Foreign News.

THE GREAT EASTERN.

From the Times.

Several weeks have elapsed since we recorded the arrangements which had been entered into for completing this noble vessel for sea. In this interval much of the work which was then being contracted for has been done, and such great and important progress has been made with the most difficult portions of her equipment, that not the least doubt is now left of the vessel not only being finished in time, but being well at sea before the end of September. Such an amount of progress, when judged by other ships, may appear to be no great matter, but when we reflect a moment on the details, and find that the deck alone requires 18 miles of five inch planking to cover it, that the paddle-boxes are of rolled iron, that each contains 25,000 cubic feet and is equal in size to a vessel of 600 tons, we begin to see that in point of labour some really astonishing progress has been made.

The contract was for £125,000 to be completed on the 4th of September, with a premium of £1,000 a week for earlier completion, and a penalty of £10,000 a week for each complete seven days beyond the alloted time. This agreement includes the masts, sails, rigging, blocks, boats, cables, engines, boilers, ironwork and woodwork, with suitable accommodation for 500 first-class and 400 second-class passengers. Thus the rigging will require 900 blocks, and no less than 70 tons of hemp rope, with 30 tons of mixed wire and hemp for the standing rigging. Her sails will consume 13,000 square yards of canvass; she is to have 20 boats fitted with masts and sails complete, exclusive of the two small screw steamers, each of which is to be 100 feet long by 16 wide, of 130 tons measurement, and 40 horse-power. She is to carry upwards of a thousand fathoms of chain cables, all of the most massive description. Her anchors are 16 in number, ranging from one ton to seven tons (the largest).

On coming into possession of the vessel the new company thought that in case of war the Great Eastern might prove an invaluable auxiliary to the Government, if not for carrying guns, yet still more effectively in running down the largest of the enemy's ships, which the unmense speed of the vessel would enable her to overtake with perfect ease. For this purpose, therefore, it was decided to strengthen still more her sharp powerful bows by laying down three complete iron decks forward, extending from the bows backward for 120 feet. These decks are entirely completed. They cover 8,000 square feet, and afford stowage for 1,400 tons of cargo space. They will not, however, be used for this purpose, but for accommodating the crew of 300 or 400 men. With this large increase of strength forward the *Great Eastern*, steaming full power, could cut in two the largest wooden line-of-battle ship that ever floated. Of the other parts of the ironwork which were contracted for, at least three-quarters are already finished. The woodwork is getting on with almost equal rapidity. All these fittings are made on shore by means of powerful machinery, and come on board ready to be at once fixed in their places. When we say that the deliveries of these prepared materials prior to the 1st of June included 42,000 feet of beadings, 44,000 feet of mouldings, 40,000 feet of prepared planking, 15,000 feet of matched battens—which, if laid on end, would extend nearly 30 miles—our readers will have a fair idea of the work now going on. Everything connected with the vessel is on a gigantic scale. Thus it requires more than 6 tons of paint to give one coat to the interior ironwork, and nearly eight tons to give one coat to the outside from the waterline to the bulwarks. When completely rigged she will have six masts—one forestay-sail mast of wood, three mammasts (square rigged) of iron, one mizenmast of wood, and jiggermast (the last) also of wood. The three wooden masts are already placed, and almost entirely rigged; the iron ones will be so shortly. The last mast is a single tree (Canada pine) about 130 feet high, and proportionately thick. A finer mast never left Mr. Ferguson's yard, though he enjoys the reputation of making the best and strongest masts in the world. The foremast is a built mast, as is also the mizen, but all the topmasts, yards, and gaffs are single sticks, of immense length and width, straight as arrows, and free from knots and sap. The cabins, as far as they have been yet fitted, are amply spacious when compared with accommodation offered by other vessels. The berths are very ingeniously made to fold flat against the wall during the day, and so give more increase of room for any who may choose to use their cabins as sitting-rooms. Both paddle and screw engines are almost completely finished, and the former have already been turned by hand, and will be turned by steam by way of trial in the course of a fortnight or so. It is quite impossible by mere description to give any adequate notion of the colossal proportions of both these sets of engines. The paddle engines consists of four oscillating cylinders, of 74 inches diameter and 14 feet stroke; each pair of cylinders, with its crank, condenser, and air-pump, forms in itself a complete and separate engine, capable of easy disconnection from the other three, so that the whole is a combination of four engines. The united efforts of both screw and paddle engines will drive the immense vessel through the water with a power of no less than 12,000 horses. What fleet could stand in the way of such a mass weighing some 30,000 tons, and driven through the water by 12,000 horse power at the rate of 22 or 23 miles an hour? The screw engine boilers are in three distinct sets. Their weight is 362 tons, and their capacity for water, 270 tons. The probable consumption of coal when both engines are at full work will average 250 tons per day. The cellar compartments at the bottom of the ship will be used for pumping water into instead of ballast, and as the webs subdividing these are made perfectly water-tight, any one or any number can be filled at pleasure. The trial trip will probably take place about the end of next September. No destination for this run has yet been fixed, but we would advise the directors, if they wish to maintain the great reputation the ship has already achieved with the public, not to let this matter be overlooked.

ARRIVAL of the ADELAIDE.

St. John's N.B., July 4.

The steamship *Adelaide* from Galway, on Saturday, the 25th, arrived at this Port this evening, *en route* for New York.

There had been no battle in line of Mincia, though the armies were face to face.

Prussia was about to move an army to the Rhine.

The Emperor of Austria had removed his head-quarters to Valledo.

It was believed that the force of the Austrians on the Mincia number 280,000.

The entire French force had passed the Montecheara and recognisance had been pushed as far as Gotha.

The Piedmontese had advanced towards Peschiera.

Napoleon, preparatory to any offer of mediation, had demanded permission to march 31,000 troops through Hanover to the Rhine.

It was believed that the basis of the proposed mediation by Prussia would not be acceptable to France, thereby involving Prussia in war.

The reported treaty beteen Austria and Prussia was denied.

It was rumoured that Prussia had threatened to assist in suppressing the Hungarian insurrection.

Prince Napoleon was upon the borders of the Medicina.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Parliamentary proceedings in England had been suspended until Ministers of the Government were re-elected.

It was rumored that the new Ministry would curtail the naval expenditures.

The Swiss troops sent from Rome to Peruga to suppress the rising had a desperate encounter with the people, whom they shot down indiscriminately.

VERY LATEST.

Paris, Saturday 25.

The Emperor telegraphs the following to the Empress:

"Garrara, Friday evening.

"Great battle! Great victory! The whole Austrian army formed a line of battle extending five leagues in length. We have taken cannons, flags, and prisoners. The battle lasted from 4 in the morning till 8 in the evening."

A Vienna despatch supplies a partial confirmation of the above, in stating that a battle was progressing, but no details had been received.

NOTICE.

HAVING, on the 19th instant, disposed of my interest in the "York Herald," to ALEXANDER SCOTT. All parties indebted to the concern are requested th pay then accounts to him or his order.

M. McLEOD.

Richmond Hill, May 26, 1859.

The York Herald.

RICHMOND HILL, JULY 8, '59.

DR. DUNCUMB AND IDLE EXHIBITIONS.

Our readers will perceive that Dr. Duncumb has come out in favor of "Idle Exhibitions." Well, be it so. There is no accounting for tastes. We compliment the Doctor for the courteous and gentlemanly tone in which he has written, and we desire our reply to be equally courteous. His first argument is, that there are a variety of passions and tastes in man, some of which tend to evil. We fully grant the position here assumed, but from this fact we arrive at a different conclusion to the worthy doctor. We hold that those passions and tastes which lead to evil, are precisely those which should be discouraged; and these are the very tastes which these "idle exhibitions" tend to foster, which is proved by ascertaining the character of those engaged in them, and also the moral stature of those who most frequently attend them.

We all know that a circus company is the very last school we should send our children to, to learn either virtue, honesty, industry or sobriety; therefore we urge that where the fountain is impure the stream cannot be otherwise than defiled. Again, the doctor says that "he has visited many a circus, and never at the expense of morality." We do not for a moment doubt it. This reasoning reminds us of an anecdote we once heard. A celebrated toper who had reached his three score years and ten, and was still hale and hearty, said to a temperance advocate—all nonsense, dont' tell me that brandy is poison; I have been drunk many a score times, and here I am hale and hearty as ever." Yes, said the S. of T., "but what has become of your boon companions?" Oh, said the old toper, "they are all dead!" And thus it is with these exhibitions. They may not destroy or injure all who attend them (especially so rarely as the Doctor) but they have blighted the prospects, both for time and eternity, of many of their most frequent visitors. He says that "to term them Idle Exhibitions is really too bad." We think not. That which wastes and kills our time without giving us any equivalent, is to all intents and purposes idle or worse. He speaks of the hardships of those engaged in them, and states "that it is nearly as fatal to their lives as would be a military campaign." How by any possible logic this statement can be shown to be in favor of circuses we are at a loss to conceive. It is admitedly dangerous to the lives of those engaged in them—and all this for the public good too. We would, were we Catholics, canonize them as martyrs. But granting the Doctor's statement to be true, we are only sorry that life's great object should be so wofully missed by the misguided beings who endure such hardships for such a paltry prize.

Village sports, says the writer, "are too much snubbed down."—Here we are happy to say we join hands; and right glad should we be to see many games, such as cricket, &c, now nearly obsolete, become common again, as we believe that manly gymnastics are too much neglected now-a-days. Then again, "health is more benefited by a hearty laugh at a circus, than by any dissolving view, and does more good than a cart load of medicine."

A hearty laugh we grant is good; but it need not be at a ribald jest, or at the sight of females unsexing themselves; and modesty and decorum being trampled under foot, as it invariably is at a drunken clown's ribald jests, or feats of shameless feminine horsemanship. Far better is it to view the wonders of nature or art, which bring back vividly to our minds some pictures of things as they were in days gone by. Such sights, if they do not give rise to unseemly merriment, do what is far better, namely, improve the mind. The doctor talks about the Zoological gardens. And why cannot we have Parks and miniature Zoological gardens. There is nothing to hinder us. Let us quit encouraging horse-racing, puppet-shows, and such like senseless amusements and then we could get up something worthy of being seen and admired.

But why single out the Zoological gardens. Has he never heard of the Penny Gaff answering to our paltry circuses. Will the doctor defend them? We are sure he will not; neither would he defend these Canadian idle exhibitions if he once visited them. Again, "he says that the expectation of something good constitutes their essence, &c." No, it is not so. It's the ribald senseless jest that gets the applause. If it was something good they were seeking they would never enter a circus in their lives. You might as well expect honesty from a thief, or nourishing food from hemlock, or fresh water from the sea, as expect anything good to emanate from so vile a source. We have not time now to go into the philosophy of the question. But as to the mind selecting those topics for reflection, which are more suitable for the occasion,—we grant it to a certain extent, and the more reason there is that the youthful mind should have brought before it right views and illustrations; and never, no never, if parents wish their children to become virtuous and honorable members of society, let them be brought under the pestiferous influences of a circus. Let us have a circus-going sight seeing youth, and we shall have manhood miserable and old age contemptible.

VAUGHAN COUNCIL.

The Council met at the usual hour, Monday, July 4, 1859. The members were all present—the Reeve in the chair. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Mr. JEFFREY presented a petition from the School Trustees of School Section No. 18, praying that the sum of £7 10s. currency may be levied by tax.

Moved by Mr. JEFFREY, seconded by Mr. SMELLIE, that the Township Clerk be authorised to pay the following sums out of the road appropriation fund.—Carried.

Ward No. 4,	H, S, Howard,	$1 80
" " 1,	W. Dalziel,	4 12½
" " "	J, Keefer,	65 00
" " 5,	J, Burgess,	40 00
" " 4,	D, Dickhout,	11 75
" " "	Thos, Chapman,	3 75
" " "	J, Adams,	30 00
" " "	J, A, Franks,	1 00

The Council then adjourned until the first Monday in August.

HORSE RACING, &c, AND THE "WHITBY CHRONICLE."

It would seem that our remarks on Men *vs.* Horses has had the effect of driving the editor of the *Whitby Chronicle* into a perfect 'phrenzy,' and unless care is taken it will be soon necessary to apply the 'straight-jacket' to him, lest like other rabid animals he should bite alike friend and foe. We give the following as a specimen of the *gentlemanly* and *courteous language* which this *model son of thunder* uses to *an opponent*:

"It has lately taken to denouncing Races, and 'idle exhibitions.' This is the modern religious trick resorted to by all characterless impostors, and hypocrites, to *acquire* a character in the community, which their own virtues could never enable them to possess. What their own virtues are insufficient to deserve, these canting fellows foolishly fancy that their denounciations of their neighbors ought to obtain them."

We really think that the editor has made a mistake rather common with such writers, namely—giving to other people a character that more especially belongs to himself; and in this case the public, we are sure, will not fail to think that the editor of the *Whitby Chronicle* has drawn a life-like portrait of *himself*.

After this tirade of vulgar abuse comes a lengthy quotation from the editorial in question; then the following:—

"What elegant and grammatical writing for an individual who assumes the offices of Public Instructor and Censor of public morals? But our intention is not to criticize the production, but to refute the writer's argument; although while doing so, we cannot forbear thinking that one as little deserves our leisure, as time would be thrown away in correcting the other."

He says 'it is not his intention to criticize the production.' Possibly not! If he did we might be tempted to make 'invidious comparisons.' He fears, however, that his attempts to refute the arguments we used will not be appreciated.—In reply, we beg to state that we would be most happy to enter the lists with a man and a gentleman; but we do not feel inclined to discuss with one, who in addition to being rather short-tempered, uses low epithets in lieu of argument in order, we suppose, to show his readers that though kind nature has been rather scanty in providing him with brains, she has more than made up the deficiency by giving him a superabundance of brass.—But again·

"That because, the past two years, the harvests have failed, 'Britain's Premier, Lord Derby,' should not keep a racehorse. That the 250,000 persons who witnessed the Derby, were all erring fools; and that the sapient editor of a village newspaper in the backwoods of Canada, is transcendantly elevated above all other men in moral tone and sentiment! It might as well be argued that because there happen to be poor farmers, there should be no Agricultural Fairs. That because there are Mechanics out of employment, men should not live in expensive mansions. And that there should be no social pastime because there are men who drink, and others who go to Jail! What senseless humbug?"

We presume that the editor reckons this a clincher. If he had read attentively the article in question, he would have found that we did not state that because our harvests have failed, therefore Lord Derby should not keep a race-horse. What we did say was this, that 'it was wrong to give so much money to the winner the Derby, and let thousands of men, women and children, want both shelter and food;' neither did we call the 250,000 persons who witnessed the Derby, fools. We leave the use of such expressions to the *gentlemanly editor of the Whitby Chronicle*. He also styles us in his *courteous phrascology*, 'the Sapient Editor of a village newspaper in the backwoods of Canada.' We hope his Richmond Hill subscribers will be thankful for the compliment he pays to our village. This inflated specimen of the Genus Homo states that we might as well condemn Agricultural Fairs, living in mansions, &c., as condemn horse-racing. Cannot his *gigantic* mind discover any difference between the two. If not, as he is so far above *backwood editors of newspapers*, we will refer him to the remarks of the London *Times* on the sale of Lord Derby's stud, which we hope he will read; and if the editor of that paper is not *too near the backwoods*, we hope he will learn that at least it is 'a *questionable amusement*.' We have not space in this issue to follow him further. However, if he wishes any more we shall be most happy to oblige him—that is, if in future he shows as great an aptitude in using his brains as he does in using his cane.

☞ The next Division Court will be held at Elgie's Hotel, Richmond Hill, at 12 o'clock noon, on the 30th inst., and at Markham village on the same day at 8 A.M.

STATE OF THE CROPS.

We are glad to learn from our exchanges that the injury done to the wheat by the late frosts have not been so disastrous as was at first supposed; still, from many places the accounts are very dismal. We recently had some conversation with a gentleman who has travelled through the following townships, who gives us the state of the crops in those townships.

In Albion on light sandy lands, and also on all the new lands, the wheat crop is nearly a total failure. In many places it is not worth cutting. Hay will not be a third of a crop. Oats look exceedingly well, and also barley. Wheat on old and heavy lands will be an average crop. No weevil has as yet made its appearance.

TECUMSETH.—Parts of the township have suffered very much injury to the wheat from the frosts, particularly along the sandy parts bordering on Ajalon.

AJALON.—The wheat in this township is nearly ruined, and the farmers are looking and feeling much discouraged at the blighting prospect before them.

ESSEX.—The wheat along the flats by the Holland River is so bad that the farmers are turning their cattle into the fields. One man, who had about 30 acres of as fine looking wheat as any in the country previous to the late frosts, has it totally destroyed, the frost having turned the wheat quite yellow.

In the townships of Tosoranto and Innisfil the accounts are equally discouraging. The fly has also made its appearance in great quantities among the fall wheat in Vaughan.

BATTLE OF THE BOYNE.

The L. O. Markham district will hold their annual celebration at Thornhill on Tuesday next, the 12th inst., when the different Lodges will form into procession, headed by their respective band's; after which, a sermon will be preached by the Rev. S. Johnson, of Richmond Hill; and dinner will be served at Shield's Hotel.

LOCAL MAP & DIRECTORY.

We with pleasure call the attention of our readers to an advertisement, announcing the intention of G. C. Fremaine, Esq., Toronto, to publish on a large scale a "Descriptive Map of the wealthy and populous County of York." Such a map is much wanted, and we doubt not will command a ready sale.

RICHMOND HILL FAIR.

The usual monthly fair was held in this village on Wednesday last, the 6th inst. There was a large show of cattle, sheep, &c., and the company more numerous than we have seen at former fairs; still, there were but few sales effected at prices tending downwards.

IRON-HEADED PLOUGH.

We learn that Henry Frank, who lives on the 6th concession of Vaughan, got the first prize for the above plough at the Richmond Hill Spring Show, instead of William Trench, senr., as reported by us.

Correspondence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No Communication of a purely personal character, and having no bearing on the general interests of the community, will be published in this paper. Communications, however, on all interesting subjects will be thankfully received and willingly inserted. To insure attention, Correspondents must send their names and write in a legiable hand. Let each communication be as brief as the nature of the object will allow.

IDLE EXHIBITIONS.

To the Edit of the York Herald.

SIR,—The remarks on "Idle Exhibitions" in your last publication may be correct, but I have my grave doubts as to their correctness. The paragraph should have been thus: 'We observe with displeasure, &c., that exhibitions of horse-riding &c., are to be prevented by stringent By-laws.' "We think the community will not thank the Markham Councillors for their narrow-minded policy." You must allow that there are a variety of passions and tastes, which produce evils, hence it is obvious that the passions and tastes are not infalable guides to happiness. They neither inform us in what well-being consists, nor enable us to speculate on the nature of evils we may dread. I have, with fondness and ardour, visited many a circus, and never at the expense of morality. Are they to be prohibited because a few to whom they appear hateful shun them with disgust? To term them "Idle Exhibitions" is really too bad. A troup of equestrians, prior to travelling must work hard and long hours to arrive at anything like perfection in gymnastics and pantomines, to enable them successfully to please the public. During a summer tour their hardships are ten fold increased, both mental and physically, combined often with rough usage and worse accommodation, and often terminates in a barren speculation; and is scarcely less dangerous to life than a military campaign. Their bad effects on public morality are mere flights of fancy; their good effects on public health are more discernable. Village sports are to much snubbed down—(I mean not, effigy burning)—the bad effects of which have shown itself in England—hence the vast thousands that are yearly expended in purchasing and laying out parks, adjacent to populas cities and towns for healthful walks and gymnastic exercises. Health is more benefitted by a hearty laugh in a circus, than by a concatenation of yawning at dissolving views. In truth, a visit from a circus does more good to the health of a town than a cart load of medicine. Let us stop horse-riders—menageries will die a natural death in a few years; for wild animals are fast becoming annihilated, then the youth will not know a lion from a tiger. Books won't supply the loss, and few have opportunities to visit Regent Park, Zeological Gardens. On visiting a circus the expectation something good constitutes its essence.—Those who witness such scenes, and have but faint power of recollection must be affected by a direct effort of the mind; a number of ideas which have a relation to the subject must be run over; a variety of thought pass in review, from which the young but thinking mind is enabled to select those which are more appropriate to the occasion. These facts are strickingly illustrated by romantic tales of our forefathers, on hearing which revives vast mental impression, arousing them from their latent state, and bring them into lively and vigorous action. The "reminiscences of the Crimea" had some local good, being the rallying point to which multitudes press, to vindicate and expostulate according to the nature of the object in contemplation, thereby forming a connecting medium between the past and the present, enabling parties also to form plans for the future, and give to parties absent and remote, all the influence of facts newly discovered, and newly laid before them. Having said my say, I trust the next Municipal Election will elect for ward No. 2 a councilman friendly to equestrian feats, or *convert* the present one.

With every respect, Mr. Editor,

J. DUNCUMB.

Richmond Hill, June 28, 1859.

To the Editor of the York Herald.

SIR,—I perceive that I am charged by a Gou Templar and Son of Temperance with sending you a report, abounding with misstatements and egregious mistakes. In reply, I beg most positively to assert that the charge is altogether unfounded.

He next boasts of removing the unfavorable impression this shameful report is likely to make on the public mind; but whatever I have written, was said at the soiree by the various speakers; and therefore, my report could not make an unfavorable impression.

In reference to my being an anti-temperance man; had he stated the opposite it would have been more correct; for I am in no way opposed to the temperance cause. I believe it is calculated to do much good. Your correspondent should learn not to make statements totally at variance with the truth.

He says, as he attended the soiree, he finds no difficulty in guessing who your correspondent is, &c. I beg to return the compliment.—And now, Mr. Philologist, with all your professional boasting, you are not able to point out anything ungrammatical or improper in the extracts you have given, and blown so much over. You next say, as a scholar, the doctor could not have used the word hyder-headed. Any school-boy knows that; but we are not talking of what the doctor said as a scholar, but what he said as a lecturer, at the Victoria Square soiree; and I again assert that he did make use of the word hyder-headed, and that in whatever form of language the word may be put, it would not put the worthy doctor in a false position; for he came to the meeting not as a temperance lecturer, but as a ranting politician, scandalizing gentlemen holding high and honorable positions, many of whom are an ornament and a blessing to Canada.

Again, you must have heard Mr. Hagarty say, "the fault of our not having a Prohibitory Liquor Law" was not to be attributed to the constitution, "but to the members sent to Parliament to represent us."—But there are none more deaf than those who will not hear. There are numerous witnesses to prove that all I have written on the subject is perfectly true. You say, "what does he mean!" I understood him to mean that he was perfectly satisfied with the Political institutions of the country, and the British Constitution; but, probably, he would like to see you or some other gentleman of intelligence occupying the benches that are now occupied by some of Dr. Freel's "six-dollar-a-day-men,"—and I assure you, my friend, I have no objection; I really do not think there can be any difficulty in understanding this. And now, sir, next time you write, do mind to keep to the truth, and also to your subject, or you may get yourself into disrepute much quicker than you anticipate.

Yours, &c.,

Z.

Markham, July 5, 1859.

To the Editor of the York Herald.

SIR,—I beg to return you my sincere thanks for inserting Z's. report of our soiree; and I do assure you that said report is perfectly true and correct, and not in any way calculated to convey a false impression.

JOSEPH ELLARBY,

Worthy Patriarch of the Rising Star Division of the S. of T., No. 176.

Victoria Square, July 5, 1859.

CROSSING NIAGARA FALLS ON A TIGHT ROPE.

DARING AND SUCCESSFUL FEAT—15,000 PEOPLE PRESENT.

From the Toronto Leader, July 1.

Yesterday afternoon M. Blondin performed the extraordinary feat of walking across the Niagara River on a tight rope.

The place selected for the laying of the rope was about midway between the Suspension Bridge and the Falls. Here the distance from bank to bank is 1,100 feet, across which a hempen rope two inches in diameter had been stretched. To this rope guy or stay ropes were fastened at distances 18 feet apart, which were firmly attached to posts to either bank and the borders of the river underneath. By means of these stays the main rope was so firmly secured that when M. Blondin first crossed it, scarcely a vibration was preceptible. At the point where the rope was laid across the bank on the Canadian side of the river the elevation was 15 feet greater than the opposite bank, and the distance to the deepest part of the curve which the rope formed, from the horizontal line, was about 30 feet. The height from the river was about 140 feet. Before M. Blondin attempted to cross the cable he amused and perhaps, we might say, astonished, the onlookers on the American side, by performing on a tight rope which he had erected on the bank. After having got through the exercises which lasted about half an hour, he took his stand on the platform to cross the river. When he took the balance pole—a rod 30 feet long, and weighing about forty pounds—into his hands, and stepped upon the end of the rope, the two bands—one on each side of the river—played up a quick step, and one loud and long hurrah burst from the thousands of voices that thronged the banks. After the tumult had subsided he stepped out boldly and nimbly, having to descend at the same time an incline of seven feet in every hundred. Arrived at the end of the first hundred feet or so he sat down upon the rope, then lay flat upon his back, cast his legs from one side to the other and then raising himself up upon one leg. The next hundred feet he passed in the same way but at a smarter pace, moving his legs very quickly—a sort of trotting motion. At the end of this hundred feet he beckoned for the "Maid of the Mist," which was standing against the current a short way down the river, to come underneath the rope and hoist a bottle to him. This being done by means of a pulley he drank a bumper to the people ashore, and then dashed the bottle into the water, proceeded on his course. He took one more rest before arriving at the end of the rope, and then ran the ascent to the Canadian bank very quickly. When approaching this side it seemed to be the general impression that he was slightly wearied, and some expressed fear for his safety, but he did not abate his pace a whit, but came up the rope and stepped upon the platform firmly, and as adroitly as when he started.

His passage occupied twenty minutes, owing to his many delays. After driving through the people for about half an hour, he returned and recrossed the rope to the American side, having previously, at the request of his friends, drunk half a glass of champagne. He started in the utmost glee, and actually ran across the rope, which was somewhat slacker then when he first came over it. He passed over in about seven minutes, having taken two rests of about 30 seconds each.

M. Blondin is a Frenchman—born at Calais—and is now about 34 years of age. From his youth, he has followed the business of an acrobat, practising principally tight and slack rope dancing. When six years of age he made his first ascension.

BLONDIN, BLINDFOLDED, WALKING OVER THE RIVER ON A ROPE.—On the 'glorious Fourth,' as our American cousins delight in calling Monday last, upwards of twenty thousand persons visited Suspension Bridge, to witness Blondin's hazardous exploit of walking the rope over the river; nor were they disappointed, for Blondin completely eclipsed the feat performed by him on Thursday. He had, on Monday, his head and shoulders encased in a large bag, so as, we are told, to blindfold him. In this state he was led down to the edge of the river, and the pole being placed in his hands he walked over the rope in safety to the Canadian sids, and at about six o'clock returned in the same manner.—*Globe.*