Summerside Journal.

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October 12, 1865.

POETRY.

THE GOOD WIFE.

It is just as you say, neighbour Green,
A treasure indeed is my wife·
Such another for bustle and work
I never have seen in my life.
But then she keeps every one else
As busy as birds on the wing:
There is never a moment for rest,
She is such a fidgety thing.

She makes the best bread in the town,
Her pies are a perfect delight,
Her coffee a rich golden brown,
Her crullers and puddings just right.
But then while I eat them she tells
Of the care and the worry they bring
Of the martyr-like toil she endures—
Oh, she's such a fidgety thing!

My house is as neat as a pin,
You should see how the door handle shines,
And all of the soft-cushioned chairs
And nicely-swept carpets are mine.
But then she so frets at the dust,
At a fly, at a straw, at a string;
That I stay out of doors all I can,
She is such a fidgety thing.

She doctors the neighbours—oh, yes.
If a child has the measles or croup,
She is there with her saffrons and squills,
Her dainty made gruels and soup.
But then she insists on her sight
To physic my blood in the spring;
And she takes the whole charge of my bile—
Oh, she is such fidgety thing!

She knits all my stockings herself,
My shirts are bleached white as the snow;
My old clothes look better than new,
but daily more threadbare they grow.
But then if a morsel of lint
Or dust on my trowsers should cling,
I'm sure of a sermon at least,
She is such a fidgety thing.

You have heard of a spirit so meek,
So meek that it never opposes,
Its own it dares never to speak—
Alas! I am meeker than Moses.
But then I am not reconciled
The subordinate music to sing;
I submit to get rid of a row,
She is such a fidgety thing.

It's just as you say, neighbour Green,
A treasure to me has been given;
But sometimes I fain would be glad
To lay up my treasure in heaven.
But then every life has its cross's
Most pleasures on earth have their sting;
She's a treasure, I know, neighbour Green,
But she's such a fidgety thing.

Select Literature.

Mrs. Blake's Visit to the White Mountains.

BY CLARA AUGUSTA.

A'MOST everybody has took a tower this summer; and I've been and took one too. I dunno but what I've as good a right to as any other individoal. I don't owe nobody nothing, except Jim Hunson, the tin pedlar, for a strainer; and I've got more'n rags enuff to settle with him—or shall have when I cut up Caleb's cotton flannil shirts; and then I owe Tim Gorch's wife three cents for gitting me a pound of saleratus and not making the change.

I could pay her now jest as well as not if she'd only take a siled postage-stamp; but she don't take stamps for fear the post-office will bust up. Miss Gorch is the most cautionest woman that ever you see.

I've had a hard summer's work of it! no mistake! It makes my back ache to think of it. Feed has been so poor on account of the dry weather, that the cows has worked thirselves clean into skillitons a keeping from starving, and haint give no milk worth menshuning.

Butter has been so skeerce and high, that I've felt as if it was a sin to use it common; and I haint allowed our folks none sense last July. To be shure, I allus have butter on the table—a plateful on it; but if anybody goes for to tech of it, I jest tread on their toes, and give em a look that stops purseedings at once.

One plateful has lasted us all summer. I believe it's gitting a leetle strong now; but it'll have to do this month out, I guess.

Along, in June, sometime, Samuel White he went up to the White Mountains; and when he got back, he had more to tell than anybody that had been to the North Pole need to have had. All that he hadn't seed wouldn't paid for looking at it.

He sot me into a tilt to go and see for myself.

I spoke to Betsey Jane, my oldest, about it, but she only turned up her nose, and sed I'd better stay at home. Betsey is an awful hand to gad about herself, but she's never willing for me to stir outside the threshold. She's afeard she shall have to wash the dishes. I never seed anybody quite so afeard of siling their hands as she is. She takes a sight of pains with 'em, and does 'em up in tattered rags every night of her life, to keep 'em smooth.

But as it happens, I haint under Betsey Jane's govurnment yet, so I made all my pepperations just as if she was tickled to death with the idee of my going.

The first of August I sold ten cheeses, that come to a leetle rising seventy-five dollars.

I went to Dover rite off and bought me a scarlet merino gowud—a yaller sattin bonnit, trimed with blue and lalock-colored roses; and the slickest green and blue shawl that ever you s t eyes on to.

I got me some new false hair—for, jest between you and me, mine is so thin I can't do much of anything with it; and then I got a "rat" to roll it over, so's to make me look like a girl.

After I'd got detarmined on going, I went over and asked aunt Peggy Miles to go with me. She sed she'd like to only she dassent go in the rail-road, for she should sartingly expect it to blow up and kerry every man, woman, and child with it!—And as for a steamboat, it would be sinful to tempt Providence by gitting into one of them contrivances of Satan. Aunt Peggy is a leetle pecooliar in her idees, but a nice woman for all that.

So I told her to fix herself to start in two days, and we'd go with the old mare. She's nigh onto seventeen years old—the mare is—and haint had nothing but oat-straw to eat this summer; but she's spunky as a colt, if you jest tech her with the whip.

I got some new shafts put into the waggon—the old ones has been tied up with shoe-strings this two years, and we dassent step onto um; and I took my green flannil quilted peticoat and cushioned the seat, and put a braided rug into the bottom for our feet to set on, and my red and blue calico comfortable to take up in front of us cold mornings.

We had considerable baggage; but then it takes a good deal for females that purtends to be ladies. I had a trunk, three bandboxes, a capbox, a carpet-bag full of ginger-bread, an ambriller, a parasol, a peck-measure to feed the hoss with, a spare shawl, a bottle of lineament, in case I should be took with the newrollogy, and a clothes-line, to tie the old mare with.

Aunt Peggy, she had two bandboxes, a vallees, a satchel of turnovers, a sugar-box of doughnuts, a six quart pail full of pickles, two baskets full of apples, and Bounce, her dog.

I objected to her kerrying the dog; but she sed she wouldn't be sepirated from him for no money! She couldn't go to sleep o'nights without Bounce on her feet.

The first day we travelled six miles, and hauled up by the road for repairs. One eend of the waggon-seat broke down, but I put the pail of pickles on top of the sugar-box, and stuck them under the seat, and made it all right.

The next day we did better. We went e'enamost twenty miles. I held the reins and Aunt Peggy she did the walloping with the whip—and the old mare went like a hoss. Lots of folks banter'd me to swop hosses. But I told 'em I hadn't no time to talk with 'em I was bound for the White Mountains,

Aunt Peggy had the worst of it. Her arm was so lame after a day or two, that she couldn't skeercely git it to her head.

At the eend of five days we got in sight of the mountains, and stopped at a small house rite in under a mountain, and close to quite a smart little pond of water.—The grandest place to raise geese and ducks up there that ever was!

I was pretty much tuckered out, and asked to be showed to my room rite off.—Four tow-headed children, fighting for the one taller-dip that lit the way, led off.—Aunt Peggy she couldn't get into the room till after I was a-bed, it was so small—so she staid outside and let me go in fust. The door to it was off from the hinges, and I told the young ones to set it up close, and put a cheer against it. Naterly, I expected they'd obey me—so I went to taking off my hair and pulling out my "rat," when I heerd a giggling jest outside, and on looking at the door, I seed that it didn't shet by as much as two inches, and that space was full ot eyes peeping in at me.

"Mother! mother!" called one of the boys; "this woman is a peeling her head! Quick! quick! only see her!"

I was mad, and afore I thought of anything about the condition of the door, I grabbed hold of it to open it, and down it went bang into the floor, knocking over five children, two cheers, a cat, a table full of crockery, a pole of chickens that was a roosting in the kitcken, and nigh about stunding all creation.

I apollergised as well as I could, and explained to the folks that I warn't used to ondressing before so many spectators and they sent the children off to bed.

I was real mortified. For a widder woman that may think of marrying agin some time, to be ketched a taking off her false hair that everybody thinks is her own natral locks, is too bad.

Howsomever, I comforted myself up with the idee that there arint no onmarried men about the house. When I finished ondressing, I hung my clothes out of the window to make room for aunt Peggy to come in; and a half hour afterward we were within the arms of Morphus.

We started early the next morning and by driving the old mare hard, we managed to get to the Glen House about dark. That is a nice tavern at the feet of Mount Washington.

Ther was a black bear chained in front of it to prevent people from robbing the clotheslines and hen-houses. Bounce he flew rite at the bear; but arter he'd lost a mouthful of hair and skin, he was glad to come back and behave himself.

I asked the landlord if he put us up He sed he was sorry, but he was full. I asked him if he couldn't give us a bed on the floor. He sed it was out of the question. Then I asked him if I couldn't roost somewheres. He scratched his head a minnit, and sed we might have the dining-room table.

He led off the old mare, and we went into the house. The floors everywhere was kivered with people, wrapped up in shawls, blankets, and comfortables, and snoring like all possessed.

We eat our supper, and then I got the comfortable and the braided rug out of the waggon, and by the help of a cheer we hoisted ourselves on to the table and turned in. I soon got to sleep, and dreamed that Capt. Chamberlain was trying to kiss me, and in the skirmmage I thrashed over, and off I rolled rite onto a fat man who was a laying close by the table, snoring loud enuff to split the univarse.

I knocked the snore clean out of him, and smashed his watch-crystal, and his patunt double-barrelled squizzing glass all to flinders and scraped all the skin off from my left elbow.

The fat man yelled dreadfully, and skeered some of the people nigh about out of their wits. Most of 'em thought the house was afire, and the way they gathered up their baggage was lively.

As soon as morning came, I made my toilight as well as I could, though I had a pretty tough time to make my "rat" look decent with so many folks a staring at me, As for a looking-glass, I hadn't seen my face sense I left home.

I asked the landlord what about going up onto the top of Washington, for I hadn't a grate while to stay.

He sed that most people went up in kerridges that belonged to the hotel—though some folks purfurred to go with their own teams.

I told him I should go with my own team, then; I was acquainted with the old mare, and she was acquainted with me. He advised me to leave my baggage with him, but I told him no, I'd rather have it under my own eye.

We started real airly. The sun wasn't more'n up afore we was on that kerridge road. Ever seen it? If you haint, you've jest missed seeing one of the slickest roads in the country. It's about nine miles long, and jest as smooth and even as yer perlor floor. But it's awfully up hill!

They made us pay some money for going onto the road at a little house, by a bridge, down at the bottom of the moutain, I told 'em I thought that was mean when we'd come so fur—but law! you can't ixpect a mean man to be born over agin into a ginerous one.

The sun come out pretty hottish, and afore we'd gone more'n a mile that hoss was as wet as if she'd been dipped in the river. Aunt Peggy and I got out and travelled afoot a piece. And after a spell, I took out a couple of my bandboxes and lugged them to lighten the load; aunt Peggy she did the same by her vallees, and the pail of pickles. Bounce he trudged on behind, and a sorrier-looking dog you never seed. Every might of the wag had gone out of his tail, and his ears hung down like two wilted cabbage leaves.

It was e'enamost sunset when we got to the top, and the old mare was clean tuckered out. For the last half-mile I had to hawl her by the bridle, and aunt Peggy she pushed behind.

We couldn't see nothing but a couple of houses bilt out of rocks; and lots and lots more of rocks laying all around, jest as somebody had carted 'em there for stone wall.

I slept tip-top that night in the Tip-Top House, or the Summit, I've forgot which. There was two of 'em there, and I dis-remember tother from which. The morning was clear. We seed a sight of things. It was ekal to being up in Squire Horrick's garrut winders, only more so.

We picked up some rocks and some pieces of moss to show when we got home, and started to go back down the mountain agin. I rid, and aunt Peggy walked.

We was going down a pretty steep place, when the old mare pricked her ears at a stick in the road, jumped, and, law me! that wagon parted, I bounced out—the hoss kerried off the forrad wheels, and the rest of the consarn, baggage and all, went tumbling to destruction down a slantindikular precipice more'n a hundred feet higher than the steeple of our meeting house.

I screeched and clamered down arter my vallerables as fast as I could—but deary me! They was all ruined—everything except these bandboxes, two carpet-bags, and an ambirill! The waggon was all stove to kindlings! I picked up the remnants and clambered back with them. Aunt Peggy and I strung 'em onto a pole and ludged 'em down to the Glen house.

There we found the old mare, with the fragments of them forrad wheels tied to her—but she looked as sober as a judge—if not more so.

We stayed there all night, and the next morning sot sail for home. I'd seen enuff.

I led the hoss, and Aunt Peggy kerried one eend of the pole on which the bandboxes and bags were strung, and I kerried the other: Bounce he skulked behind.

Folks laffed at us on the way, but they laffed at their betters. Nobody keered for 'em.

Thank goodness! we got home at last, though I haint been able to go a step since, my newrollogy is so bad; and Aunt Peggy haint been able to wear a shoe for a month; partly because her feet is sore, and partly because she haint got none to wear. Well, anyhow, we made the tower.

House of Assembly.

DEBATE ON THE DRAFT ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

MONDAY, April 22.

On motion of HON. MR. KELLY, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the Draft Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, —Mr. BELL in the Chair.

The first paragraph was agreed to without remark.

On the 2d paragraph being read—

HON. MR. HENSLEY rose to move its adoption, and said:—Mr. Chairman: This clause may not meet with the approval of all hon. members, though I am unable to see that any one can see against it a valid objection. It does not censure any party; it simply states a fact. While it says that "the late time which it was deemed advisable to dissolve the last Assembly, and the Ministerial arrangements resulting from the General Election," prevented His Excellency from summoning the House at an earlier period, it does not cast the least reflection upon the late Government. We charitably suppose that they had good reason for delaying the Election. But, as some eight or ten months of the most suitable season of the year for holding it, elapsed before the House was dissolved, a satisfactory explanation of the matter, from some of His Excellency's late advisers, would, no doubt, be gratifying to hon. members, as well as to the people generally. As you are aware, Sir, the "ministerial arrangements" referred to in the clause, are those rendered necessary by the resignation of the late Government and its principal officers, whose places had to be filled up to carry on the public business of the Colony. Those hon. members who accepted offices of emolument, of course, had to vacate their seats; and, though the writs for the Elections, in such cases, were made returnable as soon as possible, delay in calling the Legislature together was impossible. We do not wish to attach blame to the late party in power; we merely express our willingness, notwithstanding the lateness of the Session, to devote a sufficient time to mature such measures as the exigencies of the Colony and the public service may require. It, however, would afford me pleasure to hear from two hon. members present (Messrs. Duncan and Henderson), who held seats at the late Executive Board, an explanation of the reason why the General Election was so long delayed. It is surmised that the late Government deferred the dissolution of the Assembly until Confederation might be matured; but as these two hon. members are understood to be decidedly opposed to that measure, they could not have consented to the delay on any such ground.

HON. MR. MCAULAY.—Mr. Chairman, I cannot but admire the moderation of the hon. gentleman who has just resumed his seat! At first he was not going to cast any reflection upon the late Government, but he concluded his speech by calling upon them to give an account of their actions. Conduct like this is unparliamentary. Never before, I believe, has such a thing occurred in any country, as an incoming Government attempting to call their predecessors to account on the floors of the Legislature. A new light has dawned upon the world since the advent of the present Government to power, and I hope it will benefit from the faint illumination which that light affords. It is contrary to parliamentary rule for one House to refer to the proceedings of another. But the hon. member's allusion to the acts of the late Government seems merely intended to cover the misdeeds of his own party. He complains of the lateness of the Session, and throws all the blame on His Excellency's former advisers. His excuse will not stand the test of investigation. The General Election was held on the 26th of February, and the House was not summoned until the 18th of April. Why the delay? The pleading about ministerial arrangements will not satisfy the public. Were the Officers of the late government asked to retain their places for a few months, until the business of the Session could be got over? The real fact of the case appears to be that the leaders of the party now in power were so anxious to obtain office, that, rather than forego the sweets of emolument for a week, they were prepared to put the people to expense, and the country members to great inconvenience. I will not move any amendment to the paragraph under consideration; but I hope that the hon. Attorney General will adhere to parliamentary rule more strictly in future.

MR. BRECKEN.—I regret that the hon. Leader of the Opposition is not in his place: if he were, I daresay he would satisfy the hon. Attorney General respecting the delay in holding the General Election, which seems to cause that hon. member so much uneasiness. I believe, however, that his surmise was pretty nearly correct; that the late Government deemed it advisable to delay the Elections until the time the Imperial Government, with respect to the position this Island would occupy in regard to Confederation should be made known. Though I am opposed to Confederation, I believe the policy of the late Administration, in waiting to ascertain the decision of the Home Government on that question, was a sound one. It was but right that the people of this Island should be made aware of what the Imperial Government were going to do with them, before they were required to go to the polls. This is a small Colony; and, though we objected to enter the proposed Confederation, it was possible that the authorities at Home might resolve to include us in the Bill then about to be brought before Parliament. The people, I think, will not blame the late Government for delaying the Election until the public mind was relieved upon that point. It would have been unwise to put the country to the expense of a General Election, without knowing what would be our future fate. But, Mr. Chairman, if I recollect rightly, the late Government placed their resignations in His Excellency's hands some ten or twelve days before their successors were appointed, therefore the very late period at which the Session was called, could not be altogether attributable to the time at which the Election was held. And, after the Government was formed, and they had placed their friends in office, there was apparently no occasion for delaying the opening of the Session until last week. They were strong—at least numicarily so, whether really strong or not. They had nineteen to eleven of the Opposition—or eighteen to twelve—a question which I suppose the hon. member for Tryon alone can solve; consequently the absence of two or three members from their seats should not have delayed the public business. But, I suppose we must accept the explanation in the paragraph under consideration, that "ministerial arrangements," or perhaps more properly, *ministerial difficulties*—prevented an earlier call of the House. We know, Sir, from the declaration of the hon. Leader of the Government himself, at the late nomination, that his present supporters in the Legislature are composed of all political parties; therefore it is easy to understand how difficulties may arise. The paragraph before the Committee is moderate; and, indeed, the whole Address is moderate; and, had it not been for the allusion made by the hon. Attorney General to the course pursued by the late Government in reference to the General Election, I would not have troubled this hon. Committee so early in the debate.

HON. MR. DAVIES.—The hon. member for Charlottetown has stated that the reason the late Administrators delayed the Election, was in order to ascertain what action the Home Government intended to take on Confederation. This is a very extraordinary excuse to offer. Did they suppose or desire that the Imperial Government would force us into Confederation? The British Parliament would not be so unjust as to sanction such an act. We are in as independent a position as any of the States in the neighboring Republic; and our independent rights cannot properly be taken from us. But the British Government never wished to coerce us into Confederation. Those who held up this idea, were the men who wished that this Island might be Legislated into the Union without the people's consent. The Home Government would not rightfully deprive us of our separate Government, unless we had violated the constitution of the Colony. And I believe this is what the late Government attempted to impress upon the Home authorities, when they sent for troops to quell, what they represented to be a disturbance among the tenantry, thereby bringing the Island into discredit. To state that the late Administration delayed the election until it was known