Poetry.

The Gardener's Soliloquy.

To sow? or not to sow?—that is the question;
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The greatest torment of a gardener's life
In poring yearly through "fat catalogues,"
Or to take means by popping them, when sent,
In the waste basket,—to be looked to
No more; and, by doing so, to say we end
The thirst for new and special novelties
That flesh is heir to. 'Tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To grow?—to sow?
To grow?—perchance to cram our beds and borders
With useless rubbish—Ay! there's the rub!
For to pick out the best of the trade-lists,
Full of "ennobled roots," and "improved seeds,"
Must give us pause. There's the respect
That raisers have for their own progeny;
For who would bear to look o'er all the lists,
Now daily sent to gardeners or employers,
"Descriptive guides," "*Vade mecums*," little books
For teaching when to sow, transplant, and reap,
When he himself might the commotion end
By never reading them? Who would yearly bear
To sow the good old seeds of former lists?
But that the thought of something after seed-time—
That the 'ringleaders,' 'gems,' and 'first-crop peas,
New brocolis, French beans, and cauli-flowers,
Might not turn out so profitable or early
As the well-tried old sorts, puzzles the will,
And makes us rather grow the seeds we have
Than order others we know not of.

Wit and Humor.

The following epitaph may be read in a church yard near the city of Toronto, and as a specimen of English composition, we think it may be classed with some of those relics of other days, which we cannot read without a smile:—

Come all young men, as you pass by, stop & read before you cry,
I am the mother of 7 children
4 sons have I, 3 of them was wild and wicked, which caused
Me here to lie the 8th of April,
I walked to the Goal, I so my son in chains, the 10th of
April, I took my bed the 20th
then I died, I have an honest & industerous Husband, that
you all do know, so well he provided a living for us all,
while travelling here below,
now I am gone before my great God to meet, may the Lord
protect my partner and bring him here to sleep,
My sister standing by my side and thus to me did say,
have you made your peace with the Lord, I answered,
Yes! I bowed by head and Closed my eyes and died,
Good by my friends good by I have no more to say
May the Lord protect my offspring and bring them here to rest.

ARTEMUS WARD ON THE NEGRO.—Fellow citizens, the African may be our bruther.—Severil hilly respekable gentlemen and some talented femails tell us, and for argyments sake I mite be injooced to grant it though I dont believe it myself. But the African isn't our wife and our uncle. He isn't several of our cousins, and all ov our first wife's relations. He isn't our grandfather and our ant in the cauntry. Scarcely. And yet numerous persons would have us think so. It is troo he runs Congress and several other grosserys.—But he ain't everybody else. And we've got the Afrikan or he's got us rather; now what are we going to do about it? He's an awful noosance. Praps he isn't to blame for it. Praps he was created for some wise purpose, like Hill Harding and New England rum, but its mighty hard to see it. At any rate he's here, and its a pity he couldent go off somewhears by himself, where he could gratterfy his ambishun in varis wase, without having an eternal fuss kicked up about him.

The Foundation of a Home.

How many mistaken ideas are there as to what constitutes a home! Home is a word of our language sadly misused. It is often spoken, but seldom in its true sense. In its false interpretation it includes every place where human beings are passing their lives.

The thatched cottage of the peasant; the rough log cabin of the pioneer; the house of poverty with its broken-panes, through which the winter blasts whistle; the white walled frame of the farmer; the capacious brick of the merchant; the cornieced and porticoed mansion of the millionaire, and the golden laid palace of the king, all are classed as "home." That they are places where many are passing their lives we well know, but how many of them are homes in the true sense of that sacred word? There is a wide difference between a "home" and a "residence." One is a heaven upon earth, the other well nigh a pandemonium. Love and contentment make a home. These are its guardian angels. While they hover around its walls it is a home in reality as well as in name. When they take their flight there is a sad change.

In the crowded thoroughfare, in the country village, by the wayside, on every hand, a hundred times almost each day, we hear the expression, "Let us go home." Alas! how few of you have the homes of which you speak.

You are a wife. That white cottage, with its neat garden fence, its green and well trained shrubbery, its rich and fragrant flowers, with their scented leaves sprinkled thickly along the paved walk—that place so beautiful to look upon, is yours, with but one sharer, your husband.

Is the scene as fair and beautiful to look upon within its walls? Is the angel Love a guardian there? Is there a faith and confidence existing between its inmate ever unshaken? If there is, then that cottage is a home, and better live in such than beneath a tapestry of gold, where the household angels Love and Contentment keep no vigil.

An editor and his wife were walking out in the bright moonlight one evening. Like all editors wives, she was of an exceeedingly poetic nature, and said to her mate—'Notice that moon, how bright, how calm, how beautiful!' 'Couldn't think of noticing it,' returned the editor, 'for anything less then the usual rates—a dollar and fifty cents for twelve lines.'

It is said that after the battle of Chattanooga, a chaplain—dressed probably in as unclerical a costume as army chaplains on active service usually are—knelt by the side of a dying soldier, and abruptly asked—'My man, do you know who died for you?' The Yankee soldier opened his eyes slowly, and replied, 'Wall, now, stranger, I guess this is not the time for asking conundrums.'

Rowland Hill, being annoyed by his footboy singing profane songs while cleaning his knives and forks, ordered him, under penalty of dismissal, to sing hymns. But as the work proceeded to the tune of solemn but slow measure, Rowland Hill was compelled to tell the boy to return to his old style of profane music, otherwise his knives and forks would not have been ready for dinner.

FLOWERS IN SLEEPING APARTMENTS.—It is a popular fallacy to imagine that the presence of plants and flowers in a sleeping apartment is unhealthy. It has been asserted that plants at night, when deprived of the influence of the sun's rays, give out carbonic acid gas; but this is not the case. The fact is that plants, under such circumstances, give out oxygen, but to a less extent than when exposed to daylight.—*Scottish Farmer.*

A LADY'S AGE.—'What is your age, madam?' said a *hussier* of the Palais the other day to a witness. 'Between twenty-six and forty, monsieur.' How is that madam? Do you not know better than that? was the rather angry retort of the *hussier*. 'Well, monsieur, I count my money and my jewels, because that is property I might lose; but I'm sure no one will take my years and add them to theirs; therefore I take no heed of my age.' The Lady's wit permitted her age to pass unknown.

'What's the use of living?' snarled a veteran grumbler the other day. 'We are flogged for crying when we are babies; flogged because the school-master is cross when we are boys; obliged to toil, sick or well, or starve, when we are men; to work still harder (and suffer something worse!) when we are husbands; and, after exhausting life and strength in the service of other people, die, and leave our children to quarrel about the possession of our watch; and our wife—to catch somebody else.'

ANECDOTE OF BURNS.—Being in church one Sunday, and having some difficulty in procuring a seat, a young lady who perceived him kindly made way for him in her pew. The text was upon the terrors of the gospel, as denounced against sinners, to prove which the preacher referred to several passages of Scripture, to all of which the lady seemed very attentive, but somewhat agitated. Burns, on perceiving this wrote with a pencil on the blank leaf of her Bible the following lines:—

'Fair maid, you need not take the hint,
Nor idle texts pursue;
'Twas only sinners that he meant
Not angels such as you.'

—*New Orleans Times.*

American Summary.

The Republican majority in Ohio figures up to nearly 25,000.

The railroads through Georgia, Tennessee Alabama, are being speedily opened to freight and travel.

A fireman's demonstration on a grand scale, has taken place in Philadelphia, during the last week.

Richard Aucy, son of a farmer of that name in Pilkington, was drowned by accidentally falling into a tub of water last week.

A man named F. X. Gaertin is now in custody at Ottawa for setting fire to his own house.

The city counsel of Ottawa has under consideration the establishment of a regular police force for that city.

A disasterous fire occurred in Belfast, Me. on Thursday last, Over $300,000 worth of property was destroyed and nearly 100 buildings consumed.

An extensive fire took place at Franklin, N.H. on the night of the 13th. The Machine Shops of W. Asken were totally destroyed. Loss $50,000.

The Pacific R.R. Company report favorably with respect to the late survey. They expect to have the line laid within 118 miles of Sacramento, next year.

The steamer *Yosemite* burst her boiler on her downward passage from Sacramento, on the night of the 12th inst. 13 persons were killed and 40 or 50 wounded.

Large numbers of pardons still continue to be issued to repentant Southerns. Stephens and Regan are the last important ones mentioned.

Mr. A. J. Smith, who has accepted the office of Attorney General in the New Brunswick government, is to be opposed in his constituency by Mr. A. J. Palmer.

Miss Munson, the person who shot Kerr in Bowmanville last summer, has been held to bail to appear at the spring assizes in Northumberland and Durham.

The Galt *Reporter* says the railway to Harrisburg is now doing a larger business than ever before, each train generally requiring two engines to haul it along.

The Montreal papers give an account of a fellow named Edsall, who representing himself to be a Federal colonel, succeeded in swindling several people in that city.

The Montreal *Witness* says that nearly all the distillars in the country have been defrauding the revenue to a greater or less extent, and that neverless their business has been far from profitable.

Out of the eight million dollars of the National Loan subscribed for in Virginia, over three millions have been taken up by the Freedmen, and the balance wholely by Northern men doing business in the State.

After Dr. Mudd's attempt to escape was discovered he was put to the torture of the thumb screws, and under pressure was compelled to divulge the name of the person who aided him. This was the quartermaster of the steamer in which the doctor concealed himself, an officer named Kelly, who was immediately tried by a drum-head court martial, sentenced to six years' imprisonment at hard labor, and the vessel sailed without either him or Mudd.

A delegation from South Carolina composed of Judge Woodlaw, Alfred Hagar and Col. D. Dawkins, waited on the President on the 13th inst., bearing a Memorial from the State Legislature, in favor of Jeff Davis. A. H. Stephens. Geo. A. Trenholm and Geo. McGrath. The latter two have already been released, An interesting conversation ensued in which the President declared the general merciful tendency of his government, but nothing definite was decided upon, Subsequent advices state that there is no hope of pardon for Jeff Davis.

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A. SCOTT, *Librarian.*

Richmond Hill, June 9, 1865. 1-tf

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ARE within the reach of all, by the use of DR. BUCHAN'S VEGETABLE DOMESTIC MEDICINES, prepared from the Prescriptions of the late Dr. Buchan, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, &c., &c.—Cures are daily made, and their efficacy proved in thousand of cases, attested before the Aldermen at Guildhall,

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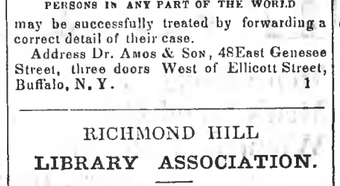

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Richmond Hil June 1st, 1865 1-f

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Richmond Hill, May 26, '65. 1

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May 26, 1865, 1

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