

fade; and the memory of them is pain to the subsequent life of him who has lost them.—The fading of ugliness is but the withering of a thistle, the decay of a nettle;—he to whom this change comes has the pleasure to discover that the difference between the ugly face and the handsome one is every day diminishing, was he but little concerned about the cast of his phiz; he can, however, suffer no uneasiness on account of any effect of growing years upon it unless it become by growing years more powerfully comic. It is curious to observe, that an ugly face is generally the sign hung out over a witty and humorous mind; it suggests innumerable exhilarating witticisms to the wearer himself, and is the cause of wit for others.—*Apology for Ugliness.*

THE FRENCH WORKING CLASSES.

WHOEVER has studied, with a mind free from prejudice, the manners of the working classes, cannot fail to have observed that these classes very generally present numerous examples of virtue. The working man is, for the most part, free-hearted, kind, and anxious to assist his comrades. In those quarters the population of which is chiefly engaged in the industrious arts, it is notorious that artisans, whose circumstances are tolerably easy, succour, with a ready and active charity, not only those of their comrades who are prevented from labouring by sickness, but all who occupy the same house with themselves, or with whom they maintain habits of neighbourhood. Out of their wages they keep back a portion for these purposes; and even perform the sick man's task, in addition to their own, to preserve his salary to him during the continuance of his illness. If he is compelled to seek the hospital, on the day of his removal his bedside is visited by a deputation of his companions, with offers of money and words of consolation. When his strength returns, they make it their business to seek work for him, and subscribe towards his maintenance for the first fortnight. Should some unforeseen accident have reduced him to distress, they relieve him by an advance of money, a meal, a bed; and these succours, freely offered, constitute a debt which the recipient could not, without dishonour, fail to discharge. Nay, their solicitude follows him even amid his follies, and does not abandon him in his crimes. In the former case, they try to counsel him back to respectability, with friendly and indulgent words—in the latter, they still visit him in prison, and hold out to him a helping hand.—It is not always, unhappily, that the relations existing between the workmen and their employers are founded on mutual esteem and good-will—far from it! But when the master does seek to win the love of his workmen, by a course of integrity and justice towards them, they vie with each other in zeal for the prosperity of his establishment. They attach themselves to his family as well as to himself and omit no opportunity of proving their regard.—*Fregier.*

OUR POPULAR ERRORS.

UNTIL within the last twenty years, it was an uncontroverted doctrine in England that ripe fruit, and especially the plum, was the cause of the diarrhoea and cholera prevalent in the towns and villages during the hot months of summer. Even so lately as October, 1848, the English General Board of Health set forth this theory in their official notification to the boards of guardians as to the means to be adopted for the prevention of cholera—in which we have this paragraph: 'It will be important to abstain from fruit of all kinds, though ripe and even cooked, and whether dried or preserved. By way of proof, certain facts are subjoined as thus:—The three fatal cases (of cholera) that have just occurred to sailors who had been at Hamburg, and who were brought sick to Hull turned out, on inquiry, to have followed very shortly after the men had eaten a large quantity of plums, and had drank freely of sour beer. Note the wording:—'Very shortly after'—as illustrative of the mode in which this fallacy arises. The nearest phenomena to the event to be explained are seized upon as 'the cause.' The becoming sick at Hamburg, where cholera was raging, is not noticed; this important fact, indeed, is omitted from the statement: nor is there a word as to the medicinal treatment, or as to other articles of diet. Doubtless in this particular instance, the illustration was given to elench the caution against ripe fruit (the sour beer not entering into the theory), but which caution is itself founded on fallacious observation. This is so generally understood now, that I need hardly tell you, that ripe fruit, moderately taken, is one of the best prophylactics against the summer cholera, diarrhoea, and dysentery. Nor need I add, that of the large number of the poor attacked, amongst whom diarrhoea is proportionately much more prevalent than among the rich, it is only a very small minority that have the means to purchase ripe fruit in sufficient quantities for daily consumption, or even to purchase it at all. This long prevalent dogma, then, as to the bad effects of ripe fruit on the alimentary or intestinal canal, when tested by experience, is found to be nothing more than a very fallacious inference from a wholly erroneous observation.—*Dr. Laycock's Lectures.*

Things which no old Bachelor will ever do if he can help it.—To begin with—Get outside an omnibus to accommodate a lady. Go to a theatre on a juvenile night.

Communications.

MUNGO PARK.

This celebrated traveller, while passing through an African desert, lost his way; and becoming dispirited and weary, sat down and longed for death; suddenly his eye rested upon a little spot of moss of extraordinary beauty, displaying all the vigour of healthy growth. It revived his fainting courage—he seemed to hear a voice within his inmost soul, saying, 'Can He whose wisdom cherished this moss be unconcerned for thee, a creature bearing His own image?' He felt reproved for his want of confidence in God—new strength animated his exhausted frame—he resumed his onward course, and escaped the perils of the wilderness.—

A traveller o'er a desert wild,
Pursued his pathless way,
And oft, upon the burning sand,
His weary steps would stay—

He tarried on the dreary waste,
And longed for freedom's hour,
Deliv'rance from the savage beast,
And men of fiercer power—

Despair, like dark oppressive clouds,
Roll'd o'er his stricken soul;
He felt that helpless and alone,
He could not reach the goal!

When lo! a little verdant spot
Of beauty, met his eye
Blooming in that vast solitude,
No rival blossom nigh—

It threw a spell o'er his sad thoughts,
Dark doubts no more oppress'd,
But gazing on this modest plant,
New hope inspired his breast—

"Can he who guards this tiny moss,
And shieldeth it from ill,
Be unconcerned for my distress,
Will he not guard me still?"

Thus spoke the voice within his soul,
His chaste heart replied,
He felt that God who cares for all,
Could for his wants provide!

He was rebuked for his distrust,
His confidence revived;
And from God's promises and love,
His frame new strength derived—

He started up—resumed his course,
With soul subdued and mild;
Trusting in God he thus escaped,
The perils of the wild!

Like him, may we, Earth's pilgrims tread
Life's devious, chequered way;
Guided by that unerring hand,
Which leads to endless day!

Chatham. THERESE.

REPORT

of the Highland Society of New Brunswick at
Miramichi, for 1856.

As the General Annual Meeting of our Society has again rolled round, your Committee have now the pleasure of submitting a report of the proceedings of the past year.

At our last general meeting Thirty-five pounds was voted for expenditure in 1856, and at a subsequent meeting of the Committee in March, Sub Committees were appointed to appropriate sums to the extent of Twenty-eight pounds, but by the Treasurer's account, we perceive only Twelve pounds Ten shillings have been paid from the funds. Yet we are confident that some other of the Committees have duly applied the money, although their reports have not as yet been received, but will no doubt be handed in before the meeting closes. Of the twelve pounds ten shillings paid, eight pounds have been applied to the relief of suffering fellow countrymen in the parish of Alnwick and Black River, and the remainder for tuition of poor children in the parish of Hardwicke. The other amounts expended as yet not reported upon, will, we believe, be as follows: six pounds eight shillings and ten pence for the tuition of poor Scotsmen's children in the parishes of Chatham and Newcastle, and twenty-one shillings and Six pence towards the relief of a destitute and deserving object in the parish of Nelson. This we think is the extent of our bounty for 1856, which amounts to twenty pounds ten shillings and four pence currency.

The funds of the Society last year amounted to £386 16s 7d, they are now by the Secretary's statement, £410 16s 1d out of which we are liable for £7 10s 4d when applied for, making us now actually worth £403 5s 9d. The amount funded with Gilmour, Rankin & Co is now transferred into Provincial Debentures for £400, bearing interest at Six per cent, payable half yearly. On these Debentures there will be a small balance due, which your Committee would recommend to be paid off. These Debentures will yield us 24 pounds per annum, which, together with the annual subscriptions, will make something like £45 of an income; this your Committee would recommend to be applied in some way whereby the Society may derive some public credit, and self satisfaction. It is certainly to be regretted that although this is the only Society of its nature in our Coun-

ty, where there are many hundreds of eligible and able Scotsmen, yet our list only reaches about a hundred; this we must in a great measure attribute to the lukewarmness evinced by a great many of our members, in inducing others to join us. Although 'tis true that there is considerable apathy shown towards us by many of our countrymen residing among us, yet 'tis also true that the outsiders are more prone to find fault with the manner in which we apply our funds than any of our members. And we would take this opportunity of recommending all such Scotsmen to join our ranks, and they will then have the privilege of devising those means (so feasible to them), for making our Society popular, which they are now so apt to condemn us for not adopting.

Since last report, four new Subscribers have joined our Society, and some others who had grown careless for the past few years, have now paid up their arrears: this is most encouraging, and we anticipate to see our list greatly augmented during the present year.

Before closing, your Committee would remark, that at last Annual Meeting a Committee of five were appointed to carry out some public demonstration during 1856, but that Committee not having attended to their duty, no such pleasant event has since taken place, much to the disappointment of many of our members, as well as their friends. We trust, however, that the lovers of pleasure among us, may not have it in their power to complain of the same want the present season.

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER MORRISON, Secretary.
Miramichi, 13th January 1856.

COUNTY BONAVENTURE.

Hark the Sabbath bells are pealing,
Welcome are their sound to me;
Music, on the night air stealing,
Hath not sweeter melody.

There is something peculiarly gratifying in the sound of a Church Bell to those who accustomed to it from infancy have, for a time, been deprived of its grateful eloquence. For to a Christian—to one whose mind is ever alive to all the finer and noblest feelings of our nature—there is a powerful and soul stirring eloquence in the sound of a Church Bell. It reminds us of the day of rest—the day wherein God rested from all His Works, and which He Blessed and Sanctified.

It invites us to commemorate that event, after a lapse of ages, and join in humble adoration to Alpha and Omega, for all His mercies. It warns us of the demise of our fellow man, and bids us prepare for that journey whence no traveller returns. And oft when its deep and solemn tones are pealing the sad requiem of ashes to ashes—dust to dust! the memory of other days, pours upon us like a flood, and brings to our recollection the image of departed friends and relatives.

It speaks of joy and gladness, of fond and deep affection, of bright dreams of future happiness—when it tells us that two fond hearts have knelt at the Altar, and been united in the holy bonds of Matrimony.

After a lapse of upwards of eleven years, we were again within the range of the sound of a Church Bell, thanks to Mr W. Langler, of this place, who when in Quebec, last Fall, purchased a new, clear toned, handsome Bell, which now adorns St. Andrew's Church. The first cost of the Bell was £29 and Mr Langler has paid all charges and placed it in the Belfry at his own expense.

A Church Meeting took place on the 8th inst. when a vote of thanks was unanimously assented to, to be prepared and presented to Mr Langler by our worthy Pastor and the Church Wardens. The Rev Mr Milne, in the course of his observations, judiciously remarked, 'That it was much to be regretted, that other individuals whose means were fully equal to, or even exceeded those of Mr Langler, were not imbued with a like spirit of liberality towards the Church.' Let us all then follow the example of Mr Langler, each according to his means.

MERCATOR.

New Carlisle, January 13, 1857.

OUR SHIP-YARDS.

MR EDITOR,

Recognising in the Gleaner an old, tried, and faithful friend, an impartial and ever willing chronicler of events, and a writer who has ever and always evinced a disposition to stir and stimulate our population to deeds of honourable industry and self-reliance, Old Juniper now comes forward early in the year, and on behalf of himself and the other trees of our forest, begs to tender to you Sir, the compliments of the season, and to thank you for the many favours you have bestowed upon them.

Having for the last year been so busy in forming and framing crafts of various sizes, finishing models and degrees of strength, and also having been so minutely inspected as to my soundness, size, and suitability for Marine architecture, (these Lloyds, sharp fellows.) I have not had time to send you any account of myself till the present, and even now I have so much to do, and so many corners to look round for fear I should see a thorn thrown into my lap; that my present letter will contain many imperfections

which I hope both you and your readers will overlook when you consider my situation.

Mr Editor, should you take a walk some fine day to the lower end of Chatham, you will perceive Old Juniper reclining on his mother earth in the yard lately occupied by R. Johnston, &c., where Messrs. Sinclair and Henderson are erecting a fine ship, in which Juniper stands conspicuous. In behalf of these Mechanics, Juniper could say much, though he will at present only say that he feels much pleased with their system; they never butcher him in cold blood. Science combined with practice guides, them in their operations on his system, and the consequence is, vessels unsurpassed in a mechanical point of view, start into existence under their superintendence.

Closer to the town you will observe a small craft in progress, which some say is intended for the Australian Trade, and that she is to be called the Gold-Digger; her owner dug the mineral at one time, but he seems to have turned his Pick into an Adze, and his mineral-rod into an Auger. Juniper finds no fault with the change, he hopes success may attend his efforts, and that his next craft may be five times as large.

Further up you may observe the Mackarel Craft springing into existence, under the bidding of the Solons of the Town. Peter the Great worked at the Ship-building business—This craft, so long spoken of, seems to be a reality, and will set a doubtful question at rest, viz—Whether we can or cannot prosecute the Mackarel Fishery, &c., with profit? Juniper thinks we can—we will see.

A few paces further up you will again come in contact with your Correspondent in the yard occupied by Mr Ritchie. In this yard there is one vessel fast progressing towards completion under the superintendence of Messrs. Phillips and Yosten, who deserve credit for the two fine Ships that have gone to Liverpool in 1856, under their construction. Juniper may refer more particularly to all the Boss men at a future time. W. J. Fraser & Co have also commenced to take action on poor Juniper's back; they have a neatly formed craft in course of construction, the workmanship too, reflects credit on all concerned.

Still further up, in the middle of the town, you will observe the yard of Mr Muirhead. If you come down on the premises, you can here in addition to the wood, see the animal also—Yes you can behold him personified here; 'tis not hard to know him, he is a queer coon, does not care about sounding his own praise, it is easy to know his worth; he is only a knight of the broad axe, &c, &c, while you Mr Editor wield a more powerful though lighter instrument, the pen; you can boast of without egotism, the editorial chair your suitable position.—But comparisons are odious.

Mr Editor, you will then ramble about two miles further from the town of Chatham, to a place well known to every one by the name of Clark's Cove, where you will see about twenty or thirty men employed excavating the ground for some purpose that Juniper is not able to explain; by the appearance you might imagine they intended to besiege Douglastown by the preparations they are making, but Juniper still lives in hopes at one day to see himself put in proper shape on that delightful spot.

Having now given you an account of the situation in which I am placed in Chatham and its vicinity, I perhaps may as well cross the River and give you some idea of how I am acted upon on the other side, and in doing so, Juniper feels proud in referring you to the yard occupied by Messrs. Gilmour Rankin & Co. In this yard there are several things which other places might copy with benefit, and many which do credit to the firm which occupy it. There is a very superior Ship in the course of erection here and amount of other material for Ship-building purposes, which even Juniper has not seen equalled in this part of the Province. The improvements made by its present occupants are well designed, and there are advantages visible at a look, which cannot be found in any other yard in the County.

You must travel three miles from this Yard ere you arrive at the next, and the only other Yard on that side of the river. It is in the town of Newcastle, and owned and occupied by J. Haws & Co. This enterprising Firm has already built several fine Ships, and there are at present two upon the Stocks which will fully sustain the high character of those builders. The last vessel they launched I was very sorry to learn, was wrecked on the coast of England. It is impossible to build ships that will stand the rocks, they are the cholera-morbus of navigation.

Beaubier Island where till lately I proudly erected myself, affords me not at present a place to recline my head upon. The splendour of my sojourn here is fled, descended from the graceful fine lined Ship to the uncouth crockery crate looking craft called a Scow, the lowest genus in the name of naval architecture, not even excepting the ticklish canoe.

But I hope things here will speedily change, and that the Island will again resound with the music of the adze.

Chatam, January 23, 1856.

JUNIPER.