing is rendered nearly as superfluous as in wax lights; and the candles thus made do not run nor waste. The wicks should be thoroughly dry before they are covered with tallow, otherwise they will not burn with a uniform and clear light.

THE BEST TIME TO CUT GRAIN.—There is a time for all things, and it is quite important to farmers to be aware of the right time of

performance. Ditching in wet grounds is not easily done in the spring—nor is tilling easily practised after the grass and weeds have grown high and strong. The grain harvest will soon engage the attention of the farmers of New England—and the right time for cutting ought to be known. It is believed by our most observing farmers that we usually suffer our grain to stand too long before cutting. Wheat cut in good season, makes better flour than wheat cut late. And oats are better when they are cut early. Oats are quite liable to be struck with rust, and early cutting often saves them, and the straw too, for fodder. One fact ought to be impressed on the mind of every farmer in relation to the tilling out of grain of all kinds. That is, the heads draw nourishment from the stalk after it is cut and shocked up. If farmers were generally aware of this fact they would cut their grain rather earlier than they have been in the practice of doing. Grain may be cut too early, but it more often suffers by standing too late. The loss by shelling out during the operation of harvesting should always be considered. Grains lost in the straw turn to more account among stock, than grains lost off in the field.—*Ploughman.*

AMBITION.—"I am weary," said the aspiring Cornelia, "of being called Scipio's daughter." "Do nobly, my son, and men shall style me the mother of the Gracchi!" It is indeed a blessed thing to be a mother, when you are the mother of children distinguished for their goodness. Children grown to maturity who are eminent for their intellectual and moral acquisitions, marked among men for the expression of noble thoughts and the performance of noble deeds, reflect honour on her who gave them birth. She lives in them. Her character shines in their glory. Mothers, what shall be your children? Catch the spirit of the Roman matron, and chastening this spirit, by the pure spirit which is above—baptizing it into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost—burn with an inextinguishable ambition of being the mothers of Christian sons and daughters—sons and daughters who shall be blessings to the church and the world—and receive the plaudit "well done good and faithful servants," in the presence of an assembled universe! These are jewels indeed, whom the Saviour acknowledges to be such, and sets in his crown to sparkle there forever. Shall those now your little ones, so shine in bliss and glory? We hope, we pray, that they may.

SPREAD OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.—The *N. Y. Sun* says that within a few months they have had numbers of new papers published in the English language at the following places:—1. Hong Kong and Canton, China; 2. Hindostan, and the British East Indies.—*Asia.* 3. Rome (Italy) and the Mediterranean Coast.—*Europe.* 4. Liberia and Southern Africa.—*Africa.* 5. Australia and the Sandwich Islands.—*Australia.* 6. Oregon, California, and Northern Mexico; 7. Southern Mexico.—*America.* There are three English papers in the first, ten or twelve in the second, four in the third, four in the fourth, twelve or thirteen in the fifth, four in the sixth, and in the seventh, which embraces the country west and south of Texas, there are six or seven newspapers, published wholly or in part in the English language. It is thus that our language, our institutions, and our principles of civil and religious liberty are *bellum the earth*, pushing east and west, and extending over the five great geographical divisions of the world—America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia.

A NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPER.—Among other new enterprises in Wisconsin, is the establishment of a Norwegian Press, in the town of Norway, Racine county. The proprietors are Messrs. Baehc, Hrg, and Rymert, and the paper is to be conducted and edited by the latter gentleman, who speaks English well. It will be independent in politics, and will aim to keep the Norwegians of the Territory well-informed on all subjects of interest or importance to them, in their new relation of citizens of the United States. The Norwegian settlements in the West, says the *Milwaukee Gazette*, are already numerous and growing rapidly. There are now in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa, *twenty* settlements, and *sixteen* of them within the limits of this Territory. They embrace a population of from fifteen to twenty thousand; frugal, industrious, honest, law-loving and law-abiding citizens. The principal settlement in Wisconsin is on Koskonong prairie, where there are nearly a thousand Norwegian families. In the town of Muskego, Waukesha county, and Norway, Racine county, which adjoin each other, the Norwegian settlers number nearly one thousand. In Rock county there are a thousand and upward, and many in Jefferson, Dodge, and other Northern counties.

POISONOUS CARDS.—The Danbury (Conn.) Times says that a child of Mr. Charles Chapman, of that town, (King-street district,) was poisoned on the 6th inst. by putting a visiting card in his mouth, which its mother had given it to play with. It died in 48 hours after. An analysis of the card by Dr. E. P. Bennett, showed that the enamel or coating was composed of carbonate of lead.

NATURAL CURIOSITY IN JERSEY CITY.—The inhabitants of Jersey City have been amused and delighted for some evenings past, by a stream of natural gas proceeding from the bed of the river in the Cunard dock. On applying fire to this gas, it ignited immediately, producing a flame varying from one foot to twenty inches in length. — *Y. Evangelist.*

MOROCCO.—A French engineer, charged with the duty of inquiring into the nature and condition of the mines in the south-east of the empire of Morocco, has discovered in the Province of Tetuan fossil bones of great interest. Amongst them is the entire skeleton of a lion of gigantic size. These remains have been forwarded to Paris.

M. Dumas, the greatest of French Romancers, and the most fertile, if not inexhaustible writer in the world, is a quadroon—his veins are tinged with the blood of blacks. His father, the republican general of the same name, was a mulatto, born in St. Domingo.

NEWS.

IMMIGRATION RETURN FOR PORT OF MONTREAL.

FOR WEEK ENDING 1st AUGUST.

| | |
|---|------|
| Number of immigrants arrived | 4312 |
| (Of whom 291 were by vessels direct to Montreal.) | |
| Number forwarded at government expense | 2490 |
| Deaths at the hospitals for the week | 141 |
| Burials, including those sent from the city, &c | 125 |
| Deaths yesterday | 24 |
| Burials do. | 31 |

Government Emigration Office, Quebec, 31st July, 1847

Number of Emigrants arrived at the Ports of Quebec and Montreal, during the week ending this date:—

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| | Steerage. |
| From England..... | 2827 |
| Ireland..... | 2268 |
| Scotland..... | 782 |
| Germany..... | 997 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Previously reported..... | 6874 |
| Total..... | 63721 |
| To same period last year..... | 26836 |

Increase in favour of 1847..... 36885

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

The Steamship Washington arrived at New York, on Friday, at half-past one, P. M. She left Southampton on the 15th ult, and brings dates from Liverpool and London to the 11th, eleven days later than the news by the Britannia. There has been an advance in the price of Flour and Corn; while Indian Meal and Wheat remains firm at about the rates of the 4th. The following are the quotations as transmitted by the Magnetic Telegraph:—Flour, 37s. per barrel, being an advance of about 3s. on former quotations; Indian Corn, 41s. to 45s.; Meal, 20s. to 21s.; English White Wheat, 10s. 6d. to 10s. 8d.; U. S. Red do, 10s. 1d. to 10s. 1d.; White do, 10s. 6d. to 10s. 8d. Provisions were without much change. The harvest promises well and weather fine. There was very little potato rot seen. The fever in Liverpool was becoming alarming.

We have nothing but rumours and contradictory statements respecting the progress of the War in Mexico. The only two points which may be considered certain are, that the American expenditure continues to be very great, and that the Mexicans, either on account of the benefits derived from this great influx of money, or from other motives, are averse to any propositions for peace that have been, or are likely to be made.

The signatures to the Petition for Cheap and Uniform Postage, which we published in our last, already amount to about 1200 in this city. As some individuals could not sign last week, from being out of town, it will be for a few days longer at the store of Messrs R. and C. Chalmers. We trust other cities and towns will urge similar views upon the Executive and Legislature.

The Electric Telegraph is nearly complete at this station, and before our next issue telegraphic dispatches will doubtless be obtained, which will put an end to the expresses on the arrival of steamers.

We have been informed that eighty-four Americans who had arrived in this city, this week, on a visit, and had intended to have remained some time, as is usual during the summer months—became so alarmed from reading the heightened accounts of the sickness in the newspapers of the city, that they left immediately, en masse. We are also informed that two hundred gentlemen and ladies left Troy, the other day, for Canada, and of late but nine arrived at Montreal—the rest, frightened by the same fearful accounts, having returned to their homes.—Now, the fact is, that excepting among those persons who unavoidably, charitably, or carelessly have held communication with the sick immigrants—the city is far from being in an unhealthy state; and our hotel and store-keepers are suffering very materially from a lack of their usual summer business, in consequence of the paucity of strangers in the city. We assure those strangers and travellers, who may be desirous of visiting Montreal, that their fears of a prevailing epidemic is entirely without foundation.—*Transcript.*

All Irish steamers or passenger vessels arriving in the City, are now inspected by a medical man, with the view of guarding against the importation of persons affected with fever.

A vessel which has arrived in London, from the Mauritius, has brought several barrels of pork, an article which had never before been imported from that island.

Mr. Cobden anticipates in the event of abundant harvests this year, a glut of grain and produce, the result of the stimulus to production caused by the present scarcity. He also fears that the enormous freights will cause too many investments to be made in ship-building, and thus produce a reaction in that branch.

Messrs. M'Nair, Greenhow and Irving, in their last circular, on the condition of trade at Manchester, remark, that the British act restricting labour to 10 hours in factories, goes into immediate operation, and will have its merits hereafter tested. At present, owing to the depressed state of manufactures it will be wholly useless. The position of spinners and manufacturers we regret to report, so far from being improved, is now much worse than it was awhile ago, owing to the advance in cotton, amounting to about 1d. [two cents] per pound. A corresponding price upon their products they are unable to realize.

STARTLING INTELLIGENCE FROM THE PLAINS.—The St. Louis New Era of the 10th inst. has news from the Plains, brought to Fort Leavenworth, on the 5th inst. by an express sent in by Lieut. Love, with the urgent request that a reinforcement should be sent to his aid. Lieut. Love was in command of an escort, which took out \$300,000 in specie for the troops at Santa Fe. The express left him on the Arkansas, at which time he was beset by Comanche Indians, with whom he had several encounters for four or five days

in succession. He had already lost *five* men killed, and *four* wounded—among the latter Sergeant Bishop, 2d in command. The Indians lost 12 or 13 killed. The Indians were in large numbers, and were pressing Lieut. Love very resolutely; being aware, perhaps, of the value of the prize they were after. Lieut. Love's express brings information that other government troops had been attacked by the Comanches. Mr. Smith, who had established a fort on the Arkansas, was driven therefrom with his men, and compelled to fly, taking the route to Santa Fe. Four companies of the Missouri Volunteers were lost at Council Grove. Captain Shepard's company was in advance of that point. There can be no doubt that no company, unless very numerous and well armed, can now cross the Plains safe from attack—in short, none, perhaps, except a strong military force.

A HUMBURG EXPLODED!—The grand project of raising Capt. Kidd's vessel at Caldwell's landing on the Hudson, and obtaining vast treasures—a project in which a large amount of money was embarked by credulous men, has proved to be what many suspected, an egregious humbug, originating in fraud. It is now known that a gun which had been taken from the wreck, pieces of gold, coins, &c. were deposited there a few days previous, that this discovery might cheer the hearts of the stock-holders, and induce others to purchase shares!

Our farmers are in the midst of their grain cutting. The prospect, so far as we can learn, is of the most promising kind. Many fields yield as abundantly as they ever have done; in some others there is a deficiency. Upon the whole, it is pronounced a good crop.—*Missillon Gazette.*

The wheat crop was larger than was generally expected. In this country, it is nearly average.—The wheat is of a good quality, plump and heavy. In the counties of Wood and Hancock, the crop is large, and the wheat of a very superior quality.—*Talado (Ohio) Blade.*

SERVICES THROUGH RUM.—Two men killed themselves in Fairfield co., Conn. last week, under the influence of rum. Rufus Sarles, of Poundridge, hung himself in the chamber on Wednesday of last week. He was raving in the morning and his wife and children fled from his house in alarm. Not long after he was found suspended, a corpse. He was 40 years of age. On Friday morning last, George Weed, who has been lately troubled with delirium tremens, drank a quantity of rum, and has soon after ripped open his bowels and died immediately.

BUFFALO.—The most striking characteristic of Buffalo is its vast commerce. It is literally choked up with shipping—with sail-vessels, canal and steamboats. One would suppose, to behold these, that there were enough to carry off, at one load, the produce of the fields of a whole State—when, in fact, there are not enough to do the business required of them. In the last two months, there have arrived at Buffalo, as tables show, over one million of barrels of flour, two millions of bushels of wheat, and corn in amount almost beyond calculation. Riding along on the Railroad, I saw an almost endless line of canal-boats, taking this immense amount of produce on to tide water. May all the starving millions soon feel the relief it ought to give.—*Boston Atlas.*

GOLD AND SILVER MINES OF AMERICA.—All the gold ever discovered in the New World, says the Mining Journal, would not fill half of a Paris shopkeeper's drawing-room. The annual value of the gold mines of the United States is \$1,200,000; of the gold and silver mines of Mexico, \$10,000,000; do. Peru, \$11,000,000; (chiefly in silver); of New-Granada, \$3,500,000; of Brazil, (gold only,) \$1,700,000.

AMERICAN AUTHORS.—Mr. Richard Bentley, the great London publisher, in the London Times of the 20th of June, says that between £14,000 and £15,000 have been paid by him to three American authors alone.

ANOTHER VICTIM.—Thomas Fowley, alias "Big Thunder," of Ulster county, a man of intemperate habits, and who had been intoxicated daily for two or three weeks, committed suicide on Monday of last week, in the following singular manner, while laboring under delirium tremens: He stated his determination to destroy himself, and taking off his hat, took a stand near a pond, expecting to become sun-struck, (the heat being intense,) but the sun proving too slow in its operation, he adopted a different method, and waded into the pond deep enough to accomplish his object, drowning himself while standing erect, in which position he remained until discovered and taken out of the water.

PRODUCE PRICES CURRENT—MONTREAL, July 31, 1847.

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| ASHES—Provincial duty 1 per cent. | PROVISIONS—Provincial duty 2s per cwt. |
| Pots, per cwt 27 3 3 27 6 | Beef, Mess, hbl 200 lbs 00 0 00 0 |
| Paris, do 27 0 27 3 | Prime Mess, do 70 0 00 0 |
| FLOUR—Provincial duty 6d, Imp. 2s. | Prime, do 67 6 60 0 |
| Canada Superfine 27 0 27 6 | Cargo, do 00 0 00 0 |
| Do Fine 26 0 27 0 | Prime Mess, per |
| Do Middlings 00 0 09 0 | terce of 204 lbs 105 0 00 0 |
| Do P. Words 00 0 00 0 | Pork, Mess, hbl 200 lbs 95 0 100 0 |
| MEAL—Provincial duty 2s per 196 lbs., | Prime Mess, do 80 0 00 0 |
| Imperial 2s per hbl. | Prime, do 70 0 00 0 |
| Indian Meal 09 0 00 0 | Cargo, do 60 0 00 0 |
| Oatmeal 26 3 27 6 | BACON, &c.—Provincial duty 2s, Im- |
| GRAIN—Provincial duty 3s per quarter | perial, 3s per cwt. |
| on all except Oats 2s. | Bacon, .. none |
| Wheat, U.C. best 60 lbs 5 6 6 0 | Hams, .. 00 7 00 7 1/2 |
| Do do mid. do 3 3 5 6 | BUTTER—Provincial duty, 2s. Impe- |
| Do Red .. nominal | rial, 3s per cwt. |
| Barley per minot .. Do | Prime .. 0 6 0 0 |
| Oats do .. Do | Cheese .. none |
| Pease do .. nominal | |
| Indian Corn, 5S lbs .. nominal | |

THOMAS M. TAYLOR, Broker.

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