

Miscellaneous.

A HEAD-RENDING EPISODE.—The London Morning Herald's military correspondent gives the following story:—

DISCUSSION AT THE SOUTH.

We copy the following article from the Northern paper—Harpers Weekly. The discriminating reader will be able from it to form a pretty correct idea of the state of Affairs in the Southern States:—

The deprecation of political debate in the last rebel States is simply silly. Those States are to be organized by equal suffrage. A large part of the voters are newly enfranchised and were lately slaves. The old master class can not see with patience the sudden elevation of the slaves, which is coincident with its own humiliation and defeat in the field. The freedmen can not at once have all the moderation and wisdom of a highly-civilized people accustomed to self-government. But the situation is nevertheless simple. The whole population of the South is to be educated to political power by possessing it. They are to become accustomed as soon as practicable to all the processes of a free popular government. They are not to be arbitrarily trained or moulded or whittled into shape. People can never learn to swim until they jump into the water. There is no political education like political practice.

Now the first condition of political education is perfect freedom of speech. Every citizen is to say what he thinks, and why he thinks it, whenever he can get any body to hear him. If he says it foolishly, so much the worse for his opinion. He will make no converts; he will repel them. But other people have no right to be brutal because he is angry or extravagant. They may go out of hearing, but they must not close his mouth. If he knows his audience to be peculiarly sensitive or excited, a judicious speaker will govern himself accordingly. But if he be injudicious his rights are precisely the same, and the duty of the Government to protect him is imperative. Our popular system does not suppose every man to be wise.

The Southern States are as wholly unused to the spirit and the forms of a free government as Du Chailu's Ashango Land. There has never been any freedom of speech in that part of the country or any tolerations of differing opinions upon the most vital questions. The word liberty in its simple, broad sense has been utterly unmeaning. Free speech, and thereby a popular government, can be established there only by a force whose mere presence will keep the peace. And with such a force at hand the true course is to encourage men of every opinion to stump the whole region and advocate their views. We hope they may be discreet men, but that we can not bargain for. If we ask them not to go, in the hope that at some indefinite future time there may be a more pacific moment and a greater willingness to hear, we forget that the peaceable time is in the result of this very frank discussion, and that in postponing the debate we postpone the peace. It is by education, by enlightenment of every kind that the temper of the disturbed section is to be moderated. We can no more escape the agitation than the disturbed electrical condition of the atmosphere and the earth can adjust itself without a thunder-storm.

It would, indeed, be extremely unfair if one side only were allowed to speak; and it is alleged that the Republicans alone are allowed to say what they like in any manner they choose. The charge is totally untrue. Wade Hampton has exactly the same freedom that Henry Wilson has, and Governor Orr may speak as plainly as Judge Kelley. Probably while the States are under military rule none of these speakers would be allowed to urge resistance to the Government. But the restriction would be impartial. It would silence Mr. Wilson as well as Mr. Hampton.

For ourselves we confess that the true plan seems to be to have a force which secures order, and then to let every tongue wag at its will. Everybody feels better when he has expressed himself, and a great many listeners smile to discover what a small matter it was. In no other way than by absolute freedom of speech will the people of the disturbed States ever be politically educated, or the region become sufficiently tranquil to allow the withdrawal of the troops.

CURIOSITIES OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

The most attractive curiosities of the French department of the Paris Exposition is a newly-invented cravat pin. Everybody has seen how bells are rung in all the new hotels. Instead of pulling the bell and making it ring by an exertion of mechanical force, we press a small button in the wall; this is connected by an electric wire with a little alarm, the clapper of which keeps on jingling so long as the button is pressed. Lift the hand from the button, and the alarm ceases. The principle a French jeweller has adopted to cravat pins. The knob of the pin is of various devices. It is a hare with a tabor, or a drummer with his drum, or a death's head with a loose under jaw, or a dog. Whoever chooses to wear such a pin has connected with it by a wire a small electrical battery in one of his pockets. He puts his hand into his pocket, touches the button there, and off goes the pin. The hare begins to patter on the tabor, the drummer to beat on his drum, the death's head to chatter and roll its horrid eyes, or the dog to bark and snap. When the hand is lifted from the button, instantly all becomes quiet.

In the British department a curious swan attracts great attention. When we approach the bird we see him floating as if in water, and resting his head behind his wings. He is wound up, and he begins to raise his head with all the proper motions of the swan. He curves his neck in pride; he espies some fish in the water before him; he lowers his head to seize one; he holds it in his beak for an instant; he then swallows it, and, last of all, returns gracefully to rest. The action is very pretty, and calls forth loud applause. The bird, however, is indeed very old, though his plumage may be new. Its mechanism was supposed to have been constructed by a Mr. Weeks, who lived in the reign of George III.; but it was lately discovered that it formed part of the museum of Mr. Cox, a London jeweller, who lived in the reign of George II., and whose collection must have been of some importance, as he obtained an act of parliament to enable him to dispose of it by lottery. Mr. Harry Emanuel has put the clock work mechanism in order; and has given the bird a new and beautiful silver plumage; but this is all he had to do with the invention of the toy, which proves so attractive to the multitude, and which really seems to eclipse all else in its neighborhood.

A Minnesota man realized from his wheat crop last year more than twice the amount for his farm the year before.

It is with great pleasure that we give insertion to the following essay delivered by Mr. J. H. Bell, of this Island, at the Terminal Examination of Albert College, Canada. Mr. Bell is a very young man and a still younger writer. First attempts are seldom worth noticing publicly. In nine cases out of ten, in kindness to their authors, the best thing that can be done with them is to consign them to the waste basket. But this essay of Mr. Bell's is an exception to the general rule. We have seldom read any first production which gave such promise of future excellence. We are very much mistaken if its author do not prove both an able and an elegant writer. It is to us a pleasing task to record the successes of our Island youth in foreign lands. We have no doubt but that Mr. Bell will maintain the credit of his native country abroad, and demonstrate to the Canadians that this Island can produce as good men as are to be found on the face of the broad earth:—

"The world is in progress. It is interesting to compare the past with the present, and to contrast the condition of the ancients with that of the moderns, that we may more easily understand that the motto of our world has been 'Onward.' Our earth has not been six thousand years in existence for naught. Her life has been a continual struggle, and the result of that struggle has been a continued success. She has nurtured her children with a parent's care, and their present advancement is the reward of her industry. The ancient barbarian, with his cloak of skins and his food of herbs, is the enlightened inhabitant of Europe to-day; and the little bark canoe, impelled by a single paddle, is not the representative of a nation's commerce. Therefore the world is in progress.

Two hundred years ago, and what was Canada? Where then were her thriving villages and her industrious population,—her smiling fields and extended commerce? Ask the red Indian, as he pursues the beasts of the chase among those trackless wilds. Ask the forest, which once roared triumphant, with unmoisted grandeur. Ask the bustling winds and brawling waves, which mingle their complaints around our silent shores. These are they alone who beheld the childhood of our national existence, and witnessed the advent of the sturdy pioneer. But Canada has progressed since then. The Indian has given way to the representative of a nobler and superior race; the primitive forest has been cleared, and the scene once so quiet in its desolation, smiles with golden harvest; the wigwam of the savage has been supplanted by the house of the civilized white man; our lakes are covered with the spoils of commerce,—that commerce which enriches both him who gives and him who receives, and by its pulsations keeps a healthy life in the great social system; science and art have awakened and clothed our land with their varied beauties; the temples of religion and institutions of learning rear their lofty fronts on every hand; and the success of this our own beloved institution, round which may prosperity never cease to shine—is but another added to the many thousands of proofs that the present age of Canada is progressive.

And now, in our country's march of improvement, she has just entered upon a new phase of existence; a complete change of government has been effected, and yet how silent has been that change. Yet that change we are apt to underestimate because it has not been forced upon our attention by the strifes of party faction, or impressed by the terrors of the scaffold. But those changes are not the grandest which are the most conclusive. In the physical world the earthquake and the volcano are not the sublimest of nature's efforts. What is more sublime than the gradual transition from darkness to day, yet how few admire the dawning of eastern light, or watch with interest the sunbeams, stealing their noiseless march across the face of nature. Important political changes have recently taken place on the continent of Europe, but they have been darkened by the sulphurous smoke of Salvoia. The negroes of the Southern States have been emancipated, but the great republic of America has been deluged with the blood of her noblest sons. But it is the glory and boast of the British Constitution that it admits of changes, calm in their commencement, silent in their operation, and glorious in their results; and when we look for a more striking proof of these assertions than in the consolidation of the British North American Provinces, we are now a unit in the sun of nations, an actor, and a competitor for the world's history. Our success for the past has been great, our present condition is prosperous, and whether we reason from the present or deduce analogies from the past, all point the insignificant finger of prophecy to a happy future. It is true, the horizon of our prosperity may soon be darkened by the shadow of foes alike to our religion and our country. Yet we may rely with implicit confidence that those shadows will be quickly dispelled by the rising of the glorious eastern sun of our Fatherland, may we never forget that we are Englishmen, and as such that our hearts should respond to the sentiment, which inspired the heroes of Trafalgar, 'England expects every man to do his duty.'

A chemist of Marseilles has invented a kind of Greek fire by which he imagines he can successfully oppose the needle gun. In a letter to the Progress of Lyons, he describes this remarkable composition as follows:—"To give an idea of the efficacy of my discovery I declare, and am ready to prove, that I can, at a distance of 1000 metres, envelop an army of 100,000 men in a sea of flame within five minutes. If a town is to be taken by assault I have no need of a Rotopachino, as I can set it on fire in very nearly the same period. In a naval battle I would run into the enemy, and in fifteen seconds cover all the deck of the vessel with a torrent of flame which would burn the rigging, penetrate between the decks, and instantaneously stifle all the crew. In an attack on a seaport I could burn the town and arsenals within range with the rapidity of lightning. With such a means no war is possible, as neither victors or vanquished would return from the field of battle. As to the fortress of Luxembourg, I undertake to rid it of its garrison in a quarter of an hour."

Such an invention would infinitely stop all war. Newspapers just received from Rio Janeiro give the details of the great scheme of emancipation in Brazil. It is provided it seems, that slavery shall wholly cease in thirty-three years; that from the promulgation of the decree all children born to slaves shall be free; that compensation at a fixed rate shall be made to slave-owners; and that a certain number of slaves shall be freed annually hereafter, 'so that few may be in bondage when the hour of general emancipation is at hand.'

The Emperor Napoleon witnessed some interesting experiments May 6 at Vincennes with the Chassepot rifle. A regiment was placed 600 yards from the mark. At the precisely two minutes firing it was found that the battalion of 600 men had fired 8000 balls, and 1992 had struck the line of object aimed at. Not a blade of grass was left in front of the mark. The Emperor, it is said, exclaimed, "It is frightful, it is positive massacre." The recoil of the gun is represented as insignificant.

The New York Evening Post gives a rather dismal picture of the condition of the finances of New York. The State owes fifty millions, the counties seventy-five, and the city forty more. Taxation is now at the rate of \$27.50 for every man, woman and child in the State.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL P. E. ISLANDER.

For the Journal.

Mr. Editor:—On the morning of the 24th inst., we bade adieu to a few friends in the city of Charlottetown, and stepped on board the "Princess of Wales," and in a few hours more were at the Wharf in Summerside. Charlottetown presents rather a nice appearance from the water, and made us think, as we sailed down the Harbor, that it was "beautiful for situation." The land around Charlottetown, and also all along the coast, has a pretty appearance, and gives evidence that quiet and content were enjoyed by those who occupy the farms which we sailed past, which bore marks, as we thought, of taste and industry. The coast is nicely undulating; but there is an absence of towering heights, soaring high in heaven's blue air; and we did hope that all were enjoying the same calm, unruffled and unpretending quiet, that the blue water, and the whole of the coast, presented to our view on that pleasant day.

The city of Charlottetown is increasing in wealth and importance every year. There are several small factories in the Town driven by steam. We had but time to visit one of these, viz., that of Mr. Dawson, who very kindly took us through his establishment. The sales of that establishment amount to, it has been said, £20,000 a year, and we believe the statement is correct. Mr. Dawson sends large quantities of Upper Leather to Canada, where he finds a ready sale at remunerative prices, and we believe he finds in his wares a strong inducement for confederation. Every part of his large establishment that requires it, is heated by steam pipes supplied from the Steam Boiler, which drives the engine. In this arrangement, economy and safety from fire, are combined.

The public Cemetery on the Princeton Road is being nearly filled up with the sleeping dead. We took a stroll through it, and took a look at the tributes of affection raised there in memory of departed ones, and seen the names of one, or two, whom we knew in the sunny days of our youth when the blood coursed freely through their veins, shone in their countenance, and rang in their joyous laugh. A graveyard is a place to remind us, that we too have to die.

We saw no tribute placed in that church yard, that so impressed our mind with the gasplings of true sorrow, as a flower, and an ever green, which bore evidence of having been planted by the hand of affection, and of being watered with the warm tears of love.

A STRANGER.

May 30, 1867.

Correspondence.

For the Journal.

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ner in which he acquires his property. Nor does he awake from his delusion until, after having sold the paternal acres and embarked in a mercantile life, he finds himself struggling with difficulties and immersed in cares of which he had no previous conception. He finds 'he bitter mixed with the sweet quite as profusely in the life of the merchant as in that of the farmer. Dear-bought experience tells him that a merchant cannot lead an idle life with impunity—that in his business, as in every other, strict economy is an essential concomitant of success—that the uncertainties and responsibilities of his situation cause him sleepless nights and anxious days, and that whatever of the comforts and elegancies of life he enjoys are well earned and dearly paid for. The farmer is the most independent man in existence. His dependence is more immediately and visibly upon Providence than any other member of society. If health and strength are vouchsafed him; if the rain and sunshine come duly in their season, he is sure of a generous return for his labor. He knows, and the world knows, that if Providence is favorable, the blame of failure lies with himself. If, on the other hand, the all-wise and all-merciful Ruler of the Universe sees fit to send unfavorable seasons, it is his to bow with un murmuring submission to the Supreme Will, knowing well that such visitations are sent for his and his fellow-mortals' good. The merchant is, perhaps, the most dependent man in the community. His welfare depends in a great measure on the prosperity and integrity of men over whom he has no control, and in whom he is obliged to place the most implicit confidence. How often have we seen men deprived in a day of the fruits of long years of toil, through the dishonesty, the extravagance or the misfortune of a man whom perhaps, he has never seen. Besides, much of the merchant's property is at times at the mercy of the most unstable and capricious of nature's forces—the winds and the waves. Is it any wonder then that the merchant, in these trying times, is consumed with cares? Can that man sleep soundly and enjoy with zest his food, however dainty, who feels that the little property he has amassed with so much care and pains, and upon which he depended for support in his declining years, and which he fondly hoped would be enjoyed and increased by his children when he is dead and gone, is fast slipping from his grasp, and that he will be compelled with exhausted energies and a crushed spirit again to do battle with the world for a bare living. The life of the farmer is subject to no such vicissitudes. With common prudence and industry, and the exercise of a fair amount of intelligence, he can maintain his family in comfort and respectability, and be in no dread that his old age will be embittered by penury, or made miserable by cares.

Farmers' sons should reflect well before they change farming for trading. It is not every man who is fitted for mercantile pursuits, and a large number of those who do engage in them fail miserably. The idea that a merchant is a more respectable man than a farmer, is a superlatively silly one. There is a great difference between respectability and gentility. A man who can pay his debts—who has a moderate share of intelligence—who lives a moral life, and who diligently and faithfully does his duty in that state of life in which it has pleased God to call him, is the truly respectable man, no matter what his employment or what his situation. Such a man will command the respect of his neighborhood whether he builds ships or makes shoes, whether he sells tea or raises oats. But this ambition to make a fine appearance, to dress well, to live in a large house expensively furnished, to drive fast horses handsomely equipped, in short, to live gaudily, is the curse of by far too many in this and every other community. A man can, and often does, possess all these while he is at the same time the very reverse of respectable. For those whose means are limited, to endeavor to compete in dress and equipage with those who are rich, is mere folly and madness. Such a course is sure to end in sorrow, ruin, and very frequently in disgrace. And after all no one is deceived by the display.

Our neighbors in this small community particularly, know a great deal more about our affairs than we have any idea of, and when they see us make any pretensions or indulge in any expense that our circumstances do not warrant, their comments are such that, however distasteful they may be, it would do us good to hear. Their respect for us is by no means increased, but rather the contrary, and their confidence in us is very considerably lessened. Respectability, good old English respectability, is something sound, serviceable, and substantial, and may or may not be accompanied by gentility, at any rate it is perfectly independent of it and can exist and even flourish amazingly well without it; while gentility without respectability, is a fragile, baseless, rickety structure, ready to tumble about our ears at the first blast of adversity. It must not be thought from what we have written that we think ambition of every kind mere folly. On the contrary we are always glad to see a man attempting to better his worldly position by honorable means. The effort brings into play many of the higher capabilities of his nature, and thus improves him morally and intellectually, while at the same time he elevates himself to a higher position in society, and is raised in the estimation of his fellow men. What we deprecate is the ostentatious display of the outward signs of wealth by those who do not possess the things signified by those signs. While it is right enough for a rich man, in his person, his family, and his surroundings, to show to the world that his possessions are ample, it is far from right for the man who is not wealthy to endeavor to deceive others and to ruin himself by a foolish imitation of his richer neighbor's expenditure.

The class on whom the present hard times press most sorely is, perhaps, the ship carpenters. Most of these men have nothing laid by for a rainy day, and

scarcity of employment and low wages find them in a very deplorable condition, indeed. Laboring men in this country should as soon as possible purchase a small farm. The ship carpenter, who has been for many years in receipt of wages, finds himself in his old age without any means of support. He has spent his money as he earned it, and when his hair is turning grey and his strength is failing him, he has a dreary prospect before him. If he had a farm he could spend the remainder of his days in cultivating it. His children would find on it a healthful occupation, and if he died his wife would not be left entirely without other means of support. Many of those who sold their farms or neglected them when times were brisk, bitterly rue their folly to-day. The holder of even a small farm, which he has cultivated with moderate skill, is in very much better circumstances in his old age than the man who has spent the best years of his life in working for others, and finds want at last staring him in the face, when he is most in need of ease and comfort. Our advice to all laboring men is: as long as land can be as easily procured as it is now, for your own sakes and for the sake of your wives and children, buy or lease a farm with as little delay as possible. You will find that being your own master is much better than being another man's servant.

SEVERAL persons to the west complain of not receiving their paper regularly. It is not our fault, as they have been misled here by us. We expect the changing of Postmasters throughout the country has something to do with it. If Summerside was made a distributing office, as it should be, and mail bags were made up here for the different offices west, the mistakes and losses, now so frequent, would not then take place.

QUITE a number of vessels have been discharging goods on Queen's wharf during the past week, among which was the Barque "Eileen Malcolm," from Great Britain. A large lot of lumber has also been landed.

THE June Term of the Supreme Court for Prince County, opens at Saint Leonards on Tuesday next.

MR. JOHN McLEAN, of our office, is now canvassing and collecting for the Summerside Journal, through New London and other places. We hope to be able to add quite a number of names to our subscription list. We would like to have responded to the many kind invitations we have had of late to visit New London, but want of time prevents us.

FARMERS who want good Turnip Seed will call at BERTRAM'S Bookstore.

THE ship WABENO, which was stranded at the north of this Island, was sold on Saturday last to the Hon. J. C. Pope, for £350.

We received by the last mail several late California papers. The crops in that country seem to be very good. The San Francisco Bulletin says:—

"Under the influence of delightfully clear and balmy weather, the surface of the entire country has put on a more luxuriant carpet of vegetation than has been seen for several years. The mountains in the vicinity of San Francisco are covered to their summits with wild grass, clover and oats, and are golden with a rank profusion of wild poppies. Gardens, farms and orchards about the bay were never in a finer condition. Strawberries are coming into market more freely. And early vegetables are plentiful. Hay has already begun on some of the southern hill slopes in Contra Costa and perhaps Alameda county.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND DISTRICT MEETING.—The Ministers of P. E. Island District Committee will meet in the Vestry of Charlottetown Church, on the second Wednesday of June, at 9 o'clock, a. m.

THE CIRCUIT STWARDS, whose special duty is to care for and investigate the financial wants of the work, are respectfully reminded that their office requires them to attend the meeting on the second day of its Session.

In consequence of my unavoidable absence the duties of the Chair will devolve on the Rev. Richard Smith.

MATTHEW RICHEY.

Perhaps nothing indicates the state of the Island trade better than our spring importations. That a hard summer is before us it needs no figures to demonstrate. Our imports from Great Britain are fifty per cent less than they were 12 months ago, and merchants will find it difficult to dispose of even this comparatively small stock. Of breadstuffs, we imported in 1866 up to the 1st June, 3534 barrels of flour, and 285 barrels of Cornmeal. This year, for the same period, our imports are 1952 barrels of flour and 1,160 barrels of Cornmeal. The high price of flour has checked the importation of the former article nearly one half, while it has increased that of the latter 300 per cent. The country wants fully as much breadstuffs as ever it did, but flour is so dear that the people must and will do without it, and buy a cheaper and coarser article of food in preference.—Pat.

The Roman Catholics of Charlottetown have a grand Bazaar for educational purposes advertised for Tuesday and Wednesday, the 11th and 12th inst. The Wesleyans will have one this month of July. We understand both Bazaars will be held in the upper Hall of the new Market House.—16.

EXPORTS FOR THE WEEK.—Oats, 6,700 bushels; potatoes, 1,500 do.; salt, 320 do.; meal, 5 barrels; oysters, 58 do.; oil, 6 do.; sugar, 12 lbs.; eggs, 5,260 dozen; deal, 170,000 feet; latwood, 254 cords; timber, 371 tons; 6 rolls leather; 3 tubs butter; and 1 horse.—16.

We understand the Heather Bell will commence her trips to King's County on Wednesday next. She will proceed from Charlottetown direct to Pictou, and from thence to Murray Harbor, Georgetown and Souris. Returning, she will call at Georgetown and Murray Harbor, and from thence to Charlottetown via Pictou on Thursday.—16.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth, Use that old and well tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, which gently facilitates the process, and is sure to regulate the bowels. It relieves the child from pain, corrects acidity and wind colic, and by giving the infant quiet, natural sleep, gives rest to the mother. Offices 48 Day street, New-York, and 205 High Holborn, London, England.

Children often look Pale and Sick from no other cause than having worms in the stomach. Brown's "vermifuge comfits" will destroy worms without injury to the child. Children having worms require immediate attention, as neglect of the trouble often causes prolonged sickness.

I have been afflicted with piles for 25 years and tried everything I could hear of but to no effect until I used J. B. Fitch's Golden Ointment which has cured me.

D. M. CUMMINGS.

A Cough, Cold, or Sore Throat, requires immediate attention, as neglect oftentimes results in some incurable Lung Disease. "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are a simple remedy, and will almost invariably give immediate relief.

Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1867.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. We must know the names and addresses of our correspondents as a guarantee of their good faith. We cannot undertake to return communications that are not used.

HARD TIMES.

EVERY day and all day long we hear complaints of hard times—hard times. These complaints are not by any means causeless. They are not the capricious murmuring of discontented, grumbling churls, whom no times, however good, can soften into contentment. Even cheerful high-spirited men look gloomy and disheartened. Money is tight; trade is dull, and employment scarce and ill-paid. Some attribute these hard times to one cause, and some to another. Many say that the large sums taken out of the general circulation to pay for the lands recently purchased by the Government is the cause of the tightness of the money market, and the dullness of trade; others attribute these evils to the large number of new vessels remaining at home unsold; others again say that over-trading has brought the commercial world to the present pass, and a fourth party declares that all our troubles would cease, if by any means Reciprocity with the United States could again be established. Where there is such a diversity of opinion, it is not for us to decide who is right; but if we may be permitted to hazard an opinion, we would say that the present depression is to be traced to a combination of causes, among the most prominent of which are all those we have named. Perhaps the tardy sale of the ships now lying in England has more to do towards making the present hard times than any other single cause. A ship of even moderate size, fitted out for sea, represents a very considerable sum indeed. There have within the last two years been a large number of such vessels built on the Island, very few of which have been sold. These ships are every day deteriorating in value. The merchants and others whose capital is thus sunk need their money to pay their debts and carry on their business. But the money invested in unsold ships at home is not available. A shipbuilder may be worth ten or twelve thousand pounds in ships, and yet may find very great difficulty in meeting a note of one hundred or even of fifty pounds. The banks willingly give accommodation to shipbuilders when times were brisk, and when there was a good prospect of their vessels being quickly and profitably sold; but they act very differently when they find the ship market at home in its present very depressed condition. Shipbuilders themselves, seeing such a poor prospect before them, have refrained from laying the keels of any more new ships, and are in no hurry to finish those that are already on the stocks. Ship carpenters are constantly out of employment, and to add to their distress, provisions and most of the other necessities of life are unprecedentedly scarce and dear.

Many who look only at the surface of things imagine that the life of a mercantile man is a peculiarly easy and happy one. He dresses well, they think, lives on the best, has plenty of money, and is not compelled to exert himself more than is pleasant and comfortable. These notions cause many a young man to become disgusted with the quiet, uneventful and laborious life of a farmer, and to be dissatisfied with the slow and toilsome man-

ner in which he acquires his property. Nor does he awake from his delusion until, after having sold the paternal acres and embarked in a mercantile life, he finds himself struggling with difficulties and immersed in cares of which he had no previous conception. He finds 'he bitter mixed with the sweet quite as profusely in the life of the merchant as in that of the farmer. Dear-bought experience tells him that a merchant cannot lead an idle life with impunity—that in his business, as in every other, strict economy is an essential concomitant of success—that the uncertainties and responsibilities of his situation cause him sleepless nights and anxious days, and that whatever of the comforts and elegancies of life he enjoys are well earned and dearly paid for. The farmer is the most independent man in existence. His dependence is more immediately and visibly upon Providence than any other member of society. If health and strength are vouchsafed him; if the rain and sunshine come duly in their season, he is sure of a generous return for his labor. He knows, and the world knows, that if Providence is favorable, the blame of failure lies with himself. If, on the other hand, the all-wise and all-merciful Ruler of the Universe sees fit to send unfavorable seasons, it is his to bow with un murmuring submission to the Supreme Will, knowing well that such visitations are sent for his and his fellow-mortals' good. The merchant is, perhaps, the most dependent man in the community. His welfare depends in a great measure on the prosperity and integrity of men over whom he has no control, and in whom he is obliged to place the most implicit confidence. How often have we seen men deprived in a day of the fruits of long years of toil, through the dishonesty, the extravagance or the misfortune of a man whom perhaps, he has never seen. Besides, much of the merchant's property is at times at the mercy of the most unstable and capricious of nature's forces—the winds and the waves. Is it any wonder then that the merchant, in these trying times, is consumed with cares? Can that man sleep soundly and enjoy with zest his food, however dainty, who feels that the little property he has amassed with so much care and pains, and upon which he depended for support in his declining years, and which he fondly hoped would be enjoyed and increased by his children when he is dead and gone, is fast slipping from his grasp, and that he will be compelled with exhausted energies and a crushed spirit again to do battle with the world for a bare living. The life of the farmer is subject to no such vicissitudes. With common prudence and industry, and the exercise of a fair amount of intelligence, he can maintain his family in comfort and respectability, and be in no dread that his old age will be embittered by penury, or made miserable by cares.

Farmers' sons should reflect well before they change farming for trading. It is not every man who is fitted for mercantile pursuits, and a large number of those who do engage in them fail miserably. The idea that a merchant is a more respectable man than a farmer, is a superlatively silly one. There is a great difference between respectability and gentility. A man who can pay his debts—who has a moderate share of intelligence—who lives a moral life, and who diligently and faithfully does his duty in that state of life in which it has pleased God to call him, is the truly respectable man, no matter what his employment or what his situation. Such a man will command the respect of his neighborhood whether he builds ships or makes shoes, whether he sells tea or raises oats. But this ambition to make a fine appearance, to dress well, to live in a large house expensively furnished, to drive fast horses handsomely equipped, in short, to live gaudily, is the curse of by far too many in this and every other community. A man can, and often does, possess all these while he is at the same time the very reverse of respectable. For those whose means are limited, to endeavor to compete in dress and equipage with those who are rich, is mere folly and madness. Such a course is sure to end in sorrow, ruin, and very frequently in disgrace. And after all no one is deceived by the display.

Our neighbors in this small community particularly, know a great deal more about our affairs than we have any idea of, and when they see us make any pretensions or indulge in any expense that our circumstances do not warrant, their comments are such that, however distasteful they may be, it would do us good to hear. Their respect for us is by no means increased, but rather the contrary, and their confidence in us is very considerably lessened. Respectability, good old English respectability, is something sound, serviceable, and substantial, and may or may not be accompanied by gentility, at any rate it is perfectly independent of it and can exist and even flourish amazingly well without it; while gentility without respectability, is a fragile, baseless, rickety structure, ready to tumble about our ears at the first blast of adversity. It must not be thought from what we have written that we think ambition of every kind mere folly. On the contrary we are always glad to see a man attempting to better his worldly position by honorable means. The effort brings into play many of the higher capabilities of his nature, and thus improves him morally and intellectually, while at the same time he elevates himself to a higher position in society, and is raised in the estimation of his fellow men. What we deprecate is the ostentatious display of the outward signs of wealth by those who do not possess the things signified by those signs. While it is right enough for a rich man, in his person, his family, and his surroundings, to show to the world that his possessions are ample, it is far from right for the man who is not wealthy to endeavor to deceive others and to ruin himself by a foolish imitation of his richer neighbor's expenditure.

The class on whom the present hard times press most sorely is, perhaps, the ship carpenters. Most of these men have nothing laid by for a rainy day, and