

POETRY.

FOR THE GAZETTE.

What is love but the modern fair one's jest?
The folly of a wife man and the wisdom of a fool.

When night the world had hush'd to rest
Our wearied eyes to close,
A long lost dream my thoughts posses'd
To rob me of repose.

It whisper'd me of pleasures gone,
Of sorrows great to bear;
Nor tranquil hope o'er folly's tomb
Can snatch the mind from care!

Sad mem'ry! thus to hold its feat;
And triumph in that pain,
Which slow regret for time so fleet,
Had left within the brain.

A time there was when all grac'd
In envied beauty's form,
Inspir'd with hope my youthful breast,
And shielded it from harm.

Mild sentiment in mutual ties
On fancy's vision hung,
When languid love beam'd from her eyes
To melt upon her tongue!

So have I seen the driven snow
On nature's choicest green,
Too soon in liquid form to flow
And emulate the scene.

Who has not seen the roses bloom
Sweetly on maiden's cheek,
But soon to meet a darning frown
And in the dust to weep!

Not fragrant shades can joys protect,
Tho' plighted faith be there,
If slanderers foul fair fame attack
And wage an impious war.

But are those scenes far from my view
That others might arise,
As bright in form, in fact more true,
And reaching to the skies?

Or will they bring some happier fair
To cheer my lonely heart,
To smooth my brow of earthly care,
And, never from me part.

Government Contract.

PERSONS desirous of contracting for the

TRANSPORT

Boards & Plank,

From Cadanoque to Kingston, are requested to send their proposals to this office without delay.

It is desirable that all tenders should express the rate per thousand feet (board measure,) for which the parties are willing to contract.

This service is to commence as soon as the winter roads are so formed as to admit of sleighs travelling.

Commissioner's Office,

25th Kingston, 13th December, 1815.

KINGSTON, July 17th, 1815.

Discharged Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, who may have been recommended for receiving Grants of Land, are to repair to Cornwall without delay, & to report themselves to Alexander J. P. Donell Esq. Superintendent of the Department for Locating the new Settlers.

By order of His Excellency the

Provisional Lieutenant Governor,

F. P. ROBINSON, Secy.

FANCY GOODS.

THE subscriber informs the Ladies of Kingston and its vicinity, that he has just received and has for sale the most extensive assortment of

Figured, Twill'd & plain SILKS & RIBBONS,

Shawls & Handkerchiefs—

Ever offered for sale in this place, wholesale or retail on moderate terms.

SAMUEL AYKROYD,

Dec. 1, 1815.

26th

ALL persons having claims against the Estate of Robert Graham, Sen. late of Kingston, deceased, are requested to present them, duly authenticated, for payment on or before the fifteenth February next, as no accounts will be allowed after that date, and all persons indebted to the said Estate, are desired to make immediate payment.

THOMAS GRAHAM.

Kingston, 22d Dec. 1815.

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CAME into the enclosure of the subscriber about the 20th of Nov. last, A BLACK HORSE.

The owner is requested to prove property, pay charges, and take him away.

THOMAS GRAHAM.

Kingston, 15th Dec. 1815.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Occurrences at Detroit.

The following Official Documents, detailing some recent and unpleasant occurrences at Detroit, will be read with interest. They are copied from the Aurora of yesterday morning:—

N. Y. Spectator.

NO. I.

Sandwich, 5th Dec. 1815.

SIR—I beg leave to inform you, that it has been officially reported to me, that an Indian was yesterday murdered under most aggravated circumstances, in a canoe close to Gros's Isle, by a shot fired from an American boat, having eight or ten men in her, supposed to be soldiers; and that an officer, or non-commissioned officer was in the boat at the time this cruel act was perpetrated. This boat must have left Detroit yesterday.

I need not point out to you the line of conduct necessary on this occasion. I shall direct an inquest on the body to-morrow morning; and I beg leave to remind you, that this murder has been committed on the body of an unoffending Indian, and my pointing out the custom of savages would be unnecessary in the present instance.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

H. JAMES, Lt. Col. Commanding,
His Excellency Gov. Cass, Detroit.

No. II.

Detroit, 5th Dec. 1815.

SIR—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date. I will cause an enquiry to be made into the circumstances of the murder alleged to have been committed upon an Indian, by a party of men in an American boat. If a murder has been committed by American citizens, and the perpetrators can be detected, they will suffer the punishment which the laws of all civilized nations provide for such an offence.

In an application of this kind, it was unnecessary to allude to the Indian custom of retaliating upon innocent individuals, injuries which any of their tribes may have received. The laws of this country operate with rigid impartiality upon all offenders; and confident I am that no dread of the consequences will ever induce the courts of justice to punish the innocent, or to screen the guilty.

I will send a person over in the morning to attend the inquest in order to procure such evidence as may elucidate the circumstances of the transaction, and lead to the detection and consequent punishment of the offenders.

I am, sir,

with respect,

your obedient servant,

LEWIS CASS.

No. III.

Detroit, 7th Dec. 1815.

SIR—Since my letter of the 5th inst. in answer to yours of that date, I have ascertained with precision, the circumstances of the transaction which formed the subject of your communication.

The Indian alluded to was killed while in the act of presenting his gun at Mr. McComb by one of the party who was with him. The event was connected with that predatory system which the Indians have pursued for some time upon the Islands in the mouth of the river; and which, if not checked, will be attended with still more disastrous consequences to them. I state these facts, not in consequence of the representation which I had the honour to receive from you, but merely in justice to Mr. McComb, that erroneous impressions may not prevail with respect to his conduct in the business. The Indian was killed within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States; and a British officer has, consequently, no right to require, nor ought an American officer to give, any explanation upon the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Lt. Col. James.

No. IV.

Petit Côte, 21st Dec. 1815.

SIR—Herewith I beg leave to forward a copy of a letter addressed to me by the deputy superintendent of British Indian affairs, in this district: its contents will fully bring to your recollection the circumstances, and I make no doubt you will cause a similar situation.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

H. JAMES, Lt. Col.

No. V.

[ENCLOSURE.]

Amherstberg, 21st Dec. 1815.

SIR—Yesterday in council, the prophet requested that you should be informed, that the Americans had stolen eight horses and a colt off Stony Island belonging to the Kickapoos, to which place they had crossed them before the Indian was killed, preparatory to their going to their own country. He said if the Americans were disposed to be peaceable, they would make no difficulty in having those horses restored; and requested you will have the goodness to make the demand from them; that last summer, when some of their young men stole a number of horses

from the other side, you requested them to be restored; at that time they listened to your words, and immediately gave them up. Those horses were stolen a few nights after the Kickapoo was killed.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

W. CALDWELL, A. D. S. G.

Lt. Col. JAMES, &c. &c.

No. VI.

Detroit, 26th Dec. 1815.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst. enclosing one from a Mr. Caldwell.

The terms of his letter prevent me from taking any notice of it. Upon the general relation of the Indian tribes to our respective governments, and the right of mutual interference, such misunderstanding has prevailed and I am so anxious to remove all collision as well of sentiment as of action, that I will take the liberty of stating my opinion upon the subject. The jurisdiction of the United State and of Great Britain within their territorial limits is exclusive. If the Indians residing under the protection of either, are injured, they must apply for redress to the government of the country within which they live, and can obtain only that redress which its laws prescribe. If an Indian is injured in his person or his property within this territory, our laws have amply provided for the punishment of the offender, and the redress of the party injured. We do not acknowledge in principle, nor shall we ever admit in practice, the right of any foreign authorities to interfere in any arrangement or discussion between us and the Indians living within our territory. Any other principle would render the sovereignty of the United States merely nominal; and by giving to the agents of another government the right of interfering, would lay the foundation for continual disputes.

If the Indians were in the habit of stealing horses from your side of the river, and bringing them here, I should consider it my duty to put a stop to the practice and to restore the property. This was the case of the Indians who stole horses from the Miami last summer, and took them to Malden. You directed their restoration, and in any similar case I shall cheerfully follow the example.

But, if the injury is done in Upper Canada, there exists no right in the U. States to interfere, and if done here, there is no right of interference in the British authorities there. Were an Indian injured at Malden, you would think the cause of precedence indecorous, and the demand inadmissible, should be Indian agent here hold a council upon the subject, and demand of you that the injury should be redressed, and in substance tell you that the alternative of peace or war depended on your decision.

I am inclined to think you would form the same opinion of him that I do of Mr. Caldwell, and impute his conduct to a profound ignorance of the relative rights of nations, or to a more artful though less pardonable motive, that of preserving an influence over the Indians, to be used as subsequent events may render expedient.

In the application of these principles, I have only to observe, that Stony Island, whence these horses were stated to have been taken, is in this territory; that the horses were not taken from there to Canada, and that a British officer has, consequently, no right to make any claim in behalf of the Indians upon the subject. But sir, to yourself personally, I freely say, that I did not hesitate a moment to enquire into the transaction. I found that these horses were taken from Stony Island to Gros's Isle, under the impression that they belonged to people of this territory, and for the purpose of reclaiming them; and that four others and a colt followed these. As soon as the fact was reported to me, I directed that the whole should be brought here with a view to restore those which had not been stolen.

On their arrival here, one was identified as the property of a citizen of this place, and has been delivered to him. The others shall be delivered to the Indians who own them, as soon as they appear to claim them.

With much respect, sir, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

LEWIS CASS.

Lt. Col. JAMES.

[To be concluded in our next.]

KINGSTON, DECEMBER 30, 1815.

Yesterday about 2 o'clock a fire broke out in a Malt Kiln belonging to Mr. Robinson the brewer, which consumed, in a very short time, all the wooden part of that building. From its vicinity to the brew-house, that building was also likely to be burnt, but owing to the laudable and laborious exertions of the inhabitants and soldiers, the progress of the fire was very fortunately stopped.

We cordially coincide with the remarks of a Resident, respecting the necessity of having a fire engine and a company of firemen in this place. For had it been a windy day when this fire broke out, it would have been extremely difficult to have stopped its ravages. It was very fortunate that the night

tracy of this town have not long ago, drawn to Government the absolute necessity of raising funds for supporting an institution of the kind. We trust, however, that as the first of Government is likely to be removed here, something more decisive and beneficial to the community in that very essential respect, will soon be adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS.

MR. EDITOR,

The town of Kingston from its central position, commodious harbour and commercial relations with the Province of Lower Canada, and the upper part of this Province, together with the intercourse which we have with our neighbours, the Americans, and soon become a place of extensive trade and bustle; and should the seat of Government be transferred here; as report says it is to be, that circumstance will add much to its importance. Possessing so many advantages, it is time that its inhabitants should adopt some plan of improving and embellishing it. The streets require very great repairs, as in the rainy seasons, it is scarcely possible to move about without being in mud to the ankles; from their breadth they will admit of very wide foot paths on both sides, which foot paths ought to be paved, at least in every part of the town where the buildings are connected; the remainder might be turfed for the present, and by occasionally filling up the ruts, would make them very passable for carriages. The next thing required in my opinion would be lamps to light the streets in the dark of the moon. They need not be fixed very close together; the cost would not amount to a great sum, and the comfort and convenience to the community would be incalculable. By way of embellishing the town, and certainly that part ought not to be omitted: for few towns have finer streets, there might trees be planted on both sides; it would have a fine effect, and be a very great ornament, and the expense I imagine would not be very great. They should also be kept free from lumber of every description; nothing can be more offensive to the eye than piles of wood, piles of staves, of casks and of fish; which at present is the case more or less in most of the streets. And among the many wants of the town, and certainly not the least, is a carriage with the necessary pieces, and a certain number of Buckles for the preservation of property, as yet we have been extremely fortunate in having sustained so little damage by fire, but that has mostly been owing to there being very little wind at the time; we should however be prepared. That we should have a company of firemen will be wanted who will have it in charge, learn to work it, manage it, and be ready at all times to transport it to the spot where wanted. But before these various improvements can be carried into effect, the legislature must furnish the town with a code of laws, forming a complete police for its internal Government, & commissioners with sufficient authority to enforce them by fine or otherwise. For all these purposes funds will no doubt be required; to procure them, the legislature ought to lay a rate upon every inhabitant household, in proportion to the value of his property within the town; no person I think could have any objections to that mode. The legislature ought to be petitioned at their next sitting, to have a bill passed for that purpose.

These few observations Mr. Editor may I hope, have the effect of calling the attention of the inhabitants to what may be deemed essential, not only to their comfort and convenience, but also to their characters as citizens.

A RESIDENT.

Kingston, 26th Dec. 1815.

MR. EDITOR,

I have, for some time past, been an anxious and silent spectator of the controversies lately agitated in your paper among the officers of the Midland District School Society. Much has been written, but little done. Contention and recrimination have been busily dealt out by both parties.

The first thing worthy of notice, sir, is a communication of the President of the society, inserted in your Gazette of the 2nd inst. I shall endeavor to give a general analysis of this singular production. It begins thus: "The Treasurer of the Midland District School Society has published a note in your paper of the 25th inst. in which he alludes to a letter explaining his reasons to a subscriber for not having collected the amount of the subscriptions of the institution." Did the Treasurer explain his reasons by letter to a subscriber or to the Secretary? "For not having collected the amount of the subscriptions of the institution?" We are then informed "that the letter communicating the Treasurer's reasons for not acting in his official capacity has not been submitted to the Trustees." Was that letter not submitted to them? "Owing to the nature and circumstances of the communication." Would not this have been a better reason? Recalling the Treasurer's declared giving out of his eyes