

and good port wine, to which, having rowed fourteen or fifteen miles that morning, we helped ourselves in a manner that seemed satisfactory to all parties. Our host gave us newspapers from different parts of the world, and showed us his small but choice collection of books. He enquired after the health of the amiable Captain Blyfield of the royal navy, and the officers under him, and hoped they would give him a call.

Having refreshed ourselves, we walked out with him, when he pointed to a very small garden, where a few vegetables sprouted out, anxious to see the sun. Gazing on the desolate country around, I asked him how he had thus secluded himself from the world. For it he had no red sh, and although he had received a liberal education, and had mixed with society, he never intended to return to it. "The country around," said he, "is all my own, much farther than you can see. No fees, no lawyers, no taxes here. I do pretty much as I please. My means are ample, through my own industry. These vessels come here for seal skins, seal oil, and salmon, and give me in return all the necessaries, and indeed comforts, of the life I love to follow; and what else could the world afford me?" I spoke of the education of his children. "My wife and I teach them all that is useful for them to know, and is not that enough? My girls will marry their countrymen, my sons the daughters of my neighbors, and I hope all of them will live and die in the country." I said no more, but by way of compensation for the trouble I had given him, purchased from his eldest child a beautiful fox's skin.

Few beds he said, came around him in summer, but in winter thousands of ptarmigans were killed, as well as great numbers of gulls. He had a great dislike to all fishermen and eggers, and I really believe was always glad to see the departure even of the hardy navigators who annually visited him for the sake of his salmon, seal skins, and oil. He had more than forty Esquimaux dogs; and, as I was caressing one of them, he said, "Tell my brother-in-law at Bras d'Or that we are all well here, and that, after visiting my wife's father, I will give him a call."

Now, reader, his wife's father resided at the distance of seventy miles down the coast, and, like himself, was a recluse. He of Bras d'Or was at double that distance; but when the snows of winter have thickly covered the country, the whole family, in sledges drawn by dogs, travel with ease, and pay their visits, or leave their cards. This good gentleman had already resided there more than twenty years. Should he ever read this article, I desire him to believe that I shall always be grateful to him and his wife for their hospitable welcome.

When our schooner, the "Ripley," arrived at Bras d'Or, I paid a visit to Mr —, the brother-in-law, who lived in a house imported from Quebec, which fronted the strait of Bell Isle, and overlooked a small island, over which the eye reached the coast of Newfoundland, whenever it was the wind's pleasure to drive away the fogs that usually lay over both coasts. The gentleman, and his wife, we were told, were both out on a walk, but would return in a very short time, which they in fact did, when we followed them into the house, which was yet unfinished. The usual immense Dutch stove formed a principal feature of the interior. The lady had once visited the metropolis of Canada, and seemed desirous of acting the part of a blue-stocking. Understanding that I knew something of the fine arts, she pointed to several of the vile prints hung on the bare walls, which she said were elegant Italian pictures, and continued her encomiums upon them, assuring me that she had purchased them from an Italian, who had come there with a trunk full of them. She had paid a shilling sterling for each, frame included! I could give no answer to the good lady on this subject, but I felt glad to find that she possessed a feeling heart. One of her children had caught a siskin, and was tormenting the poor bird, when she rose from her seat, took the little fluttering thing from the boy, kissed it, and gently launched it into the air. This made me quite forget the tattle about the fino arts.

Some excellent milk was poured out for us in clean glasses. It was a pleasing sight, for not a cow had we yet seen in the country. The lady turned the conversation on music, and asked if I played on any instrument. I answered that I did, but very indifferently. Her forte, she said was music, of which she was indeed immoderately fond. Her instrument had been sent to Europe to be repaired, but would return that season, when the whole of her children would again perform many beautiful airs, for in fact any body could use it with ease, as, when she or the children felt fatigued, the servant played on it for them. Rather surprised at the extraordinary powers of this family of musicians, I asked what sort of an instrument it was, when she described it as follows:—"Gentleman, my instrument is large, longer than broad, and stands on four legs, like a table. At one end is a crooked handle, by turning which round, fast or slow, I do as you

we make most excellent music." The lips of my young friends and companions instantly curled, but a glance from me as instantly recomposed their features. Telling the fair one that it must be a hand organ she used, she laughingly said, "Ah, that is it; it is a hand organ, but I had forgot the name, and for the life of me could not recollect it."

The husband had gone out to work, and was in the harbour caulking an old schooner. He dined with me on board the Ripley, and proved to be also an excellent fellow. Like his brother-in-law, he had seen much of the world, having sailed nearly round it; and, although no scholar, like him, too, he was disgusted with it. He held his land on the same footing as his neighbours, caught seals without number, lived comfortably and happily, visited his father-in-law and the scholar, by the aid of his dogs, of which he kept a great pack, bartered or sold his commodities, as his relations did, and cared about nothing else in the world. Whenever the weather was fair, he walked with his damo over the moss covered rocks of the neighbourhood; and, during the winter, killed ptarmigans and karabos, while his eldest son attended to the traps, and skinned the animals caught in them. He had the only horse that was to be found in that part of the country, as well as several cows; but, above all, he was kind to every one, and every one spoke well of him. The only disagreeable thing about his plantation or settlement, was a heap of fifteen hundred carcases of skinned seals, which, at the time when we visited the place, in the month of August, notwithstanding the coolness of the atmosphere, sent forth a stench that, according to the ideas of some naturalists, might have sufficed to attract all the vultures in the United States.

During our stay at Bras d'Or, the kind hearted and good Mrs — daily sent us fresh milk and butter, for which we were denied the pleasure of making any return.

FOREIGN.

From the Aberdeen Observer, July 29.

Accounts from Spain are daily received of a nature highly unfavorable to the Queen's cause; and it is admitted even by the London newspapers, favorable to the Christians, that the Carlists are gaining ground very fast. Dispatches were received in Madrid announcing the disastrous intelligence that the city of Oviedo, the capital of the Asturias, had been seized by the Carlists. The garrison left the town on the first appearance of the enemy. No acts of cruelty were perpetrated, in consequence of the ready acquiescence of the inhabitants; but after levying a heavy contribution they marched next day towards Galicia. One of the Queen's generals from the Basque Provinces, and another from Castile, reached Oviedo the day after the Carlists left it. General Cordova has arrived at Vittoria, but his movements are of little consequence, as he seems to have no inclination to meet the enemy; indeed, the general opinion is, from his inactivity, and his want of anything resembling a cordial co-operation with General Evans, that he is merely watching a favorable opportunity to join Don Carlos. On any other supposition his conduct is inexplicable. Troops are fast deserting from the Queen's army, and from General Evans' legion, to join the Carlists, and altogether the Queen's cause bears a most unpromising aspect. The Carlists have shot several Englishmen belonging to the British legion whom they took prisoners, and the Queen's troops, it is said, have shot 24 Portuguese officers who were proceeding to join the troops of Don Carlos. Such are the barbarities practised, but they are allowable by the law of nations, as the subjects of a nation levying war against a power with which their rulers are not in a state of warfare, place themselves beyond the understood law of nations. General Evans by this time, no doubt, regrets that he ever engaged in this quarrel. His troops have been of little use, and he has achieved no deeds of valour which have called forth the admiration either of the Spanish or British nation. General Evans is so ill, from vexation of spirit, no doubt, that he is confined to his bed; and his brother, Brigadier-General Evans, and several other officers, it appears,

have left the service, and arrived in this country. The British legion have never received full payment for their services, and a mutinous spirit has in consequence been occasionally manifested amongst them; and altogether a more disagreeable and unfortunate cause than General Evans has been engaged in could scarcely be imagined. But he deserves little commiseration—for what business had he to engage in a foreign quarrel, or set out on an expedition to settle the succession to the Spanish throne? In the mean time the election for the Spanish Cortes is in progress, and the elections, in so far as they have been decided, are almost all in favor of the Mendizabal party.

The DUCHESSE DE BERRI has been in France, incognito. She was in Paris when Albeau made his unsuccessful attempt on the life of Louis Philippe. She travelled as an Englishman.

THE LOST SPOON RECOVERED.—Acerbi, in his "Travels through Sweden, Finland, and Lapland, to the North Cape," relates the following singular anecdote:—A Gentleman of Ulenborg, a town of Bothnia, in Sweden, went thence by sea to Stockholm; on his return, the ship's steward, in cleansing the plate after dinner, let fall into the sea a silver spoon, which, as it afterwards appears, was swallowed by a salmon. The day after, this very salmon made his way up the river, near Ulenborg, and was caught by a fisherman. The fisherman sold the spoon to a silversmith, who, on recognising the cypher, conveyed it to the gentleman's wife. The lady who had not received any intelligence from her husband since his departure from Ulenborg, was struck with the belief that he had been shipwrecked; and this seemed the more probable as his return had been delayed by contrary winds. The gentleman at last consoled his afflicted wife by his re-appearance, and amused her with a recital of the mode in which the silver spoon had been lost.

WATERLOO.—The field of Waterloo is now converted into a manufactory of sugar from beet-root; several Belgian capitalists having established works on the spot.

TEXIAN NEWS.

TEXAS AND MEXICO.—On the rumoured escape of Santa Anna, and the expected invasion of Texas, the Boston Evening Star remarks:—

Rumours reach us from several quarters, that the affairs of Texas are drawing to a crisis. The report now is, that Santa Anna has escaped, and, it is supposed with the connivance of President Burnet; against whom, it is reported, there are charges of high treason. He is, however, a man of great purity of character, and if Santa Anna has escaped, we question whether Mr. Burnet had any agency in the matter. The second, and by far the most important report, is the advance of the Mexicans, with 14,000 men, under General Urrea, who is said to be within 65 miles of Nacogdoches. The force is no doubt greatly overrated, and it is possible that the advance guard may be attacked and defeated before the main body comes up with the Texians. It is a fact that the Texians, with about 3000 men, evince great indifference at the approach of the Mexicans, and talk of attacking and possessing their important seaports, rather than wait for the advance of the Mexican army. The cause of Texas has not lost ground in the West; and the facility of retreating before a heavy force passing the frontier will always give great advantage to the Texians, although it may give temporary possession of the country to Mexico. Texas cannot, in our opinion revert to Mexico.

The following account from New Orleans would seem to indicate that the Texians are a