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DURHAM, Co. Grey, OCTOBER 3, 1878.

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McLELLAN,

sary evil; and after all worship is in some measure reciprocal; for if the "nice" devotee spends an hour or two a week in a pretty church, and gives away a modest his youth. Work and self-reliance prepare of the Tay bridge construction. Defeat sum of money which he does not miss, the the young for the years of manhood. He and insurmountable difficulties seem alike the devotion paid to him in return by the that lives on hope has slender die .. Goed clergy is perhaps the nearest approach to habits, early formed, are the constitution daring of the present day. Indeed the are doubtless sincerely devout; yet of them | in time. it is said "They are very nice people, But few have succeeded who did not lay admire, and fully appreciate the benefits but ___," and the "but" is followed by the foundation in youth. The lavish ex- that their completion yields, without any lamentations over the one failing which penditure of money or insignificant trifles undue astonishment or open-mouthed sullies their otherwise beautiful characters -the wasteful extravagance of our habits wonder. So now no one is surprised to regards their duties towards their neigh. of the present age. At no other period of bridged over though the difficulties are if bours, nice people are often very charitable American history have we disbursed so possible greater then those connected with in nursing their invalided friends who many millions of dollars for eigars, fast the Tay bridge construction. Mr. Bouch happen to be wealthy. The poor they will horses, champagne, kid gloves, articles of C.E., of Edinburgh made designs for this philosophical apparatus, or in the forms. also attend to so far as their labours will vertu and the thousand other nothings that work some years since, and these will tion of a collection of objects of natural make them popular, and give them influence cost so much. The reason of this may be substantially be adhered to, the chief bistory." when the elections take place. Besides, it found, without doubt, in the adage of "easy alteration being the lowering of the height is the proper thing to have the reput- come, easy go." We inherit a great deal of of the spans to 135 feet above high water ation of being kind to the poor; and their money in this generation, for our fathers mark, instead of 150 feet as originally ballots being taken, the following gentlebeing so establishes a sort of mimic feudal were hard-working, prudent, economical intended. The bridge to be constructed is relation between them and their poorer men. California, too, opened a gran I source a two-span suspension, as owing to the neighbours. When nice people are tenants, of easy-made fortunes a few years since, depth of the estuary there is no chance of the expenditure af a very moderate sum and the mania of speculation which has founding any piers save on the island of of money, and a still more moderate sum reged without let or hindrance for the last Inchgarvie, halfway between North and amount of time, among the neighbouring quarter of a century has also been produc- South Queensferry. On each shore from members of the labouring classes, will give tive of much sudden enrichment. This be the high ground to the water's edge a series them almost as much influence as would ing the case, it is not to be wondered at, of spans will be carried on brick columns. the possession of a large estate. In Lon. perhaps, that gold should be lightly held A composite pier consisting of four sets don, they must be ever ready to suscribe and readily spent. liberally to the pet charities of their fashion. Those who have to work hard through basements, will be placed at each side of charities is of great assistance in scaling the appreciate it at full value; but those into fastened some distance inland, will be rounds of the social ladder, and it is satis- whose hands it falls almost as a matter of carried over the tops of these piers, and of whether people are good, clever, sensible, or given will at least conduce eventually to trouble, never rightly understand what it From these will be suspended the two

Nice People.

POETRY.

A September Brening.

BY N. B. DRESSER,

Now sinks to rest the orb of day

And twilight, with its shadows gray,

Behind the western hills,

Along the flats a thin mist lies,

The busy town grows still.

In swift, and coaseless flight ;

In yonder wood a whip-poor-will

While from you thickly wooded hill

It loves the dim twilight.

Repeats its mournful cry,

A long owl makes reply

And cherrily the katy-did

In grassy knolls, securely hid,

The cricket chirps its strain,

Pipes forth a shrill refrain.

Mounts up the eastern sky,

That fright the timid eye.

By yonder glittering track.

Upon the tall church spire!

Such is the varied scene 1 ace

This calm September night A scene of boauty that will be

A pyramid of fire.

Making its polished surface seem

Throwing wierd shadows o'er the ground

You dismal pond, so dark and lone,

And mark the muskrat's watery home

Its silvery rays, how bright they glean

Ite borrowed light gives back;

The air grows damp and chill;

Each day-bird to the woodland flies-

The night-hawks flit along the ground

The noiseless bat flies circling round-

The quiet valley fills.

It would appear that society at the present time is comparatively indifferent as to amusing; but there is a universal desire a country residence is to be let or sold, all the surrounding neighbours are devoutly hoping that it may be taken by nice people, and everyone wishes for the entree to houses where nice people are to be met. of life in this latter half of the nineteenth run by the Danes that he had, as every schooling in the qualities which are usually con- own, and meet the enemies of England on entertaining, that one is almost tempted to especial element. He set himself busily Durham P. O. shun their society for a season. First im- to study the models of the Danish ships, pressions may seem to justify the use of the and aided by his hardy followers, stirred found that those on whom the title is be- labour in the presecution of his schemes, English & Scotish important of the characteristics which it is galleys, which were double the length of but very concise dictionary, we find the carried sixty oars, and possessed ample word nice defined as "very pleasant, dainty, space for the fighting men on board. precise." Now there are many persons this fleethe put to sea, taking the command who are conventionally spoken of as, not in person, and routed a marauding expidiof the term, as meaning agreeable, amiable course of the next year or two he captured and good-tempered, they certainly are not; or sunk eighteen of the enemy's galleys, "dainty" is a word which we could hardly and they found at last that they could not apply to their conversation, especially when have it all their own way on the sea. A-"preciso" is an adjective which defines occupied necessarily much of his time : his their statements.

District Agent for the Victoria, The Western and one nor other; but it is a sine qua non way, but had rounded the north cape - it Sanada Fire & Marine Insurance Co's. Insurance that they should have a place in what is was a feat in those days, gentle reader, but charming and well-educated persons will bay in which Archangel is situated. by fair means or foul, become acknowledged forgetting the terrible maelstrom. to use a modern slang expression, they which it is generally believed in those days OFFERS to Lend Money on Farm, City beings is sometimes the very reverse of parel the natives to the Scythians of old, but to be linked to the peerage, even by with India. William of Malmsbury mena barsinister, makes an aspirant quite safe. | tions the silks, shawls, incense, spices, and Setting aside, however, the question of aromatic gums which Alfred received from birth, it is more interesting to turn to the the Malabar coast in return for presents moral and social attributes of "nice people." sent to the Nestorian Christians. Alfred In the first place, we will examine the man- constantly and steadily encouraged we ner in which they do their duty towards science of navigation, and certainly earned their Creator and their neighbour. They the right of the proud title he has borne do not consider it to be what they term since of " Father of the British Navy."-"good form " to indulge In religious or ir- The Sea. relegious extremes. This the first com-13 Mortgages and other Real Estate Se-

parent magnanimity, the favourite charities | be most salutary. of the leaders of fashon, thus 1 mking sure of a reward in this life .- Saturday Review. great public buildings-hospitals, institutes. to know that the immense capital required THE FLEET IN THE REIGN OF ALFRED To be nice people, and to knownice people, THE GREAT .- On the accession of Alfred seem indeed to be the aim and the object the Great to the throne of England so overcentury. Even the worship of the great boy knows, to conceal himself with a few idol of Mammon itself is forsaken by many followers in the forest. In his retirement for devotion to the "nice." Although, he busied himself in devising schemes for however, the companionship of " nice ridding his country of the pirate marauders; people" is doubtless much to be desired and without much deliberation he saw that these social angels are sometimes so lack- he must first have a maratime force of his sidered necessary to Linke intercourse the sea, which they considered their own much-coveted adjective, not only in its up a spirit of Maratime ambition, which fashionable, but also in its general sense; had not existed to any great extent before. but on closer acquaintance it is apt to be At the end of four years of unremitting stowed are wanting hi some of the most he possessed the nucleus of a fleet in six generally understood to imply. In a small any possessed by his adversaries, and which only nice, but very nice people, whom we tion of the Danes, then about to make a decould point out as interesting subjects on scent on the coast. The force was larger than which to try the test of this definition. his own ; but he succeeded in capturing "Very pleasant," in the general acceptation one and in driving off the rest. In the dependent, have only ridicule for the noble a source of unquenchable heat, a hidden and ran down stairs in such a harry that he it touches upon social scandals; while bout this time the cares of the government neither their behaviour nor the accuracy of astute policy was to win over a number of the more friendly Danes to his cause What then are the qualification which giving them grants of land, and obliging entitle a person to be classified among them in return to assist in driving of ag-"nice people?" This is a question which | gressors. He was nearly the first native of would undoubtedly puzzle many of those England who made any efforts to extend who so glibly make use of the expression; tha study of geography. According to the

but, generally speaking, we believe the Saxon chronicler, Florence of Worcester, phrase is conventionally understood to A.D. 897, he consulted Ohther, a learned mean people who are received into good Norweigian, and other authorities, from society. It does not necessarily point to whom he obtained much information rethe rich or to those of good family, since specting the northern seas. Ohther had "nice people" are occasionally neither the not only coasted along the shores of Norknown as "society." Intimacy with now Cook's tourists do it-and reached the not do-indeed education is at a low prem- ancient geographer gave Alfred vivid desium among "nice people"-but the aspir- criptions of the gigantic whales, and the ants to this title must, somehow or other. innumerable seals he had observed, not members of the fashionable world; in short dangers of which he did not underrate, and must be "in the swim" of society. Al- was caused by a horribly vicious sea-dragon though the parentage of these superior who sucked the vessels under. He comaristoratic, this may be counterbalanced by and was rather severe on them, as they great social recommendations; but high birth | brewed no ale, the poor drinking honeyis of considerable advantage at the outset | mead in its stead, and the rich a liquor dis of their career. To be "born of honest tilled from goat's milk. Alfred not merely parents," as old pigraphies quaintly put it sent vessels to the north on voyages of disis of no account in any way; to be the covery, but opened communication with decendent of an old line of country squires | the Mediterranean, his galleys penetrating is little better unless these worthies have to the extreme east of the Levant, whereby of late years intermarried with the nobility; he was enabled to carry on a direct trade

pectable piety may be tolerated as a neces- blacks.

A Change Needed. It is good for a man to bear the yoke in

adoration which men can reasonably expect give way, a good name is a mine of from a fellow-creature. Many nice people wealth. Success comes to him who begins feats as so reuch to be thankful for rather -namely the religious earnestness. As of dress and luxury-are prominent marks hear that the Firth of Forth is to be

> hotels, etc., and great public roads and im- for its carrying out has been fully secured. who has learned in youth the real use of the circulating medium a sudden fortune

Decay of Public Virtue. a political reformation.

unto this thing will grow.

make money by getting into power.

The time forrevolution has come. It is the Centennial year of national independ ence. Let it also be the year of political renovation. We want a revival of honesty a return to primitive simplicity and economy: a new national birth to life of patriotic, unselfish, Washingtonian purity, the people love to have it so, it will come in this year of grace .- New York Observer.

discharged. Medical assistance was procured, but he died in a short time. an illicit still and assisting to destil spirits which they sat. Both men were stunnedin Woolwich township. He was taken to one it was thought for some time was dead, that the Pharaoh whose bones we now posmand among "nice people." To go to The population of Memphis, usually more Berlin to stand his trial. On being brought but after a while he recovered. The dog sess succeeded the builder of the Gree

labour for six months,

THE BRIDGING OF THE FORTH. - Another great engineering project in Scotland may be said to be following on the heels of that unknown to the engineering skill and general public seem to take all these little then marvelled at. They look on and

iron columns, resting on good substantial able acquamtances. The judicious use of long and weary years for their money the Firth, and immense chains, securely factory to climbers to know that the money course, without requiring any exertion or two similar ones on the Inchgarvie island. timir own social advancement. By re: represents. If all parents would teach their lattice garders, each nearly 1,000 feet in fising appeals in obscure cases they are children to work-to earn their own living length. The spans are to be constructed enabled to give large sums, with great ap. in early life-the result would, we believe, in lengths of 150 feet and separately floated out and placed in position. It is a really The country needs capitalists. We want a great undertaking, and it is satisfactory

> provements, such as can only be furnished The working drawings are to be prepared by men of large means. These we can as soon as the necessary alterations in the never have so long as we fritter away our original design have been considered and fortunes in ephemeral vanities, and fancy made, and we hope soon to see the comthat because the money came easy it should mencement of active operations .- British go in the same manner. To one, however, Architect. will not be likely to be a bane, as it so often knows that a geyser is a gigantic and in. legacy of a system of government, such as proves. Knowing the labor and care re- termittent fountain of boiling water, found no country then, and few now, have atquisite to the amassing of wealth, it will not only in Iceland, where they are best tained to. He was far before his age; and be held as worthy of preservation and in- known, but also in New Zealand, and on a the fact which so strongly attests the virtue vestment in some more valuable objects vast scale in a district of North America and patriotism of the man, is that he bethan the foolish and harmful luxuries that known as the Yellowstone Region. The came arbitrary and a dictator to establish

ly silent on the subject. The truth is, there by the smallest fraction of a degree this perate in his diet, though liberal in his are very few papers, whatever their pro- inner bosom of heat nor this outer mantle table for his officers and public company, fessions and sincere intentions, that are of cold. As the sea rounds the pebble on He delighted in music, and gave choice not in some way so related to this or that | the shore, and strives to level the surface | entertainments, where the greatest masters party, or to both parties, as to be interested of the earth, so under the operation of time wers engaged. He surrounded himself in the success or defeat of one of them, or broad differences of temperature gradually with all the great minds of the age, and in maintaining a good understanding with disappear. Time is, in fact, a most pitiless | their talents were called into service for both. For such papers to take stock in a communist. Thus, the extremes of heat their country .- Cassell's History of Eng. movement that may result in something and cold are less than once they were, and formidable to the powers that be, or the hence the glacier, and probably the geyser, powers that are to be, is dangerous, and of to-day are but as pigmies compared with they prefer to let it alone, and see where- the giants that were in existence in years seen the skeleton of one Pharach Mykerinus, But he must be mentally and morally the humbleness of his reason as well as the clothes, and surrounded by fragments of the blind who does not see that the political | smallness of his strength, these ancient and | coffin, whereon the name of its occupant condition of the United States is rotten to impressive phenomena have as yet receive can be easily read by Egyptologists, afford its core, and through it. So wide, deep, ed but a partial explanation, and that only ing conclusive evidence that it once core

sical problems .- Science for All.

and Dumb Institution at Belleville

days ago, she being a deaf mute.

A lad named Allen, whose people reside at Hantsport, N.S., was riding in a with a loaded gun under his armpit. leaning on the muzzle, when it in some way

stitutes of Ontario. The annual meeting of this Association was held in the reading room of the Toronto Mechanics' Institute on Tuesday evening last week in Toronto. The chair was occupied by Mr. James Young, of Galt. the President of the Association, who opened the meeting by making some interesting remarks on the progress of the Mochanics' Institutes of the Province and the good

Association of Mechanics' In

work they are doing. Delegates presented their credentials of appointment from the Mechanics' Institutes of Ayr, Berlin, Bradford, Brantford Clinton, Elora, Grimsby, Guelph, Hamilton, London, Listowel, Mitchell, Milton, Newmarket, Paris, Port Hope, Peterborough, Preston, Nichmond Hill, Seaforth Stratford, Toronto, Uxbridge, Waterloo Wardsville, Wingham, Woodstock, and Wroxeter. In all 42 delegates were pre-

Among the resolutions passed was the following :- That the Executive Committee or the Convention be requested to consider the following resolution :- "That this Association would recommend to the Ontario Government the desirability of so amending the Act relating to Mechanics' Institutes as to permit any Institute to expend an amount of money not exceeding 10 per cent of the legislative grant to such works of fiction, or in the purchase of

offic e-bearers for the ensuing year, and the men were elected :-- President, Jas. Young, of Galt ; Vice-President, Otto Klots, of Preston; Secretary - Treasurer, William Edwards, of Toronto; Executive Committee, E. Jackson, of Newmarket; T. Davidson and M. Sweetnam, of Toronto; and Col. John Walker, of London. David McCrea, of Guelph, was re-elected to represent the association in the Council of the Agricultural and Arts Association, and John Taylor, of Taronto, was elected audi-

THE CHARACTER OF OLIVER CROWNELL

-Oliver Cromwell was a great map, with great man's faults, but with talents, virtues, and noble intentions which far outweigh them. That he was an earnest and liberty-loving man of the highest purposes and the most enlightened views, few persons can compare his history with those which went before and came after it without conceding. He was led on by the force of circumstances and the predominance of his genius to the highest place in his country; and had not the immaturity in the nation, of the principles on which he and his party acted, compelled him to 101train the wildness of one party, and the despotism of the other, he would undoubt-GEYSKES AND GLACIERS. - Everyone edly have left to his country the august suck up so much of our substance, finan- glacier, on the other hand, is a huge river if possible, not a despotism, but a free and cial and physical, in these days .- The of ice, slowly moving down a mountain tolerant government. In private life he side, perpetually melting in the warm was at once simple, and yet maintained a valleys below, and as perpetually renewed dignity, says one of his worst calumniators. by the snow-fields above. The present "such as might benefit the greatest menglaciers of Switzerland or of Norway are, arch." His letters to his familiar friends There is no stronger evidence of the utter however, very much smaller than those and the members of his family display his demoralization of the political mind than gigantic sheets of ice which swathe the in- character in a most amiable and pious light, is afforded by the reception given to the terior of Greenland, and that once covered and he was accustomed to unbend amongst proposal of President Wolsey, Mr. Bryant, whole regions of this country and the Con. his officers and ministers in a manner that and others, to hold a meeting on the sub- tinent of Europe. Not only do these none but a man with a kind heart and good ject. Newspapers, hitherto the loudest in phenomena, in their magnificence and conscience could do. Ludlow tells us that denunciations of corruption, sneer at the ceaseless unrest, afford a sublime spectacle, on one occasion, after a very serious debate, attempt to reform, and speak of the pro- but they appeal to the reason as well as to he threw, in a frolic, a cushion at his head, posed convention as an old woman's meet- the sight. For the geyser tells us that be- and when Ludlow took up another cushion ing. Even papers calling themselves in- neath the ice-clad surface of the ground is to throw it in return, he escaped, laughing movement, -- a movement instinct with storehouse of tremendous energy; whilst had nearly fallen. He would sometimes patriotism and good sense, and full of the glacier speaks of realms of perpetual tell the nobility of their drinking the health promise as the first step on the highway to cold that remains unwarmed though tra- of the king and royal family, and without versed by the rays of a tropical sun. Man. the slightest ill-humour advise them to be The greater part of the press is ominous- kind, with all its appliances, cannot alter more cautious. He was extremely tem-

AN ANCIENT RELIC .- In the Etruscar wareroom at the British Museum is to be long past. As if, however, to teach man decently encased in its original burish and universal is this corruption, that we at the present day. This much, however, tained the mummy of a king who was have come to accept it as a matter of course; is evident to the most ignorant. In the reigning in Egypt more than a century we cease to be horrified by the daily deve- geyser we have water boiling and boiling before the time of Abraham. The proof is lopments of wickedness that are made; we over ; in the glacier we have water frozen thus explained in the Gentleman's Magazine, regard the revelations of fraud, of embez- and slipping down the mountain side. Out April, 1866 :- About two years ago, Her zlements, of bribery, of sales of influence of the commonest of all things-water-we Damichen, a German explorer of the monuand office, as part of the spoils, and to be are presented with the most imposing of ments of Egypt, following up the indications expected of men who have the chance to appearances and the most puzzling of phy- pointed out by M. Mariette, a distinguished archæologist, discovered on the burial walls of the Temple of Osiris, Abydos, a large tablet containing the names of the ancient Mrs Captain Bates was placed in the Deal grandson of Noah, and founder of the Egyptian monarchy—to that of Pharach thirteen years of age, is six feet in height. Seti I., the father of the well-known and weighs 800 pounds. It is also stated Rameses the Great, including thereby the that she has twelve toes and the same numchronology of nine centuries, viz., from B. C. 1,400. This tablet, by far the most inf-On Thursday, Sept. 10th, while two broportant yet discovered, has been compared thers named Frawley were working in a to the sculptured figures of the kings of field in Medonte township they noticed a England, at the Crystal Palace, from thunder-storm approaching, and ran for William the Conqueror to Her Majesty shelter to a Mr Sullivan's house, where Queen Victoria. Astronomical evidence. they seated themselves on a bench in the moreover, enables us to det rmine the time kitchen. A little dog lay on the bench of two important epochs in the history of between the two men. A flash of ligtening Egypt, one of which is connected with our A couple of weeks ago Alfred Fields was struck the wooden partition against which present subject. Sir John Herschel ber arrested in Guelph on a charge of erecting they leaned, and rent in pieces the beach on fixed the age of the Great Pyramid of church, and to a fashionable church, is de than forty thousand, is now, it is estimated before County Judge Miller the prisoner which lay between the two men was inrigueur; but religious enthusiasm must be reduced by the yellow fever fright to twenty- pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to pay a stantly killed. Nearly every parson in the house was more or less affected by the light- long to the age to which we have assigned