

and damp stone. It is along this frail support one must move, carefully leaning alternately to the right and left, according to the guide's instructions, at the risk of being hurled into the dark abyss below.

It was to the top of this vertical wall that the brigands had retreated, driven from every part of the upper grotto, they still hoped to find a refuge in the lower one; they suddenly extinguished their lights, and set fire to a heap of damp straw, the dense and sinking smoke of which filled the upper gallery in a moment. Whilst the soldiers were stopped in this sudden darkness, half suffocated, and vainly strove to extinguish the slowly burning straw, the thieves hastened to slip down the ladder, and when lights shone again on the top of the rocks, the first soldiers who hastened to seize their prey were astonished to see the last of their foes sink into the rock and vanish in the precipice at their feet.

This was the most difficult passage; the troops had procured ladders, but how were they to be fixed upon a slippery and dark platform? The firing was resumed, but with great disadvantage to the soldiers; for, whilst about ten brigands occupied in the shade of the platform upon which the feet of the ladders must be made to rest, their comrades, who had descended to the bottom of the grotto, sheltered from all danger, had climbed along the rocks, to the stalactites hanging from the roof, at a height which enabled them to keep up a brisk fire on the entrance to the upper grotto, so that it became impossible to keep on the brink of the precipice. The soldiers, soon frightened at having to deal with invisible enemies, whose shots continually reached them, began to flinch, and to retire to the two sides of the grotto.

Then it was that, after having, at the peril of his life, examined the ground, the enemy's position, and the difficulties of this passage, and every nook and corner, the commandant ordered all the torches to be extinguished. He took with him twenty of the best shots among his men, and concealed them in such a manner that, on a signal they might easily fire on the brigands occupying the platform; favored by the darkness which only permitted the enemy to fire at random, some men crept up to the brink of the precipice dragging along several ladders which they were ready to plant. When all was prepared, the officer himself flung a *pot-de-fue* on the platform, and the light exhibited the ten men who were upon it. The twenty men fired, and, whether wounded or dead, the brigands slipped all ten into the abyss. Three ladders, manned by vigorous hands, were applied to the slippery ground, and thirty grenadiers rushed down their steps. Cries of rage arose on one side, and shouts of triumph on the other, and despite of the terrible fire of the brigands, and of the breaking of a ladder, whereby some soldiers were hurled into the precipice, the assailants were, a quarter of an hour after, masters of the place.

The combat was protracted for some time, but the ammunition of the brigands was exhausted; above a half of their numbers were slain or severely wounded; and the ten or twelve who survived were either seized or surrendered.

At that moment a cry of horror arose from the end of the gallery which leads to the aperture whereby one leaves the cavern, in front of the *Usat* baths. The soldiers rushed in that direction. A hundred and forty six bodies, and as many heads lay on the ground! They were those of the unfortunate soldiers who had entered the cavern a fortnight before.

Had not the officers energetically interposed the soldiers would have at once avenged their comrades in the blood of the twelve surviving robbers. They were tied together, and conducted, amidst an immense concourse of people, to *Foix*. Three days after they were all executed on the market place in that city. As for the other twenty four, only twelve corpses were found in the cavern. It was conjectured that the rest had either rolled into the precipice, or that, by concealing themselves in the clefts of the rocks, they had succeeded in effecting their escape. Whatever their fate, they were never heard of, and the country recovered its tranquillity.

Without including the hundred and forty six men butchered by the brigands, the loss sustained by the regiment was two or three times greater. The grotto still exhibits, in many places, vestiges of the carnage we have just detailed, the quantity of human skulls and bones till observable in certain parts, notwithstanding the care with which the victims of this sanguinary expedition were conveyed without bearing witness to the awful scenes which the *Usat* cavern witnessed at the beginning of the year 1802.

WHY SHOULD I LOVE THEE?
 Why should I love thee? Thou so altered!
 So cold; so passionless! The hand
 Which erst so much at parting faltered—
 The cheek which blushed at meeting—and
 The eyes whose eloquent depths of jet,
 So much of silence could redeem—
 They haunt me with their sweetness yet,
 But ah! how changed they seem!

Why should I love thee, thou false hearted?
 Thou smilest, but smilest no more for thee!
 The bloom hath not thy lip departed,
 Thy voice hath still its witchery.
 But looks and words, though they bewitch me,
 Can paint no love where love is not,—
 Thy very kindnesses but teach me
 How much I am forgot!

Why should I love thee? Why repine?
 Thy lip some other fond lip presses,
 Thine arm some other's arm entwines,—
 Thy cheek some other cheek caresses,—
 And though to part with thee be sadness,
 Oh God! how difficult to bear,
 To hope to win thee now were madness!
 To love thee were despair.

TO LOVE THEE WERE DESPAIR.

PERFECT POETRY.
 The following lines were lately addressed by the first of living English poets, Thomas Campbell, to a child only four years of age, whom he accidentally met:
 I hold it a religious duty
 To love and worship children's beauty;
 They're least the taint of earthly clod—
 They're freshest from the hand of God.
 With heavenly looks they make us sore
 The heaven that made them must be pure,—
 We love them not in earthly fashion,
 But with a beatific passion.

I chanced yesterday, behold
 A maiden child of beauty's mould;
 The little charmer, to my view,
 Was sculpture brought to life anew,—
 Her eyes had a poetic glow—
 Her pouting mouth was Cupid's bow,
 And through her frock I could descry
 Her neck and shoulders' symmetry.
 'Twas obvious from her walk and gait,
 Her limbs were beautifully straight.
 I stoop'd th' enchantress, and was told,
 Though tall, she was but four years old—
 Her guide so grave an aspect wore
 I could not ask a question more,
 But followed her. The little one
 Threw backwards, ever and anon
 Her lovely neck, as if to say,
 I know you love me, Mister Gray;
 For by this instinct childhood's eye
 Is shrewd in physiognomy;
 They will distinguish fawning art
 From sterling fondness of the heart,
 And so she flirted like a true
 Good woman, till we bade adieu.
 'Twas then I with regret grew wild—
 Oh beautiful, interesting child!
 Why asked I not thy home and name?
 My courage failed me—more's the shame.

But where abides this jewel rare?
 Oh, ye that own her, tell me where,
 For sad it makes my heart, and sore,
 To think I ne'er may meet her more.

From the New York Aurora.
 THE DRUNKEN MOTHER.

We saw, on our way from the post office, through the Park, yesterday afternoon, a sight to make the heart bleed, and the nerves creep with a thrilling horror, at the utter and hopeless degradation of humanity, in contrast with all that should be fair, and pure, and innocent and holy—a mother and her child.

The woman was wrapped in an old plumb-colored camlet cloak, faded and fringed with rags, like those almost always worn by the Irish women of the lower class, as well in hot as in cold weather, and an old brown bunnet, crushed out of all shape against the base of the granite columns in the vestibule of the Hall of Records, against which she had evidently fallen. A portion of her face was visible, covered with carbuncles and ulcers, and made horrible by that indescribable discoloration, between the hue of a mummy and a gangrened wound, which nothing but whiskey can produce. By her side lay a junk bottle, its nose resting in a little puddle of the liquid fire, which the poor old wretch had been unable to convey to her mouth; and her red and brawny arms, doubled up in a fashion which we cannot describe, rested in an empty basket, upon which she was partly lying.

By the side of this breathing body of death sat a little pale faced, flaxen haired boy, resting against the column and supporting the head of his mother in his lap, while his thin and attenuated arm stretched in an attitude of intense affection and sorrow, as far as it would reach, over her bosom, as if to shield her from the approach of harm, while his head dropped languidly down upon her shoulder, and his watchful blue eyes ever and anon closed in the sleep of hunger and quiet despair, and then opened startingly, and gazed around with a hurried glance, as if he were reproaching himself for having slumbered upon his watch.

We turned away with a sensation of

choking in our throat, and the big tear starting to our eye.—'My God,' was our involuntary exclamation—'is this thy work, foul fiend of intemperance!—and can the wretched victim fall so low?'

We approached the unfortunate boy, and slipping a shilling into his thin hand, bent a moment above him and invoked the protection of the God of the Fatherless upon his innocent head, and then, as the lightning of his joy lit eye stole into our bosom, we hurried from the scene—we hope not all regardless of the terrible lesson which it taught.

The above is no fancy sketch—the most imaginative brain could never have limited a picture so full of truthfulness and deep, deep humiliation for the degradation of its nature.

From the Stirling Journal,
 STRONG SYMPATHY IN THE DOG.

An instance of this feeling in the canine species lately took place, or rather is still proceeding, at Invergeldie, a large sheep farm on the estate of Lawers, near Courie, Perthshire. The overseer became severely indisposed, and for the first ten days after their master had taken to bed his two faithful collies refused to be comforted, mournfully declining all sorts of food, even milk warm from the cow at last pressed upon them by the domestics. At length their case became so serious—for they were otherwise valuable dogs—that the overseer's mother was prevailed upon to inform her sick son, though at the time very low, of the circumstance, begging of him, as a *dernier ressort*, to try what effect his own word would still have upon the mute mourners. By an effort, he succeeded in a weak voice to name his favorites, pointing at the same time to some food, placed at hand for the trial. This gentle command had its effect, the dogs at once obeyed, and have since, as if it were still repeated to them, which it is not likely ever to be again, continued to take as much as supports life; but once every day at least, and oftener, if opportunity offer, they glide together into the room where the sick man is, slip stealthily to the bed side, raise their fore paws upon the bed clothes, and in this attitude continue together for some time to gaze intently on the pallid features of their now unconscious master, and then drooping retire out of the room.

From the Bangor Courier.
 NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Province of New Brunswick is, in the shape of a parallelogram, being about two hundred miles from North to South, and about one hundred and seventy five miles from East to West, and is about the size of the State of Maine. It is well located for commerce and navigation, and unrivalled in its position for the Fisheries being bounded South by the Bay of Fundy, and East by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, both of which are among the best fishing grounds on the coast. There is much excellent land at the head of the Bay. Here is situated the Great Tentamar Marsh, so called, which is diked in, and is upwards of fifteen miles in length and about four miles wide in its broadest part. When the Loyalists first came to New Brunswick in 1783, for a number of years, corn ripened well and was the staple production, since which it has failed so often that the cultivation of it has been nearly abandoned. But a small portion of the Province has been settled, and but little attention paid in farming, the principal employment being fishing, lumbering and building vessels.

The present population is about one hundred and sixty thousands. There are several causes which seem to have retarded the growth and settlement of the Province. The Colonial dependence upon Great Britain, although in some respects beneficial, is in others most injurious to the best interests of the Province. In travelling through New England you will find a succession of thriving villages, and if you seek for the cause of their prosperity, you will generally find it to arise from encouragement given to manufactures. Every thing is manufactured in Great Britain for the Province. Even the shoes and nails for their horses and cattle are imported, and as a natural result, you find but few villages in the Province except such as arise from lumbering operations. There is also a great lack of enterprise and energy among its inhabitants, arising in part, probable from the character of the French and emigrant portion of their population, and in part from their form of Government. With less natural advantages, Maine has for outstripped the Province in wealth and population, and will continue to keep ahead of her, until there shall be a radical change from her present condition in the character of her population and the form of her political institutions.

The mineral resources of New Brunswick are very great. There are large beds of gypsum at the head of the Bay and also on the river Tobique. Limestone of the best quality abounds in every section of the Province. It is manufactured into lime near the city of St. John and at a place called Le Etang, near the Bay of Passamaquoddy, from whence it is imported into the States in considerable quantities. Iron ore is found in many places, and near Woodstock there is an immense deposit, sufficient, it is said, to supply all North America for centuries,—but the great mineral resources of the Province is

found in her immense field of bituminous coal.—According to Dr. Gesner's account, here is found a coal bed exceeding in its dimensions any found in Great Britain, and is one of the largest ever discovered on the globe. It lies in the shape of a triangle, beginning on the west side of the Saint John River, near the Oronocto Lake, and thence continuing to widen out on the east line of the Province, when it embraces nearly the whole shore of the Gulf, and containing an area of about one thousand eight hundred square miles, and cover about one third of the Province. A large portion of this extensive field is accessible to vessels from the several rivers and bays on which it is penetrated in various directions. It is worked to some extent in several places, and the coal is found to be similar to that of Nova Scotia.

As much of the Province yet remains in a wilderness state, the price of wood for fuel is cheap, and as coal can be imported from Great Britain at little expense, the timber ships being desirous of taking it for ballast, there has not yet been sufficient encouragement to work these coal mines extensively.

POLITICAL.

Speech of Sir Howard Douglas, on the Newfoundland Bill.—The following able Speech of Sir Howard Douglas, on the adjourned debate on Lord Stanley's Newfoundland Bill,—which made a deep impression on the House of Commons, and was warmly applauded by the mover of the Bill—we copy from the *Liverpool Standard* of August 9:

I should not like to give a silent vote upon this subject; a subject involving questions of the greatest importance in principle, in practice, and in tendency.

Immature seizures upon liberty, by untimely applications of constitutional theories ill adapted to the peculiar condition and actual wants of the communities to which they are to be applied, invariably occasion disorders and reactions harmful to freedom and pernicious to the people for whose benefit those theories were designed, and who are thus made the subjects of such rash and ill advised experiments.

It is not my intention to notice at all any religious discussions, or to advert to any divisions with respect to religious persuasions which may or may not have appeared in recent discussions in Newfoundland,—but taking the population as a whole, I will say that there never was a case in which the truth of the position to which I have adverted is so apparent as in that which we are now considering. It is clear, from what has been laid upon the table of this house, from all that we know here, from what has been stated by the honorable member for Droitwich, and by the honorable member for Liskeard, that it was a great mistake to confer upon this colony in 1832, that constitution which we are now called upon either to modify or take away. Freedom to be well enjoyed should never be seized upon immaturely. The way to profit by conjunctures favorable to the advancement and diffusion of freedom is not to attempt all that a perfect or highly advanced theory teaches and admits of, with respect to a people more or less accustomed to the enjoyment and workings of free institutions. The practical statesman should let himself down to an exact and deliberate consideration of the actual, the backward, imperfect, or perhaps primitive state of society to ascertain whether the people in the community in question be in a state to receive, with advantage and safety to themselves, the proposed system,—and if not, to adopt the necessary measures to prepare them gradually to discharge the difficult and important duties which free institutions impose upon all classes of the people; and then, and not till then, to confer those institutions upon them.

Now I think this has not been observed with respect to Newfoundland. I know something of that Island. I first became acquainted with it in almost all its parts inhabited, as well as in some parts uninhabited, I having been shipwrecked upon its shores, and mercifully preserved with the other survivors of a terrible calamity, in which one third of the officers, soldiers and crew, and all the women and children perished, and here I feel it impossible not to express the strongest possible feelings of gratitude towards a kind hearted, hospitable and generous people, for their uncommon kindness and even tenderness to us, and among whom there numbered a very large portion of the countrymen of the right hon member for Cork. When I returned some years afterwards to British North America, I found Newfoundland at my command, and in that situation, and in the government afterwards of one of the continental provinces of British North America, I was enabled to bring up my information with respect to Newfoundland to the period at which this constitution for them was discussed and framed, and to express my apprehension and conviction that it would lead to trouble and disorder. Why sir, at that time the population of Newfoundland, always migratory and uncertain, could not have been 60,000—I doubt whether it was above 50,000—dispersed on part of a coast of an island near 400 miles long and 300 broad. The honorable member for Montrose states that the population at present is