

Now Mr Skates had been instructed—specially instructed—to say, when his name was called for at the hotel, 'James Skates, Esq., lady and children,' but his mind and memory were topsy-turvy with thus dashing so suddenly into gentility, and no wonder he could not concentrate his ideas to a proper focus. Mrs Skates felt badly about it, for she feared the whole city would be misled when they came to read it, and she thought the mistake ought to be corrected; but she would consult cousin Sophronia. By the time she had an opportunity of doing so, however, the unfortunate edition of the paper had gone by, and everybody in the world had forgotten the announcement but themselves, if, indeed, they ever noticed it.

It was already evening when Mr and Mrs Skates arrived; Katy was very much excited, and cruelly exhausted—her cheeks burned like a fever, and her arms trembled with fatigue, as she tossed the baby hither and thither to quiet him, and alternately soothed and scolded poor little terrified James. Mrs Skates indicated, as soon as he could collect his reequent faculties, that they would like to engage board for a spell, and see if they liked; and the landlord, whose keen eye was familiarly educated to the mensuration of pretensions, and who could detect at a glance the spurious from the genuine coin, after some demurring, and some adroitly directed regrets that his house was so crowded that he should not be able to accommodate the gentleman for a few days as well as he could desire—to all of which Mr Skates replied, 'it was just as well'—he ordered a servant to conduct Mr and Mrs Skates to No. 150.

Oh, what a journey it was, superadded to the day's weariness, to reach No. 150! and through what a labyrinth of endless halls, walled up on both sides by rows of green window-blind looking doors! and up, up, up what flights and flights of stairs, and round what numbers of corners, Katy felt as if she should drop down, and Mr Skates whose good temper outlasted everything, jocosely remarked to his baggage-laden conductor, 'Wal, sir, if it's much further we'll stop in somewhere and rest. I hope when you get us up here, you'll be sure to come and show us the way out again!'

Poor Katy was sick enough by the time she reached her room; and as she entered it her thoughts would revert to her own bed-chamber at the cottage home—vastly larger than this little hot 'six by eight' enclosure—so pleasantly and commodiously furnished, and commanding a view of such a green and flowing landscape from its windows; here she could see from one window she knew not what it was, some great dark object which gradually developed into the brick wall of a neighboring building, and that bounded the prospect. But she was too ill to care much that night—her head ached violently, and spun round with dizziness; and all she could do was to go to bed, leaving the charge of unrobing and quieting the children to her husband. Mr Skates thought the undertaking too hopeless to get down stairs and up again alone, so he went without his supper, and bathed Katy's burning forehead, and whistled and hummed the old home lullabys to the children, till all was uneasily slumbering; and then, as the noise in the streets died away, all but the occasional rattle of a vehicle on the pavement, or the echoing tramp of a solitary footfall breaking the midnight hush of the footfall, and the lamps one by one flickered and city, and the lamps one by one flickered and expired, Mr Skates, too, his mind in a whirl, and his purposes and expectations all misty and intangible, composed himself into a restless and half watchful repose. Even that was broken ever and anon, by a sudden scream from one or both of the children, whose sleep itself was fittered away by the stifling heat of the small, close room, and the excitement and fatigue their own little frames were suffering.

But they all rose quite as vigorous as could reasonably be anticipated, and novelty supplied abundantly the stimulus that otherwise would have been lacking. Mrs Skates was somewhat faint, and felt some disagreeable visitings of nausea now and then, but she managed with her husband's good offices in matters pertaining to the toilet, to get herself and children all ready in full dress for breakfast some minutes before it was announced. When the terrific notes of the gong—it had a giant voice—were heard pealing and groaning and moaning, and growling, and howling through the long empty halls, affrighting the very echoes, such a chorus of unaffected terror as issued from the throats of the two young Skateses was appalling. Mr and Mrs Skates, too, were startled and alarmed. In vain did papa and mama hush and hug, and soothe and threaten after the cause of the alarm was ascertained; every measure weighed light as a feather in the balance with the fright and horror they experienced at this unearthly noise. The poor children refused to be comforted till it was too late for the regular breakfast, so Mr Skates, lady and children breakfasted alone.

[To be concluded.]

BEAUTIFUL EXTRACT.

It is seldom we meet with so sweet a sentiment, illustrated in so appropriate a figure, and expressed in such beautiful language, as the following:

Charity.—Night had kissed the young rose, and it bent softly to sleep. Stars shone, and pure dew-drops hung upon its blushing bosom, and watched its sweetest slumbers.—Morning came with its dancing breezes, and they whispered to the young rose, and it awoke joyous and smiling. Lightly it danced to and fro in all the loveliness of health and

youthful innocence. Then came the ardent sun-god sweeping from the east, and he smote the young rose with his scorching rays, and it fainted. Deserted and almost heart-broken it drooped to the dust in loneliness and despair. Now the gentle breeze, which had been gamboling over the sea, pushing on the home bound bark, sweeping over the hill and dale, by the neat cottage and still brook, turning the old mill, fanning the brow of disease, and frisking the curls of innocent childhood, came tripping along on her errand of mercy and love; and when she saw the young rose she hastened to kiss it, and fondly bathed its forehead in cool, refreshing showers; and the young rose revived, looked up and smiled in gratitude to the kind breeze; but she hurried quick away; her generous task was performed, yet not without reward—for she soon perceived that a delicious fragrance had been poured on her wings by the grateful rose; and the kind breeze was glad in heart, and went away singing through the trees. Thus real, true charity, like the breeze, gathers fragrance from the drooping flowers it refreshes, and unconsciously reaps a reward in the performance of its offices of kindness, which steals upon the heart, like rich perfume, to bless and cheer.

From Eliza Cook's Journal.

LOVE'S MISGIVING.

BY ARTHUR BOLLAND.

He met me by the well-known train that skirts the broomy moor,
He told the same sweet tale of love he oft had told before;
He chid me for my downcast looks, he wondered at my sighs,
But ah, he little knew the thoughts that would unbidden rise.

He plucked the blossoms from the branch, the wild and bonny rose,
And many a flower whose dripping cup, the merry hive-bee knows;
And as he placed them on my breast to keep them for his sake,
My trembling hands almost refused the simple gift to take.

For anxious doubts had crossed my mind which would not be repressed,
And wavering fears were throbbing in my timid fluttering breast,
The fear of love requited, not, of love misplaced, yet true,
First like a shadow crossed my mind, and still by nursing grew.

Ah, could it be that all the love he then professed for me
Was fickle as the changing moon or lull upon the sea?
Was all the sweetness of his words, the smile upon his face,
As transient as the noon-day beam, that leaves no lasting trace?

So then I thought, but time has shown how vain my childish fears;
His faithful love still brighter shines amid the lapse of years,
And he is welcome now, I feel, to this my plighted heart,
Nor time, nor any fitful change, our lot on earth must part.

FEMALE SOCIETY.

Of all the refiners of the course of nature of man, true female society is the most effective. There is a respect for the softer sex implanted in us by nature, that gives us a desire to appear well in the presence of delicate and intelligent females, and has a tendency to elevate our feelings, and make us assume a gentleness and propriety of deportment totally at variance with all coarseness of vulgarity. Such is the influence of the intercourse of which we speak, in forming the character, that we do not recollect ever having seen a young man devoted to the society of ladies of his own age, that did not turn out well, and prosper in life; whilst, on the other hand, we have observed many who, by confining themselves to associations with their own sex, acquired a roughness and uncouthness of manner that entirely unfitted them for the intercourse of life. We are perfectly aware that a foolish timidity is at the bottom of this; we esteem it a great defect of character. If the ladies were only aware of the power they might possess in forming the habits and manners of men, they would take pains to allay the sensitiveness which produces want of ease in their presence, and by becoming affability and kindness, cherish confidence and self-possession. The members of the two sexes were intended by their Maker to be companions for each other; and the more easy and free their intercourse can be—due regard being had to strict propriety—the more delicate and refined will be the sentiments of all concerned.

WEAR FLANNEL.

If your constitution is delicate, wear flannel next the skin during the summer season, and be particularly careful that your children wear it also. We have heard an eminent physician, now residing in this city, say that a very large proportion of the deaths by cholera infantum, which annually take place in this city and vicinity, could have been prevented by this simple precaution. It is the sudden changes of the weather, the ordinary effects of which may be warded off by wearing flannel next the skin, which produce those fatal diseases, and which are generally ascribed to too great an indulgence in summer fruits.—*Boston Journal.*

Nova Scotia Legislature.

THE RAILWAY.

From the Halifax Sun.

November 8.—The Hon. Joseph Howe, by command, laid on the table of the House, reports of Surveys by Wm. Faulkner, Peter Crerar, and C. W. Fairbanks, on the intersection of the Railroad lines from Halifax to Truro, Windsor, &c.

These papers were read by the Clerk. They described the route from Halifax to Windsor in a very interesting manner, and as they will no doubt from their important character find their way to the Press, we deem a synopsis of them in this place unnecessary. Mr. Crerar's report referred to the possibility of obtaining a route round the Cobequid mountains. Mr. Fairbanks' reports recommended the junction of the two lines to take place 25 miles from Halifax, instead of at the head of Bedford Basin.

Hon. Mr. Howe suggested that the Railway Bill might pass a second reading *pro forma*, and the House might go into Committee on the whole of them.

Mr. Marshall said there might be objections to the principle of the Bill—at all events gentlemen should understand the proposal now made.

Hon. J. W. Johnston said it would be awkward for a gentleman to object to the principle of the Bills after going into committee. Mr. Fraser wished to avoid two discussions.

Hon. J. W. Johnston said the only question he wished to keep open was whether Railways should be constructed, as a general thing, by the Government or the people.

Mr. Henry said that if all questions were left open by committing the Bill, no gentleman could be compromised.

Mr. Marshall said that the parliamentary rule was that the principle of the Bill should be tested on its second reading; and above all, that the Speaker should be in the Chair when that principle was tested, as it tended to more dignified discussion.

Hon. Mr. Johnston—as regards the practical result, it was of but little consequence how the subject was discussed, as, whether in the House or in Committee, gentlemen would find some means of putting their views before the House; it did seem to him, however, that the more business-like and parliamentary course was, to discuss the bill on the second reading.

Hon. Mr. Howe only wished to save the time of the House. If the bill was discussed in the House for a week or ten days, and then sent to Committee, the Speaker would no doubt express his opinion, and then a new debate might arise.

Mr. Killam was indifferent which course was pursued. He wanted to try the question now, as to whether Government should undertake the erection of Railways. (The hon. gentleman spoke too low to be heard.)

The hon. Speaker said that the only question on which there seemed to be a difference of opinion was—whether Railways should be constructed by the Government or not: That could be settled in the House.

Mr. Holmes said the House would save time by going into Committee.

Mr. Marshall would rather have two debates than one—for what did the people of Nova Scotia know about Railways, and the more it was discussed the better. If he were an enemy of the Railway, he should vote to go into committee, for then the opponents of the bills would have the able assistance of the Speaker. (Laughter.)

Mr. McLellan thought the Committee the proper place to discuss the bills.

The motion to read the bills *pro forma*, a second time, and refer them to the Committee of the whole House, passed *nem. con.*

The Hon. Mr. Howe, rose and said:—Mr. Chairman, from the prominent part which of late I have taken in the railway movement, it has become my duty to introduce the subject to the notice of this Assembly; and, sir, whilst I am fulfilling it, all the responsibility and risk devolving upon me comes home with full power to my mind. Sir, I have sat in this Assembly many years, mixing and commingling in not a few interesting and exciting discussions, and ever taking my full share of the responsibility appertaining to the principles I advocated. Hitherto I have felt my powers equal to the tasks imposed; but this question so far transcends in magnitude and importance any which I have been previously called on to grapple with, that I feel the necessity of throwing myself upon the indulgence of this House, while I attempt to portray it to them, intricate and vast as it is—involving interests and effects, the consequences of which defy the most profound effort of the mind to penetrate. The Lieutenant Governor has truly said that on it hangs the destiny of British America. On this and the other side of the Atlantic have I studied its bearings and consequences, and I feel that the fate of thousands who now hunger for bread hangs upon the issue. I, sir, who have looked abroad upon the interests which British America has in its construction feel the incalculable blessings that must result from it; and when I consider that, perhaps, it may ultimately involve the peace of the world, and change the relations existing now between the three great branches of the British race, understand how essential it is that in its presence all party, all faction, should be obliterated from our minds in order that unbiassed by party, untrammelled by prejudice, unexcited by passion, we may dispassionately discuss its merits and arrive at last at a sound and just conclusion. And, sir, let me say, in the outset, that it only can be carried by the bestowal of a fair, honorable and

just consideration on these great interests by both sides and all parties in this Assembly.—One or two words on the general principles which shall govern the conduct of this mighty enterprise if it be carried into execution. Party has existed in this as in every other country. Men have combined who agreed on great public questions in order to their more efficient advocacy and certain triumph, and they have been obliged to battle and contend with those whose views did not assimilate with theirs; and I may say that no man reviews the history of his party with more pride and pleasure than myself; and none recognise more readily the personal and party claims which they have established to my friendship and regard; but, sir, I again assert what I have ever believed and often previously expressed, that this enterprise cannot be perfected by any one party in Nova Scotia. If it be carried—as I firmly believe it will—it must be by the good feeling, magnanimity, solid sense, judgment and intelligence of all parties combined to effect its accomplishment—rallying around a common centre and exhibiting a firm determination not to swerve from the plain path of duty.—Sir, nothing could afford me more profound delight than the knowledge that I should sit side by side with all those who usually grant me their hearty co-operation and support; this, however, I have reason to believe, will not be the case, and it must therefore, be at once perceptible that the administration stands in new relations to the gentlemen opposite.

These should be fairly and frankly explained, and I trust it will be the careful duty of the administration, in the after government of this country, to act on those equitable principles which must prove satisfactory to all parties, and give both sides a fair consideration. Sir, a party should have its foundation and origin in good measures, and be based on sound public principles; and if this be untrue of any party, instead of being a legitimate means to a rightful end, it can be but a machinery for political and selfish organization. The history of the world has proven to us that signal and utter defeat must attend the party who attempts to legislate for a people except upon the broad basis of public utility. The Stewarts tried it time after time in Britain and lost their thrones and their heads; the Parliamentarians attempted to parcel out England in order to obtain emolument and power for themselves—organising themselves for the attainment of selfish objects; but the people of England threw off their yoke, and scattered them to the four winds of heaven. The modern Tories tried it, and were ignominiously defeated; the Whigs are trying it, and they also will be overthrown. The old Nova Scotia Tory party attempted it—shutting out the rising talent of the country from all share in the situations of public emolument or honorable stations afforded by it—and they were signally beaten, have passed away and are now known but in the history of this Province; and, sir, I do not hesitate to say, on the threshold of this great discussion, that if the present Liberal party were united, not for defence or in aid of their country's advancement and progress—not initiating or carrying through measures of general public utility—nor basing their action on sound principles, or a due regard to public benefit—but merely for selfish aggrandisement—to divide the spoils of office, protecting and promoting each other's interests—then, sir, I believe that the fate experienced by other parties pursuing the same course would be reserved for them. The passage of a good measure may be likened to a ship which wends its way across the Atlantic—accomplishes the voyage in safety but leaving no track behind. The conflicts of party in this assembly, like those of the elements, only tend to purify the political atmosphere, creating a healthy and invigorating action. Let us hope that like them, when the conflict itself is over, no injurious results may ensue. Let me say further, sir, that the government of this country must henceforth be such as to challenge the respect of a large majority. Looking to the Bench as one great branch of our system, as a public man I feel that the judge who would deliver an unjust decision is not more culpable or corrupt than the statesman who would elevate that unjust judge to the bench. Turning to the Bar—I look upon that great school for the attainment of legal ability with the respect to which it is entitled. Nor would I be a party to depress the rising talent of that numerous, highly intelligent and useful class, or do ought that would tend to an unjust distribution of the honors appertaining to the legal profession. Sir, I believe that both the upper branches of the Assembly—the Bench and the public departments of this country—should be open to the competition of intellect, and that the best talent and the largest experience the country affords should be infused into these portions of our governmental system. And now, sir, having made these few brief explanations, and stated these broad principles—which, perhaps, may have been rather unexpected—I shall turn to the main subject before us: the Railway.

In approaching it, sir, I may say that I do not take to myself the credit of being the pioneer of this subject, nor of having done all that has been performed respecting it to the present hour. Other gentlemen took the lead in the discussions of past years. Lord Durham, surrounded by those delegates who met in Canada in the year —, was the first to propose a line of Railway from Halifax to Quebec: it was urged by the Hon. Attorney General and Mr. Young, no longer a member of this House. Mr. Pryor and Mr. Cogswell also took an active part in urging its construction;—in various ways all these took a