

**BABYLON.**

"How in Babylon became a desolation among the nations!"—Jer. 51:13.

How trembled prostrate Babylone,  
That dread war-cry to hear,  
When woman's hands her ramparts won,  
And mocked each trembling peer:  
Mysterious writing had unravelled  
The downfall of her throne,  
The doom of other lands he told—  
He could not read his own.

Fall's are her halls, her palaces,  
The chambers of her kings;  
And left a howling wilderness  
Where the night demon sings!  
Hear lies, to desolation given,  
All that was bright and fair;  
The tower whose top should reach to heaven  
Its ruin's moulder there.

From "Age to age her stream hath kept,"  
Its joyous course along;  
It's banks, as when the Hebrews wept,  
Are echoes to song:

And he who asked the captive's lay,  
Of old by Babel's stream,  
Is now as desolate as they,  
His land, like theirs a dream.

For, lo! Heaven's cleaving espies, fowlsown,  
Hath swept the peopled land;  
Chalde's pride and Salem's throne,  
Have felt an equal hand.

But Judah's lot shall happier days  
Break o'er that night of thine,  
And brighter than the moon's pale blaze  
Thy evening star shall shine;

But o'er that city shall shine;  
The hope of morning never  
Shall dawn; a home for beasts of prey  
Forever and forever!

Never to hear man's busy hum,  
Or echo to his tread;  
While desolation walks the dumb,  
Drear city of the dead.

Here, where in pride the monarch dwelt,  
Where slaves their homage paid,  
Wail to the east the Magian kneel,  
And the Chaldean prayed;

Alike the sunshine and the cloud,  
The calm, the tempest's sweep;  
No ray so bright, no voice so loud,  
To break that iron sleep!

Mount Forest, 1879.

**The Reasoning Powers of Animals Under the Influence of Affection.**

No. 4.—CONCLUDED.

3. The considerate, genuine, and reciprocal affection of animals with each other. When treated in such a manner as to gain their confidence animals are capable of much affection. In proof of this, we could advance many instances but we confine ourselves to that of canaries treated after a rational manner by their master, who thus speaks of them in their affection: to familiarity with him. I had one who came regularly to my desk as I sat writing each day, and disputed, with fluttering wings and open beak, my humble right to the inkstand. And when I had reasoned him out of his mistaken notion he would perch himself on my pen-holder (no very comfortable proceeding for me), and watched gravely as I wrote. I have many a time, also, discovered him in the act of eating off the corners of my paper, even to the title of my article. Another thought nothing of trotting about on my head and shoulders, and even hopped under my throat to nestle against my chin. He would take his bath as I held the cup in my hand, and coolly dry himself on my head. Another would fly down or up stairs to me whenever I called him, and many a time, when I have been out, he has welcomed my return by flying down the stairs and singing at the top of his voice all the while, until, at last, perched on my shoulder, he would accompany me to my room. Nor is it, under the same conditions, different in the case of one animal with another. Let us give an instance or two varied by circumstances, as follows:—

(a) The sagacity of swallows inspired by affection for their young.—At Rosenberg, in the neighborhood of Graz, a pair of swallows had built their nest in the floor of a peasant's house. When the door was closed, the only entrance to the room was through a window near by. One evening at harvest-time all the inhabitants of the house went to the meadows situated at the foot of the mountain, almost two miles distant from the dwelling. The wife forgot to leave the window of the cottage open, and scarcely was the work of harvesting under way, when a pair of swallows flew around her with loud twitterings, hitting her on the head and shoulders with their wings. At last it occurred to the woman that these were certainly her swallows, and that their entrance to the nest had been closed. In spite of the distance and pressing work, the good woman went back to see, and if so, to put her dear "swallows to rights." She opened the window and had the pleasure of having her supposition confirmed.

(b) The sagacious efforts of animals inspired by compassion.—Martin Hayner, of Brunswick, is the proud possessor of a fine pair of oxen. One day they were pasturing on his farm, through which a ditch had recently been dug, quite a distance from the house. One of the animals fell into the ditch, in some way striking upon its neck, with its feet helplessly pawing in the air, and utterly unable to regain his equilibrium. The other ox, discovering the predicament of its mate, began running from the house to the ditch, making more than half a dozen trips before Mr. Hayner's attention was specially attracted. He finally entered the inclosure where his coat was weighing, when it seized hold of his coat and pulled in the direction of its mate. Mr. Hayner found his other ox in the position mentioned and with difficulty rescued it. Such intelligence is certainly remarkable, and worthy of the recognition we have accorded it.

Again, a swallow (supposed to be a female) enter an exhaust pipe in the roof of one of the Grand Trunk workshops, evidently for the purpose of building her nest in it. Unfortunate for her she could not get out again, and her partner entered the pipe also and locked out again with a feather in his beak. Three times did he tentatively attempt to rescue his mate,

When work was resumed at one p. m. the swallow was blown out of the pipe by the force of the steam and lay dead on the roof of the building, the "swallow standing" by showing signs of intense distress.

(c) The wisdom of the pigeon displayed in the protection of her young from the inclemency of the weather. A writer in the *Scottish Naturalist* tells a story of a pigeon, which illustrates the truth of the saying that God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, and the higher power of instinct prompted by parental love. Two pigeons had built their nest in the top story of the dove-cot, and had hatched their young, which came out of the egg about the 16th of March, 1876. On the 16th day of March a very severe storm of snow and snowdrift set in at dusk. It must be noticed that the door of the dove-cot looked to the north-west, from whence the storm was coming; so that the snow blew right into the portal where the young pigeons were lying, only a few days old.

The storm was very severe, so much so that it was thought to be the hardest that had happened for many years, and the young brood would have, no doubt, perished but for the happy expedient that the father of the young pigeons adopted. He stood in the doorway with his tail spread out to the storm, and the wings in a fluttering position, evidently with the intention of stopping the draught, so as to shelter his naked offspring, and there he stood for hours with the snow thick upon his back and tail, breaking the intensity of the cold. But for this, the young must have died.

**Farm and Garden Notes.**

**ORCHARD AND NURSERY.**

Rake your fields after the grain has been drawn; the labor will be repaid.

Every farmer knows that his team must be well fed to do good work. Try a generous diet.

While all good farms do not belong to good farmers, good farmers usually own good farms. They make them so.

France produced in the year ending with last September the enormous amount of over 800,000,000 pounds of beet-root sugar.

Grafting of old trees, while best done just as the buds upon the tree are swelling, may be continued, with proper care while the trees are in bloom. In late grafting, the bark slips readily, and care is required, in cutting off the branches to not make bad wounds. At this time, before sawing off a branch, cut around it with a knife quite through the bark to the wood, and let the saw follow this cut; this will avoid disarranging the bark.

Buds upon the stock should be left until it is seen that the graft is in union with it, which will be known by the growing of the buds on the graft, when those on the stock may be rubbed off.

The beet-sugar industry in Maine this season promises success beyond the highest anticipations of its friends at the start early in the spring.

Land-draining goes ahead in the West, especially in Indiana and Illinois. The former State has now 500 the factories, each of which turns out 240,000 tiles in a season.

In all our cropping and planting we should remember that the farm is our capital, and that increasing its producing capacity means adding to our principal, while reducing it is taking away the means by which we live.

Land which without an application of manure will give a yield of 15 bushels of wheat per acre, will, by the addition of 80 pounds of nitrogen in a favorable season give from 35 to 40 bushels of wheat with a proportional increase of straw.

In plowing it is never a good plan to turn up a mass of crude earth of several inches in depth, never before exposed to the sunlight and air. It will, unless heavy manuring be given as a top-dressing, result in loss. In deepening the soil it is better to plough up an additional inch in each year.

**The New Mastodon.**—The discovery of the remains of a mastodon on the farm of Mr. Kelly, a few miles from Newburg, N.Y., promises to be one of the most important discoveries of fossils that has occurred for many years. The land on which the discovery was made is part of a swamp, which fifty years ago formed the bed of a pond covering three acres of land. About 1829 the land was drained, and the water of the pond turned into a tributary of the Hudson River, since which time the bog has been used for the growth of vegetables. The morass is formed of rich black mud to a depth of twenty feet, and it is conjectured, in the cases of other mastodon fossils, that the animal waded in beyond his depth, got fast and there perished. Almost the whole skeleton seems to have been obtained—the skull, all the bones of the legs except two pieces, the ribs, numerous vertebrae, both which are in a perfect state of preservation, &c. The dimensions of the chief parts of the skeleton found are as follows: The skull is 45 inches long, 28 wide, 22 high, and 23 between the eyes. The diameter of the nostrils is six inches. The nostrils extending into the head two feet. The four back teeth are eight-pointed, measuring 7 by 8 inches, and stand three inches out of the jaw. The four front teeth are six-pointed, and measure 4 by 8 inches. The depth of forehead is 14 inches; the eye-sockets are 7 inches in diameter, and the ear sockets 18 inches in diameter. The fore-leg, including the thigh-bone, measures 7 feet in length, and it weighs, it is judged, 150 pounds. The first joint of the hind leg measures 2 feet 5 inches, and the second joint of the same leg 3 feet 4 inches. The only part of the other fore-leg yet found is the second joint, measuring 8 feet and 10 inches. A dozen or more sections of the spine are among the bones unearthed. The largest measures 10 by 16 inches. A score or more other bones are among the lot, among them that of a toe, measuring 6 by 4 inches. Doubtless this is the most complete skeleton yet found, and will be hailed as a choice treasure by all interested in geology.—*Chris. Union.*

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PRINTS FROM 5c. PER YARD UP.

FACTORY COTTONS From 5c. per yard By the Piece.

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Yours truly,  
**W. TINDALL, Methodist Minister.**  
Port Elgin, Ont., Aug. 31, 1878.

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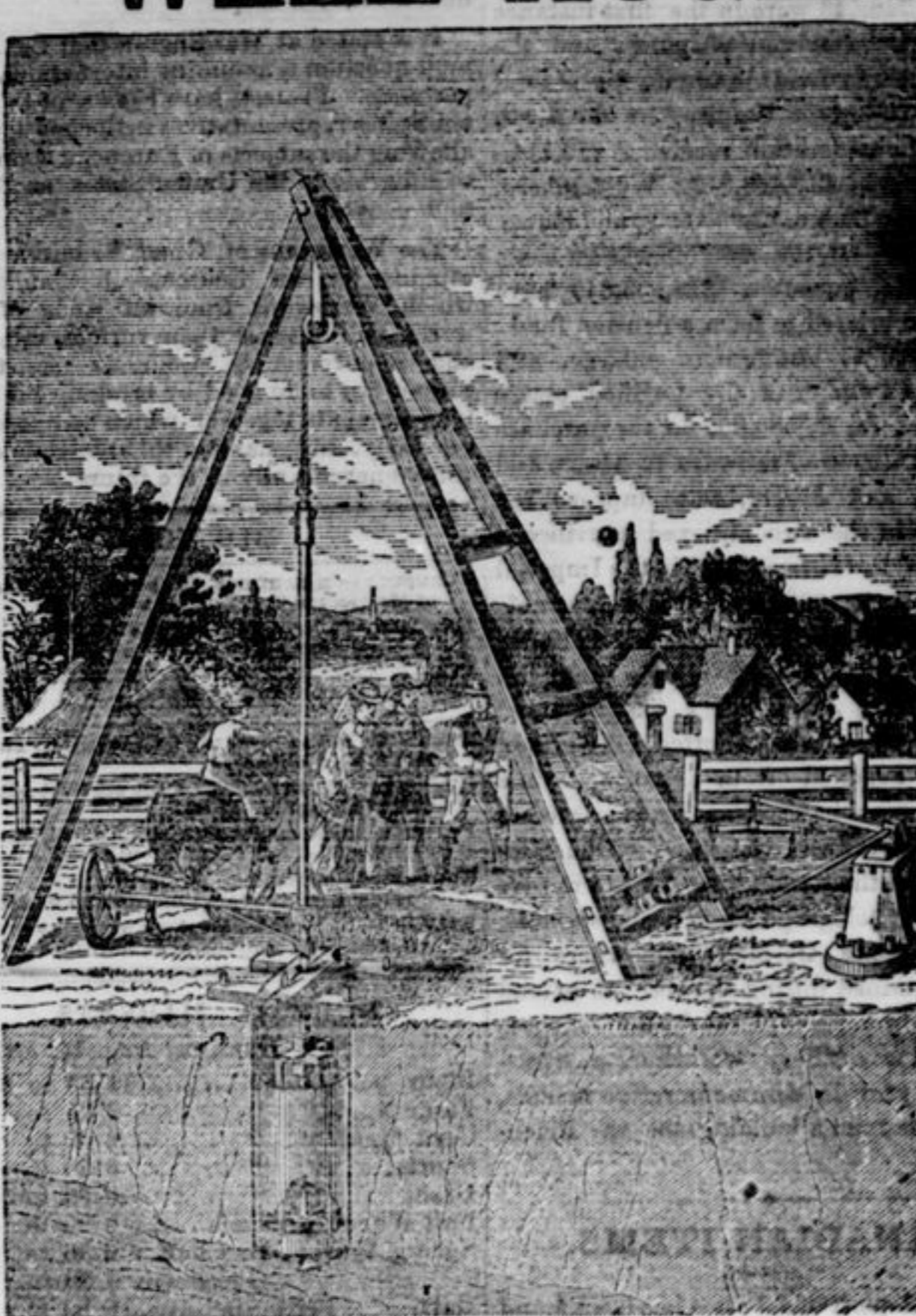
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Durham, Feb. 26th, 1878.

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