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ERRORS IN NUMBERING

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Notices of Books &c.

THE ANGLO AMERICAN MAGAZINE.—We have to acknowledge the receipt of the January number of this interesting publication. The present is the first number of the fourth volume and contains much excellent reading matter, a Fashion plate, a view of Port Perry, Lake Scugog, and the New Church at Brampton.

Among other good things in this number is an amusing article showing the ignorance of English and other writers in matters connected with the North American Colonies, their geography, population &c. It seems almost incredible that the ignorance we find displayed in these matters can be real; why there is not a school-boy, six years old, in all these Colonies who does not know better, although our wise ones would force a book into his hands which tells him that St. John is in Halifax and Halifax in Canada.

The *International Journal* in speaking of this ignorance says:—

"A masonic charter is extant, whereby certain persons therein named are empowered by the Grand Lodge of England to 'hold a travelling lodge in the Island of Cape Breton, and elsewhere in the West Indies.' It is a matter of notoriety, too, that the captain of a British war-ship, cruising on Lake Ontario during the last war, narrowly escaped being cashiered for neglect of orders—the said orders simply being to join, with his vessel, the squadron on Lake Erie—a feat involving merely the trifling difficulty of sailing up the falls of Niagara.

Such blunders, whether committed by compilers of geographies, by prominent statesmen, or even by persons moderately endowed with intelligence, are both needless and inexcusable. Let a man but run his eye and finger over the map of North America, and he will soon perceive that Cape Breton is not a West India island, and Halifax not a seaport of New Brunswick; common sense will teach him the impracticability of making Niagara a 'high way of nations'; and surely, surely, somewhere amongst the literary accumulations of the British Museum, to which he can have free access, he may find the means of enlightening his intellectual darkness on other points. And finally should each and all of these methods fail, let him consult the cook or cabin-boy of any one of the Colonial timber-ships which throng the London docks—and we pledge our word he will thereby save himself the humiliation of exposing his ignorance before the world."

The following is the article, referred to, from the *Anglo American*.

ASTONISHING DISCOVERIES

OF BRITISH AND UNITED STATES WRITERS
CONCERNING BRITISH AMERICA.

As it is one of the most important functions of the *Anglo American Magazine*, to disseminate information concerning the peculiarities of British America, it is presumed that the following is too good to be lost; facts are stated on high authority (!) whereof residents are either profoundly ignorant, or entertain a contrary opinion; it is important that they should unlearn their error, and rely less on their own biased vision, than on the impartial testimony of travellers and compilers of geographies, newspaper articles, &c., who having no personal interest in the matter, and in many cases,

never having seen the Province, may be supposed entirely free from prejudice.

An illustrated magazine published in Boston, having a large circulation in many parts of British America, discovered in 1851, that "the population of Canada West, is now upwards of 500,000, that of Canada East nearly as much." The census returns for 1850 give about 900,000 to each.

Another United States paper recently discovered that vessels of 500 tons burden could enter the port of St. John at high water. The "natives" are, however, under the hallucination that no vessel, building or built, can touch bottom at any time of the tide; the existence of a bar is indignantly denied by the pilots.

In a school-book published under the superintendence of the National Board of Education in Dublin, will be found the following notice on the title page; "Sold by H. Cliff, St. John, Halifax, Canada." It will be seen that this celebrated gentleman, Mr. Patrick Bull, who is probably the writer of the above, has thus effected by a stroke of his pen what Colonial politicians have been vainly endeavoring to effect for many years; viz a *Union of the Colonies*. The benighted inhabitants of these regions would, however, be somewhat puzzled to recognize the locality therein mentioned. The book is greatly used in the schools in British America. In the fourth book of lessons issued by the same publishers, is to be found the following authentic information.

"New Brunswick is a large country to the north west of Nova Scotia. Some parts of it are hilly and watered by fine rivers, but the whole country is almost unbroken and magnificent forest. (!) The inhabitants are much engaged in the timber trade; this is carried on by a set of men called lumberers, who cut down the trees in the depth of winter, in the heart of these immense woods. * * * * In the spring, when the ice melts, and the rivers are full, they send down the timber in vessels or in rafts to Halifax, whence it goes to England." A raft on the Bay of Fundy would be a novel spectacle. To cross the Atlantic in a wash-tub with a hole in the bottom would be an undertaking trifling in comparison with crossing the Bay of Fundy on a raft.

Speaking of Nova Scotia "The inhabitants are partly French, partly Scotch, and partly Indians." It is generally considered there, that nearly all are descended from the U. S. loyalists and British settlers, neither of whom intermarry to any extent with the Acadians or Indians. These latter are comparatively few. "Its capital is Halifax, a place whence much timber is exported." Some say imported would be much nearer the mark.

"The chief towns in Upper Canada are Kingston and York, both on Lake Ontario." Where is York? Toronto and Hamilton perhaps only exist as yet in imagination. "The climate of Canada is very cold in winter, and the country is buried in snow (grey-mud) five or six months in the year."

"Cape Breton and Prince Edward's Island, are two large islands separated from Nova Scotia by narrow channels. They are all cold and foggy in climate, and the inhabitants, are principally engaged in the fisheries."

They think, however, in Prince Edward's Island, that they raise large quantities of oats and potatoes, and a great number of horses; this however, may be only a freak of their vivid imaginations; nevertheless it is certain that at a certain hotel in St. John, where the writer sojourned, which is much frequented by Prince Edward Islanders, the talk is of horses, *ad nauseam*. A large quantity of coal is exported from Cape Bre-

ton, if shipping lists speak truly. Probably "fish," in the Hibernian dialect, signifies and includes horses, oats, potatoes and coal.

A gentleman in the British service issued in London some time since a work on the Provinces, wherein, speaking of railway schemes, he states that it would be impossible to run steamboats across the Bay of Fundy in the winter season, as enormous icebergs are floating about in every direction. The natives, however, say that it is doubtful if any of the said icebergs are of sufficient magnitude to float anything heavier than a sea-gull, and that even such ones are few and far between. They are also under an impression that the writer above-mentioned viewed the icebergs through an optical medium equal in magnifying powers to the telescope wherewith Herschell, from the Cape of Good Hope, saw the Man in the Moon! They are also under the delusion (having possibly been all biologized by an eminent professor of the science) that a steamer runs across the bay from St. John all the winter, except four or five weeks, and that its stoppage during that period is caused not by the presence of icebergs but by the absence of business.

It is said that persons having control over educational matters in the Province of New Brunswick, anxious that the rising generation should be thoroughly indoctrinated in the true faith—to wit, that the New Brunswick timber is exported from Halifax; that rafts are floated across the Bay of Fundy, thence several hundred miles along the coast of Nova Scotia into Halifax harbor for the purpose of being exported in sea-going vessels (there being none in St. John); that Canada is buried deep in snow for five or six months in the year; and that horses, oats, potatoes and coal are *fish*—are dissatisfied with the omission of these primary articles of faith in the Canada reprints of the school-books above mentioned. They therefore use nearly altogether the original Dublin edition, though endeavors have been made to introduce the Canadian edition. All such insidious attempts to undermine their faith in transatlantic oracles have hitherto been egregious failures. They won't have anything to do with such a hot-bed of annexation and rowdism as Montreal.

The writer had penned the foregoing paragraph when a friend, engaged in "teaching the young idea," suggested that the books in question being class-books, and the Dublin edition having been first introduced, the parents are too stingy to buy new books, which if the Canada edition was used by any, all would have to do;—that a new edition has just been printed in Philadelphia, wherein the remarkable facts above detailed are embalmed, like any other mummies, for the benefit of the rising generation of Columbians and Bluenoses, which is to be henceforth the only edition used in the eastern Provinces. It will, among other purposes, answer admirably that of preventing the young men of the United States from emigrating to countries under the "Flag that braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze," by making these Provinces answer in place of a "raw head and bloody bones,"—thus preserving intact Bluenose loyalty in generations to come.

Albeit, the writer is unshaken in his conviction that the above course of conduct is mainly traceable to the spirit of unswerving loyalty (some would call it "consistent toadyism") which animates the people of New Brunswick.

THE COURIER made its appearance last week considerably enlarged and much improved in looks. There is a good deal of the old maid in the *Courier*, the elder it grows the more finery it puts on.

GODY'S LADY'S BOOK.—Gody for January is on our table. This is decidedly the best book of the kind published in America. It is really and truly a Lady's Book. The present number contains several beautiful Engravings, besides Fashion Plates, Embroidery, Crotchet-work, Music &c. The reading matter is solid and interesting, and may be read with profit by both old and young. The present is the first number of a new volume, and now is the time to send in names. In subscribing for this book no risks are run, Godey is well known, and what he promises he will perform. To use his own words, he starts as a Lady's Book in January and comes out a Lady's Book in December.

We shall be happy to forward the names of any who may wish to subscribe.

THE MOUNT ALLISON ACADEMIC GAZETTE.—This is the title of a neat little sheet just issued dated Sackville December 1853, and published by J. & A. M'Millan St. John. It is designed to afford information respecting the Educational Institution at Sackville, and to promote the cause of Education generally in these Provinces.

For the present the *Gazette* will be published as a semi-annual periodical. The second number will be issued in June.

THE ORANGE LILY.—Great improvements have been made in this paper, it has gone back to its original form, sixteen pages, and is very convenient for binding. The *Lily* is one of the best papers we receive, it is published in Bytown, C. W.

"BETTER STARVE THAN BE A PROTESTANT."

The following paragraph is from *Brownson's Quarterly Review*, published in Boston, under the sanction of the R. C. Bishop:—

"There is hardly a city in the Union in which there are not benevolent ladies banded together, practising self-denial; and giving alms enough even to gain heaven, if accompanied by faith and charity, who make it a business to find out poor children, and with sweatmeats and fine dresses, and flattering words, entice them from religion, lure them from God, to be brought up in hatred of Him who redeemed them, of the Spiritual Mother who bore them, and to burn eternally in the fire prepared for the devil and his angels—and these charming ladies persuade themselves that they are doing a deed of charity, that they are serving God; that he will love and reward them for it—poor, deluded creatures, who are nothing more or less than precursors to the Devil! How strange! What terrible infatuation! As if it were not ten thousand million times better that our children should starve to death before our eyes, than to be brought up Protestants."

Romanism Manifesting Itself.

There is a paper published in America, advocating the tenets and representing the interests of the Roman Catholic Church. It rejoices in the title of the "Shepherd of the Valley."

Some sixteen months ago, the editor of the aforesaid paper had the strange audacity to publish the following sentence: "If the Catholics ever gain the ascendancy here, as they certainly will, religion in this country is at an end."

This daring avowal of the true character of