

All pleasant sounds and sights will greet our ears and eyes if we will but open them and attend. The bright happy faces of friends are ever ready to smile upon us. Children—often so like dew-drops on the flower of life, soon dried up by the scorching sun—these with their innocent gay prattle we may have for our companions:

To look upon the fair face of a child,
Feels like the resurrection of the heart.
Children are vast in blessings, kings and queens

According to the dynasties of love.

The might find the delight of nature lies
In them and for them earth is what it is.

Then there is the frolicsomeness of youth, and the harmonies struck out by the meeting of two fair souls who decide evermore to sing in concert; and those gay hearts, who bear everything cheerily, having a merry laugh and witty jest at life's petty ills, yet withal full of genial seriousness; and the gentle, loving ones, ever ready to soothe the sorrowful, and relieve the weary and overburdened; these and numberless other sources of joy and gladness we miss when we neglect to read the book of life about us.

Life is a great poem, full of tragedy and pathos, comedy and laughter, mad fun and sad sorrow; having strange plots and denouements, but bearing the impress of a great unity, manifesting a serious God-ward earnestness of purpose; and nowhere can we study this great poem so well as on our daily life-path, in the life which is about us.

ARE THE STARS INHABITED?

For one moment, let me glance at the nature of one question—of all the most interesting; that which concerns the probable existence of life through the spaces whose contents we have reached. The problem is perhaps equivalent to this: Are we, without passing into extravagance, entitled to assume that forces which enter so essentially into the constitution of our earth, are not confined within its conditions? Take in illustration the vast power of gravity. Before science raised the veil from the distant, we knew it only in the fact of the fall of a stone, or in the roundness of a drop of water: now we have followed it through the complex motions of the moon, and through the order of the entire system. It pursues the comets through the abysses; it governs the orbits of the double and triple stars; it guides the sun in his path through the skies; ay, and even those stupendous evolutions of firmaments, during which the stars congregate into dazzling clusters, or arrange themselves in galaxies. Boundless the sphere of this force; and shall an energy yet nobler, more subtle, probably with a root much more profound, be fancied so weak, so feeble, so dependant on circumstance, that only in our world, or some one like it, it is free to work out its wonderful products?—Look at its history in that very earth. In the chalk cliffs, in caverns unseen by the sun, in marshes that to man are desolation and death, life yet teems and rejoices—its forms growing in adaptation to their conditions. Long ages ago, the odd *Tribolite* swarmed in our oceans, and the large eyed *Ichthyosaurus* dashed through their waters. These are gone; but plastic nature, ever forming with ceaseless activity, has, by the most mysterious of her actions, brought up new forms to play their parts among her vast scenes. Through space as through time she is doubtless working; and—with all their joys and sorrows—evolving far mightier results than dead, inorganic worlds. I see this in the blush of the morning which beams on all these globes, and there, too, awakens the glad creatures from their repose. I see it in the downfall of evening, that speaks of refreshment from toil; but also of the living time of activities not fitted for the sun. I see it in the progress of the earth, and in its course, through much conflict towards perfection: for its rocks and stones tell not only of change, but of the struggles of its creatures to become linked to something higher:—Yes! ye worlds wondrous and innumerable, that shine aloft, and shower around us your mystic influences, ye, too, are the abodes of sentiment suited to your conditions; ay, and of intelligence, different, far different from ours, and in states of approach to the divinity of all possible gradation; but of which every constituent—every creature of whatever kind—is pressing outward like the bud in spring, and stretching with longings that are unutterable towards the infinite and the eternal.—*Professor Nichol.*

FILTH AND DEPRAVITY.

Those who study the physical sciences, and bring them to bear upon the health of man, tell us that if the noxious particles that rise from vitiated air, were palpable to sight, we should see them lowering in a dense black cloud above certain haunts, and rolling slowly on to corrupt the better portions of a town. But if the moral pestilence that rises with them, and in the eternal laws of outraged nature is inseparable from them, could be made discernible too, how terrible the revelation! Then should we see depravity, impiety, drunkenness, theft, murder, and a long train of nameless sins against the natural affections and repulsions of mankind, overcharging the devoted spots and creeping on, to blight the innocent and spread contagion among the pure. Then should we see how the same poisoned fountains that flow into our hospitals and lazar-houses, inundate our jails, and make the convict ship swim deep, and roll across the seas, and overrun vast continents with crime. Then should we stand appalled to know, that where we generate disease to strike

our children down and entail on unborn generations, there also we breed, by the same certain process, infancy that knows no innocence, youth without modesty or shame, maturity that is mature in nothing but in suffering and guilt, blasted old age that is a scandal on the form we bear. Unnatural humanity! When shall we gather grapes from thorns and figs from thistles? when fields of grain shall spring up from offal, in the byways of our wicked cities, and roses bloom in the fat churchyards that they cherish; then we may look for natural humanity, and find it growing from such seed.—*Dickens.*

From the London People's Journal.

BIRTH-DAY LINES,

TO A YOUNG LADY AGED SIXTEEN.

By R. L. Thomas.

Ah! sixteen years of thy young life
Have passed as a dream away;
And the beautiful dawn of life's young morn
Is ushering in the day.
Thy spring is hastening on apace,
Thy Summer's coming soon;
And the buds of May will pass away
For the lovely flowers of June.

May peace attend thy course through life,
And gladness light thine eye;
May sorrow ne'er call forth a tear,
Nor trouble cause a sigh.
But if a cloud o'erspread thy path,
Thy way less bright appear,
O look above for strength and love,
'Twill soon dispel thy fear.

The Spring varied flowers for thee yet,
Of every hued hue;
The longing gaze on coming days,
So beautiful to view—
The heart's fond hopes for future years,
And all the joys they'll bring;
Affection's purest pleasures, too,
May yet be thine in Spring.

Thy Summer—may it be to thee
A calm and happy time;
No fretting care, no blank despair
To blight thee in thy prime.
Spring buds will then be opening flowers,
And many hopes prove true,
And many a fear will disappear;
May all thy sorrows too.

Thy Autumn—may the clustering fruit
Hang thick on every bough;
But, ah! remember then you'll reap
The seed your sowing now.
If Spring is passing idly by,
No fruit will Autumn yield;
Oh, sow the truth while yet in youth—
'Twill prove a fruitful field.

Thy winter—may the close of life
Be free from every pain;
Religion's calm and soothing balm
Thy passing soul sustain.
O may thy life with joy be blessed—
The joy religion gives;
But if the righteous' death you'd die,
Live as the righteous lives.

RULES TO BE OBSERVED IN AN EDITOR'S SANCTUM.

1. Come in at all times—what business has he to be private?
2. Take his papers with perfect freedom what use can he have for them.
3. If you bring in a long communication just 'to fill up his paper,' insist on reading and discussing it. Why should it be glad to spend an hour in listening?
4. If you see his exchanges piled up in an orderly manner upon his table, seize and scatter them. What business has he to be particular?
5. If you find his chair vacant at any time, sit in it. Why should he wish to keep his stationery and scissorings from his visitors?
6. But if you can't get that chair, though there are a dozen others in the sanctum, be sure to sit on a table and put your feet on another. If you can't practise such innocent freedom in an editor's room, where can you do it?
7. If you see an editor particularly engaged in writing a 'leader,' or 'getting out copy,' talk to him as industriously as you can. Will he not be gratified to hear you? Of course he will.

HOW TO BE MISERABLE.

Sit at the window, and look over the way at your neighbor's elegant mansion, which he has recently bought and paid for, and sigh out:
'Oh, that I were a rich man.'
Get angry with your neighbor, and think you have not a friend in the world. Shed a tear or two; take a walk in the burial ground, continually saying to yourself:
'When shall I be buried here?'
Sign a note to a friend, and never forget your kindness, and every hour in the day whisper to yourself—
'I wonder if he intends to pay the note.'
Think that everybody is determined to cheat you.
Closely examine every bill you take, doubt its being genuine till you put the owner to a great deal of trouble.
Never accommodate if you can possibly help it.
Never visit the sick and afflicted, and never give a farthing to the poor.
Grind the faces and hearts of the poor and unfortunate.

THE FISHERIES.

Newcastle, 25th August, 1851.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir—By referring to the Sanit John New Brunswick under date of the 22nd instant, you will there find the proceedings of a meeting held at Grand Manan, for the establishment of a *Fishing Society*, and the Constitution of a Society, styled the "Grand Manan Fishing Society," as established at that meeting. It does appear to me that very great advantages may result to the successful prosecution of the Fisheries, by a kindred Society established on this river, and others both on the North and South of this river and harbour, may be formed with equal advantage, as such I am induced to request you to copy the said proceedings, as set forth in the New Brunswick, into your paper, in order that the inhabitants generally, and the Fishermen in particular, may be made acquainted with the subject, and prepared to follow the example of the inhabitants of Grand Manan; and I shall feel great pleasure in co-operating with them, and giving them my assistance in carrying out the contemplated objects.

I have the honor to be
Your obedient servant,
WM. SALTAR, Warden.

FISHERY SOCIETIES.

The Circular issued lately by the Executive, with reference to the establishment of Fishery Societies, has been promptly responded to in Charlotte County. A meeting has been held at Campo Bello, when it was resolved to establish a Society, and a Committee was appointed to prepare and submit a Constitution at an adjourned meeting on the 1st September. Meantime, upwards of £20 has been subscribed at Campo Bello, and steps have been taken for the formation of another Society at West Isles. At Grand Manan a meeting took place on the 9th instant, when a Society was organized, and the sum of £20 subscribed on the spot. The following is the Constitution adopted by the Grand Manan Society, which we have pleasure in publishing, as it may serve as a guide for the formation of Societies in other parts of the Province:

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1—The style of this society shall be the "Grand Manan Fishery Society" for the encouragement of the Fisheries; and its object shall be to improve the condition of this important branch of our industry, by such practical and effective means as may be suggested and approved, at any regular meeting of the Society, or by any Committee, whose acts may be approved and adopted.

2.—The Society shall consist of such inhabitants of this parish as may signify their wish in writing, to become members, and who shall pay, on subscribing, not less than one dollar; and honorary and corresponding members may be admitted by vote of the Society without payment; provided always, that Presidents of other Fishery Societies, or delegations from the same, *ex officio*, be members of this Society without payment; and provided also that the payment of five pounds or more, shall constitute a member for life, and exempt the donor from annual contributions.

3.—The Officers of this Society shall consist of one President, one Vice President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer, with twelve Directors, five of whom shall constitute a quorum.

4.—The general duties of the officers of this Society shall be as follows:
The President, (or in his absence the Vice President,) shall preside at the regular meetings of the Society, preserve strict order, and put to vote all questions submitted, which shall be determined by the majority then present. He is also expected to take a prominent part in originating and bringing before the Society such measures as may appear to him calculated to promote its interests, and shall do and perform such other acts as may be required of them by this Constitution, or by vote of this Society.

The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the Society in a book to be procured for the purpose.

The Corresponding Secretary shall carry on a correspondence with other societies and with individuals, in furtherance of the objects of the society.

The Treasurer shall collect and receive the funds of the society, and keep them in such manner as the society may determine; and shall only disburse them on order of the President, countersigned by the Recording Secretary; and shall make a report of the receipts and expenditures at the annual meeting in November in each year; and that the officers of the society shall take care of, and distribute, or preserve, all articles which may be transmitted to the society; and shall also have charge of all communications designed or calculated for publication; and so far as they may deem expedient, shall collect, arrange, and publish the same, in such manner and form as they shall consider best calculated to promote the objects of the society; and shall cause an annual report of the doings of the society to be published:

5.—A special Committee or Committees, for any purposes connected with the interests of the society, within the parish, at any place that may be determined upon by the President of the society, in each year, namely, on the 1st Tuesday in November, and the 1st Tuesday in May, that all the officers of the society shall be elected by a plurality of votes at the annual meetings in each year, and that at least eight days notice be given of each meet-

ing, to be posted up in the most conspicuous places in the parish.

7.—That the President may at any time call a meeting of the officers and committee of the society, for the transaction of business connected with the society, five of whom shall constitute a quorum—due notice of which meeting shall be given to each individual composing said committee.

8.—That this society shall hold an Annual Show, or Fair, at such central point in the parish, as may be determined by the officers and directors, and that Prizes in money, or a Medal, (at the option of the person to whom such prizes may be awarded) be given to the successful competitors in Fish—the varieties of fish, and quantities, on which prizes are to be awarded, as also the amount of prizes to be determined by the Officers and Directors of the society; and the annual shows or fairs shall be held on the first Tuesday of November, in each year, and notice of the kinds and quantities of fish to compete for the prizes, be given, at least thirty days before the exhibition.

9.—That none but members of this society shall be competitors for the prizes, and that prior to the annual show, or fair, the officers and directors of the society shall appoint unbiased umpires, who shall give their decisions as to the qualities of the fish competing for the prizes, and whose decisions shall be final and conclusive.

10.—That it shall be in the power of this society to award to any office-bearer, or office bearers, for services actually performed, such remunerations as may be necessary, reasonable and just.

11.—That the annual income of the society together with any grant made by the Government of this Province, shall be appropriated and applied to premiums, upon such fish, the catch and cure of any member of the society, under such rules and regulations as the officers and directors may direct.

12.—Any member of this society producing any fish for competition at the annual show or fair, for premium, not actually belonging to and cured by himself, or some member of the society, shall be considered guilty of an attempt to defeat the object of the society, and shall be disqualified from being a member thereof.

13.—Upon application to the Secretary, any member can have access to the rules and regulations.

14.—This Constitution shall be construed liberally in favour of carrying out the avowed objects of this society, and may be amended by a vote of two thirds of the members, attending any annual meeting in November in each year; provided that notice be given in writing at the previous semi-yearly meeting, specifying the intended amendment.

After the adoption of this Constitution, John Doggett was elected President; Lorenzo Drake, Vice President; John Alexander, Corresponding and Recording Secretary, with Philip Newton, Treasurer, and a Board of twelve Directors. Some very spirited Resolutions were passed, expressive of the benefits expected to flow from the formation of the society, and the combined efforts of fishermen generally—the whole concluding with a vote of thanks to Sir Edmund Head, for the interest he has taken, and continues to take in the fisheries.

The speech of Captain Robinson, M. P. P., at the Fishery meeting in Campo Bello, is published at length in the *St. Andrew's Standard*.—The gallant captain said that the formation of Fishing Societies was the commencement of a new era for fishermen, as by such combinations they would acquire a position that would not only benefit themselves, but also benefit the general trade of the country. He alluded to the value of the exports of fish from Nova Scotia last season, more especially from Halifax, to the impetus which had been given to agriculture by the formation of Agricultural Societies in every district, to the money that had been spent in procuring agricultural information, and for Professor Johnston's Survey and Report,—and said that the like expenditures would be made for the promotion of the Fisheries, if the fishermen united and made common cause.

'We have already many friends,' said Captain Robinson, 'and shall get many more. Last year Sir Edmund Head sent Mr Perley down to inspect our fisheries, (and considering the limited time he had to do it in, his Report is an able one in my opinion, and our Wardens state to me, that wherever they have been it is correct,) and I would mention here, that no one in the Province has the welfare of the Fisheries more at heart than our respected Governor. I am persuaded that he at least will give us all the assistance in his power; he has repeatedly written to me, expressing his lively interest in the subject, and approving of such proceedings as those we are now met for.'

It was then explained to the meeting, that if they subscribed twenty pounds they would be entitled to draw three times that amount, from the Provincial Treasury, and that the money would be entirely under the control of the society itself, to be expended in objects connected with the advancement of the Fisheries.

Captain Kynaston, of H. M. S. *Perseus* also attended the meeting, and made a very neat speech, expressing his readiness to aid, in any way, the protection of the Fisheries, or their advancement, and concluded by subscribing one day's pay toward the funds of the new society, to which he wished every success.

We shall hope to hear of the organisation of these societies in every locality where it