

MOM MR. STUBBS MADE HIS FORTUNE IN CALIFORNIA SHIPMENTS.

I desire to lay before you readers a chapter from my experience in California speculations, hoping that the relation may be more profitable to them than the reality has been to me. One fine day in June I was invited to dine at the table of my neighbor's with a glowing account of the fortune which Mr. Bubble had probably made by sending a small adventure to San Francisco, immediately I was struck by the chapter, by some such lucky investment, I might realize a sum which would place me above the necessity of depending upon my daily earnings for my food, and myself in a corresponding degree. Mrs. S. agreed with me that there was no earthly reason why we should not try it, and accordingly as Mr. Bubble, who was never famous for remarkable shrewdness or intelligence. So, after a world of painful deliberation, I concluded to invest my investments into three parts, first, that if one article should fail to realize a profit, the rest would be sure to be in great demand. In a week from that day, the trim schooner Charming Nancy, bound for San Francisco, contained within her wooden walls the greater part of my limited means invested in lumber, axes and nails, and the whole was valued at \$20,000. Mr. Stubbs and myself fully believed, the nucleus of a splendid fortune. Months passed away, and the prices current for that delightful city of gold, diminished rather as they advanced. We sold, and salarates a dollar a pound, and axes at a corresponding advance. With the arrival of each steamer, our hopes rose and our faith grew, until we labored under a delirious, morbid, and ungodly delusion for a reasonable fall in the market, and as figures don't lie, proved to a demonstration, that we had been deceived, and that which we had arrived a few weeks since, brought the pleasing intelligence that the Charming Nancy had just arrived safely in the harbor of San Francisco, in the matter.

We were immediately rich. A new house was bargained for, to be paid in cash—CALIFORNIA GOLD, air! Furniture, elegant and expensive, was selected by my wife, and the necessary changes determined upon. Our four youngest children were taken from the public school and sent to a fashionable boarding school, and I deliberately cut three of her choicest friends, whom she had suddenly discovered to be rather "low," & I must acknowledge that I held my wife in common estimation, and she was paragonizing air to most of my acquaintances. Our last baby, for whose name we had been racking our invention, was christened Francisco, in honor of the place where she had her birth-place of our fortune. As the time drew near for the arrival of the last steamer, we increased in importance, and were about to be congratulated on various motives made two consignments of my property on board the Charming Nancy. The lumber I had sent to the extensive house of Chas. George & Co., emigrants from the village of Sharpsville, and the axes and salarates to Mr. Augustus Fitz Tompkins, a romantic young gentleman, who after dwelling away the greater part of his life under the tutelage of his father, who was a genius, had been sent to California by his relatives (of whom I had the misfortune to be one) and had himself returned to the States, and had been six months, and return to his favourite pursuit of scribbling poetry and love stories. As he had a smattering of the hardware business, and had been for a month in a store, I imagined that selling axes and salarates would come within that scope of his abilities. Well, the last steamer brought me the intelligence that I had been fully persuaded that I should send on the list of consignees, Peter Stubbs, \$ 250,000; yet I concluded, that my adventure to San Francisco, which I had so much boasted of, had succeeded in the proceeds of the sales in drafts, and felt satisfied to await the arrival of the mail. The mail, too, came, and brought with it the intelligence which I opened with a trembling hand. They were as follows:—

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26. 18— Sir,—We regret to inform you that the lumber consigned by you per Charming Nancy to us, was destroyed by fire on the 24th inst., and enclose our bill for disbursements on your account amounting to \$1,927 24, a duplicate of which we have sent you by the same conveyance, for your collection. We shall be pleased to receive further consignments from you, and remain your obedient servant, CHAS. GEORGE & CO.

M. Peter Stubbs.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26. 1849. My Dear Friend Stubbs,—The uncertainty of worldly affairs, the frequent occurrence of disappointments, the uncertainty of the future, and the unconstant unpleasantness of this life in general, have been favourite themes with the sons of song from the infancy of poetry to the present time; and I have no reason to suppose that any wide expansion more striking illustration of the justness of their views, than the fate which has befallen the articles which you so kindly condescended to send me, and which I have not the least wish to have at this moment forgotten.

She was wafted by favouring gales around Horn's tempestuous point, and like a tired sea-bird, drooped her wings as she neared the land.

(That's rather a good idea, I fancy, don't you see so?) But it was with feelings of no ordinary nature, that I discovered to be my painful duty to inform you that the individuals whom I employed to transport your merchandise down the gallant ship, and to the neighborhood of the bay of Francisco, to the neighborhood of the bay, became incensed to discharging their arduous task, and by some error of judgement succeeded in overturning the gondola in which your precious freight was embarked. The axes, also I found a watery grave. Five barrels only of the salarates were rescued from the rolling waves, but the gondola, and some of your axes, were saved, to form a sort of paste which I fear will prove rather unuseful. *Sis transit gloria ferri*. Yours, while the axles of life spin round, AUGUSTUS FITZ TOMPKINS.

P. S.—I have a friend from New York who is about establishing an auction room on the Broadway principle, and were you again to tempt the gods, and send me an invoice of galvanized wares, I doubt not, that my friend would have peculiar facilities for disposing of them to this promiscuous population. Don't be displeas'd, my old boy, but try it. Chas. George & Co. of this place, are making a splendid fortune by representing to their consignors that their copies of the daily paper that contains the news from California, & of anything pertaining thereto, are misquated fixed. AN UNFORTUNATE APOTHECARY.—Boston Post.

As the newspapers say, "further comment is unnecessary." Please request the carrier of the Post to refrain in future from leaving at my door any copies of the daily paper that contains the news from California, & of anything pertaining thereto, or your misguided friend, AN UNFORTUNATE APOTHECARY.—Boston Post.

COLOURED CANDIDATE FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERALSHIP OF NEW YORK.—Among the candidates nominated is George B. Vashon, of Corland County, for Attorney General. He was born in Pittsburg; Pa; is about thirty three years of age, of medium stature and light complexion. His father, J. B. Vashon, was an old and influential coloured man (a barber) of Pittsburg; was tolerably well educated and did much in his day for the bettering of his race. He died a year or two ago deeply regretted by a large circle of his acquaintance. The present candidate was early sent to school; and after acquiring a good English education, his father sent him to Oberlin College, Ohio, where he became a distinguished scholar. He then returned to Pittsburg, and studied law under the Hon. Walter Forward (one of the ablest lawyers Pennsylvania ever produced, and Secretary of War under General Harrison), but on account of his colour, was refused admission to the bar of his native State. Nothing daunted, however on the recommendation of Judge Forward he came to New York, and was shortly hereafter admitted to practise in his profession. His health not being good, he visited Hayti, and while there, interested himself in the political affairs of that country. The Emperor, on his return, appointed him Secretary of State, which he accepted, and retained with great satisfaction to the Emperor, until some urgent business called him home.

GENERAL WILLIAMS, the Commander-in-Chief at Kars, where the Turks have achieved what is perhaps, after all their most brilliant success, the Boston "Advertiser" says, has many friends in the States. He is the Colonel Williams, whose assiduous protection of the American missionaries and the people of their charge have been observed with gratitude and pleasure, more than once by those interested in the missions in the East.

As military commander, near Ooraham, it was in his power to render valuable assistance to the American community there, and they always found him their true friend.

TO PREVENT LION AND STEEL RUSTING.—Heat the iron or steel till it burns the hands, and then rub it with pure, white wax, and polish it with a piece of cloth or soft leather. This simple operation, it is stated, fills the pores of the metal, and defends it entirely from rust, even though it should be exposed to moisture.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Saturday, December 29, 1855.

THAT public men are public property, and as such, are obnoxious to the severest criticism, we are daily reminded, in the trials of the press in the present day, that, while it confines its strictures to the public actions of men in power, or those seeking it, there is no limit, however narrow, to the extent of its attacks on its opponents, no great injury can be inflicted on the parties, while the public are the gainers; for truth is elicited by the collision, and those in admiring estimation, are not only exposed to pass measures which they are not fully prepared to submit to this searching ordeal. Lord Sydenham has quitted for ever the scene of his political exertions, and his actions have become a part of the materials of which the History of Canada must be constructed. The Union of the Canadas was a great and important measure,—that it would have its advocates and its opponents was to be expected,—and that, when it carried, the minority should raise the cry of corruption or opposition, a *sonnet* or *nick-name* was certain; but will any present or future historian venture to draw the character, political or moral, of Lord Sydenham from the pictures, or rally caricatures, which have been published? Will he be not, knowing from what source they emanated, put them aside altogether, (not forgetting to send out of the Island, with scrupulous care into the truth of every lineament, and be well assured, that it rightfully belongs to the portrait he is sketching, the necessary and proper words to be written to seize on the prominent characteristics of the system adopted by his adversaries, and if he can successfully fix on the leader of the government or opposition a *sonnet* or *nick-name* that has a tendency to bring him or his measure into contempt, or even to excite suspicion in the public mind, he will not read in vain. But, as every private caricature must show some general resemblance, or it would fall in point, so must every political one, and accordingly, we are not surprised to read that Lord Sydenham having been compared to Louis XI. A political change so important in every point of view, presenting so many difficulties to the public mind, and involving so many original, tenure of lands, domestic manners, and religion, as the Union of the Canadas was, a measure so comparatively undesired a man or nation, with a fair and judicious estimate of his business and of firmness of character, combined with a command of temper, and affability of deportment, would be a desirable person, and if such a measure was, when proposed, unpopular in both Provinces, it needed a still greater amount of tact and address to overcome the prejudices and feelings of the people, and interests, whether local or personal, and men of lesser minds and inferior abilities might well be surprised to see the man who had undertaken that had attended the carrying it into operation, and, exasperated by defeat, sought a refuge for disappointment in the assertions of his opponents, and in the attacks of the advocates of the Union. We shall, however, view the measure in the light in which we think it will be viewed by posterity, as the consolidation of two weak, inefficient, and in many respects, hostile governments, into one strong and important, with concentrated energy, and continued in the nucleus of a mighty nation. Lord Sydenham may well deserve to posterity associated with the Union of the Canadas, and Governor Daly's children may point to the name of having been in the list, and immediately dub him "negro driver"; and yet, it is justly precisely upon such slight foundations, that party malice rears its ideal structures. It is for this reason, that posterity is better qualified to judge of the real character of those who have played their parts on the political stage, than the public are, and we are, accordingly, *"Laudatur in his, culpatur in illis,"* to be praised by the one party and blamed by the other,—is as old as the christian era, as all the world is standing on the same ground, the same two thousand years hence, unless human nature be much improved, and he will manifest but a slight knowledge of it who takes what either party says for gospel. We be not distinctly understood, that we are not the advocates of the party in power, neither do we intend to *whisper* Governor Daly, not being aware of the state of his mind, or of his process, our question still remains unanswered. It is not enough to say, that Lord Metcalfe is of a certain opinion, and that the present Lord Governor, when his secretary and a member of his Government, coincided with him. Times have altered,—all the North American Colonies

this Island not excepted, are under what is termed a Responsible Departmental Government, and so long as it is so, we shall hold those who are entrusted with it as answerable to the people for the use they make of the power. The least Government beyond the people employ him, and to him alone. It is a sufficient justification to him, that his acts here meet with the approbation of the Executive Council, their justification must be found in the approbation of Assembly. We are fully alive to the inconvenience of the present mode of electing a member in a small Colony like this, and number of able men as the sole constitutional advisers of the Executive, and would willingly see it altered, but the only mode of doing so, we think, will hold Mr. Coles and his associates liable for the acts of the Executive.

The Central Academy is doing its duty in keeping up a knowledge of the Classics and the higher branches of learning among us, but there is not that encouragement held out to the youth of Prince Edward Island to penetrate into the inmost recesses of the temple of Science that ought to be. Look at what is doing in Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick? In Canada, the advantages of a liberal education are attainable by all classes of the people. Here, any information beyond reading, writing, and arithmetic is not to be had, except in the hands of a few, and a competent knowledge of Latin and Greek, and some of the higher branches of Mathematics may certainly be had, but if information of a superior class is required, the young man must go out of the Island. This ought not to be. The common exclamation, that our population is not sufficiently numerous, nor our revenue large enough, to spare the necessary sum. What, we would ask, were the population and revenue of Massachusetts when Harvard University was founded? We know that in Nova Scotia, when King's College was founded, the population did not exceed that of Prince Edward Island, but fell short of it; for in 1817, the whole population of Nova Scotia was 100,000, and in 1822, when the College was opened, it could not have been more than 50,000, but learning was not and never has been, at a discount in Nova Scotia, we wish we could say as much for the Island. To return to the Central Academy, we were much pleased with what we witnessed; there continued the regular progressive advancement in the branches of the sciences, and the higher branches of the Greek and Latin classes examined, and can testify as to their sufficiency. We know that in Nova Scotia, we take up the subject of the necessity and importance of founding a Collegiate Establishment in the Island. We subjoin a list of the Classes in the Academy, and the pupils having the first and second places of merit in each Class at the close of last Session.—

- CLASSES. GREEK.—Keneson.—Homer. 1, George Wright. 2, William Forgan. LATIN. 1st.—Horace.—Odes and Satires. 1, William Forgan, 2, George Hodgson. LATIN. 2d.—Cornelius Nepos. 1, James Welsh, 2, Henry Hart. LATIN. 3d.—Edinburgh Delicatus. 1, James Brehaut, James McNeill, Murdoch Nicholson, } equal. LATIN. 4th. 1, Henry Davies, 2, Henry Hart. GEOGRAPHY, 1st. William Hearty, Joseph Handranan, } equal. 2, Daniel Egan. GEOGRAPHY, 2d. 1, Henry Davies, 2, Henry Hart. GEOGRAPHY, 3d. Joseph W. Hodgson, } equal. ARITHMETIC, 1st. 1, James Brehaut, 2, Murdoch Nicholson, James McNeill, } equal. ARITHMETIC, 2d. 1, Edward Hodgson, 2, Joseph W. Hodgson, } equal. ARITHMETIC, 3d. 1, James Miller, 2, James Caffray, William Dawson, } equal. ARITHMETIC, 4th. 1, Walter Lowe, 2, George Longworth, } equal. GEOMETRY. 1, James Brehaut, 2, James McNeill, Archibald Wright, } equal.