THE

Weekly Chronicle.

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Weekly Almanack.

June.	Sun. R.	S.	Moon.	H. W.
1 Saturday,	4 18	7 37	11 25	1 40
2 Sunday,	4 17	7 38	11 54	2 31
3 Monday,	4 17	7 38	morn	3 17
4 Tuesday,	4 16	7 39	0 19	4 11
5 Wednesday,	4 16	7 40	0 41	5 14
6 Thursday,	4 16	7 40	1 3	6 31
7 Friday,	4 16	7 41	1 24	7 44

Last quarter, 4th. 6h. 58m. evening.

Public Institutions.

BANK OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.—Thos. Leavitt, Esq. President.—Discount Days, Tuesday and Friday.—Hours of business, from 10 to 3.—Notes for Discount must be left at the Bank before 3 o'clock on the days immediately preceding the Discount days.—Director next week: John Walker, Esq.

COMMERCIAL BANK.—Henry Gilbert, Esq. President.—Discount Days, Tuesday and Friday.—Hours of business, from 10 to 3.—Bills or Notes of Discount must be lodged before 1 o'clock on the days preceding the Discount days.—Director next week: R. M. Jarvis, Esq.

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MARINE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Jas. Kirk, Esq. President.—Office open every day (Sundays excepted) from 10 to 3 o'clock. ☞ All applications for Insurance to be made in writing.

Miscellany.

PITT AND PORT.—It is a curious fact that the late Mr. Pitt was in the habit of purchasing a great part of his port wine in Inverness. The old firm of Fraser, Wilson, and Co. imported their wines direct from Oporto; and, whether they went to greater expense, or were too honest to adulterate, their wines were considered to be of the richest and choicest quality. Pitt had been introduced to our Inverness port at the table of the Duchess of Gordon. The minister, it is well known, indulged largely in wine in his latter days, a habit which his daily intercourse with Dundas probably tended to fix upon him. Thurlow was also a deep wine-bibber, but Pitt and he seldom met except at the council table. Sir James Mackintosh, on his last visit to Inverness, related a slight incident illustrative of Pitt's habits. When Mackintosh went first to London, he frequented the House of Commons. One night, Fox made one of his brilliant speeches; Pitt heard him for a time, then suddenly left the house. Mackintosh observed him go into Bellamy's, and took his place near him. The minister had a bottle of port set before him; he took out his notes and pored over them, drinking his wine out of a tumbler. In about a quarter of an hour he resumed his seat in the house, glanced over some short notes which had been taken in his absence, and replied to his great antagonist with that measured stateliness of manner and never-failing *copia verborum* for which he was distinguished.—*Inverness paper.*

RUSSIAN CAVALRY.—I had not seen the cavalry since 1815. The men were always fine, but I was not at all prepared to see so great a change in the species of horse on which they were mounted.—There must have been amazing efforts in the different cavalry depots of the army to improve the breed so greatly. Every horse seemed to show Arabian or Tartar blood; their bone, beauty, and action struck me most forcibly. The Circassian and Chevalier de Garde have not the heaviness and want of action that many of our Life-guard horses often exhibit, and I should declare, at once, that the Russian cavalry of the guard cannot be surpassed. The regiments I should select as the most perfect are the Grenadiers a Cheval, and the Lancers of the Guard. Another beautiful corps is the Hussars of the Guard, all mounted on grey horses; the Lancers have chestnuts. The Hussars are commanded by the Cesarowitch, and the Chevalier Garde, being the Empress's regiment, she sometimes (although not on the present occasion) marches by in uniform at the head of the corps. The dressing of each horse, the manner in which he was bitted, the hand each rider seemed to have on his animal, his seat and general position, appeared to me admirable. The officers, I observed with some surprise, did not appear as good riders, or as well drilled, as the privates. In passing by and in their wheelings, I saw no floating, flying off, or confusion in the squadrons. Distances accurately preserved, no difference of pace, no hurrying, and no tailing. Having constantly exercised cavalry for fifteen or twenty years of my life, I may, without presumption, express a decided approbation of the perfection, in all its parts, of this interesting review. The Emperor is himself an excellent drill and tactician. He has a decided passion for arms, and is frequently exercising officer of his own troops particularly the Guards. That this inspires the officers and men with emulation cannot be doubted. They are always acting under the eye of the mighty sovereign, from whom alone all favours and promotions emanate.—*Lord Londonderry's Tour to the Northern Courts.*

WEALTH—AVARICE.—Epicurus says, that to be rich is no relief from, but only an alteration of misery. In plain truth, it is not want, but rather abundance, that creates avarice. Indigence is as frequently seen to inhabit with those who have estates as with those that have none; and, peradventure it is not quite so grievous when alone, as when accompanied with riches, *which flow more from good management than from income.* Every one is the hammerer of his own fortune; and an uneasy, necessitous, busy, rich man, seems to be more miserable than he that is simply poor. To be poor in the midst of riches, that is the worst kind of poverty. As to accumulation, the danger is, that a man cannot easily prescribe certain limits to this desire—(for they are hard to find in things that a man conceives to be good)—nor stint this good husbandry, so that it may not degenerate into avarice: men being still intent on adding to the heap, and increasing the stock from sum to sum, til at last they vilely deprive themselves of the enjoyment of their own proper goods, and throw all into reserve, without making any use of them at all. According to this rule, they are the richest people in the world who are set to guard the gates and walls of a wealthy city. All monied men I conclude to be covetous. Plato places corporal or human benefits in this order—"Health, beauty, strength and wealth; the last of which, he says, " is not blind, but very clear sighted, when illuminated by wisdom." For myself, I am content in having sufficient for my present and ordinary expences; for, as to extraordinary occasions, all the laying up in the world would not suffice; and it is the greatest folly to expect that fortune should ever sufficiently arm us against herself. If I lay up, it is not to buy lands, of which I have no need, but to purchase pleasure. Not to be covetous, is wealth; not to be a purchaser, is a tribute. I am in no fear of wanting, nor desire of accumulating. The fruits of riches lie in abundance, and satiety declares abundance.—And I am particularly pleased with myself, that this reformation in me has fallen out at an age naturally inclined to avarice, and that I see myself cured of a folly so common to old men, and of all human follies the most ridiculous.—*Montaigne.*

PORTRAITS.—The moral advantage of portraits may be illustrated by the story of an Athenian courtesan; who, in the midst of a riotous banquet with her lovers, accidentally cast her eye on the portrait of a philosopher that hung opposite to her seat the happy character of wisdom and virtue, struck her with so lively an image of unworthiness, that she instantly left the room, and retiring home, became ever afterwards an example of temperance, as she had been before of debauchery. Nor should we forget that Dryden drew inspiration from the "majestic face" of Shakspeare, and that a portrait of Newton was the only ornament of the closet of Buffon.—*Rogers.*

TEMPERATURE IN RUSSIA.—Of all months of the year in Russia, January is the most dreary and inhospitable, though to a new comer, if he should be a native of a mild region, it carries a degree of interest, by practically acquainting him with the true nature of intense cold. He may have read and thought of it before, while luxuriating in "the emerald light of leaf-entangled beams," or over a jovial seacoal fire; but of which he could not form a just idea till he had tested it by personal experience. The mean temperature of this month averages—eighteen degrees of Reaumur (the thermometer in general use throughout Russia, one degree of which is equal to two degrees twenty-five minutes Farenheit), but there are days when the mercury indicates—twenty-five degrees, and others when it is not lower than—ten degrees. In 1837 it did not rise higher than—twenty-six degrees for a fortnight, and one morning was as low as—twenty nine degrees.—*The Naturalist.*

PIMENTO OR ALLSPICE.—This elegant production grows spontaneously, but in more abundance in hilly situations near the sea, forming extensive groves of the most delicious fragrance. It is purely the child of nature, and mocks every attempt to improve its qualities. A pimento walk is procured by no other labour than appropriating a piece of woodland in the neighbourhood of a plantation already existing, or in a country where the scattered trees are found in a native state, the woods of which being fallen, the trees are suffered to remain on the ground till they become rotten and perish. In the course of twelve months after the first season, abundance of vigorous young trees will be found in all parts of the land. There is not in the vegetable world a more beautiful production than a young pimento. The trunk is smooth and glossy, free from bark, and 15 to 20 feet high; its leaves are of a dark green, like those of a bay tree, and form a beautiful contrast to its white exuberant flowers and the leaves are equally exuberant with the fruit. As to its preparation for sale, the berries are always gathered green, for the admission of ripened fruit would considerably diminish the value of the commodity. They are gathered by the hand, spread on a terrace, and exposed to the sun till they become a reddish brown, and when dry are sent to market. A single tree has been known to yield 1 cwt. of dried spice, or 150 lbs. of the raw fruit; but as good crops are only contingent, the value of the commodity is not so alluring as others, so that many plantations of pimento are now exchanged for sugar in the West Indies.

ANECDOTE OF SIR JOHN COLBORNE.—The night before the battle of Waterloo, an old Peninsular officer (old only in experience) was anxious to have a dry bed. He was then a captain in the 14th foot; in Spain he was in the 3d or 5th division. Liking a dry jacket he rode forward to the picket, with the officers of which he was well acquainted. He asked them if they could direct him to any covering for the night, of course premising that upon the first alarm he should be called. The picket directed him to a barn, in which there appeared to be plenty of straw for himself and his horse. Just as he had laid himself down, there was a movement in the straw near him, and he at once recognised an old Peninsular face—that of Sir John Colborne. Starting up, he was about to leave his shelter, when Sir John Colborne, rubbing his eyes, said, "If you take my advice, Sir, you'll stay where you are.—You have just as much right to be here as I have." The old Peninsular lay down. On the following evening it was the singular honour of Sir John Colborne, at the head of his own gallant Fifty-second, to take off his hat, and, in so doing, to hand over to the Prussians the pursuit of the enemy which British gallantry had driven to rout.

ROYAL PORTRAITS—QUEENS ELIZABETH AND VICTORIA.—On the accession of Elizabeth so great was the multiplicity and variety of portraits in which she was presented to her loyal subjects, and so unlike (at least in the Queen's opinion) were the most of them, that a proclamation was made by "the Queen in council" to prohibit the issue of these counterfeit sovereigns, and it was declared to all whom it might concern, that henceforward no more were to appear until a pattern portrait was painted, which should have the approval of the Council and—the Queen. One would almost imagine that a similar proclamation were now necessary, so various and so (*inter se*) unlike have been the similitudes of our young Queen presented to the lieges. We have seen at least some hundred specimens, and traced, or endeavoured to do so, a likeness in them. But there is one now before us, that of Chalon, engraved by Cousins in the first style of art, which will keep the Privy Council quiet, and become "the pattern"—if there is to be one. The likeness is complete; it is a full length, in regal costume, and all the loyal as well as the art-loving will portfolio or frame it.

STEAM.—If the wild tribes of Lake Huron were even at this moment to be told that the white man's recipe for conquering the waves of the great lake before them was to take up a very small portion of it and boil it—if, sixty years ago, Dr. Johnson had been told (as, exhausted by a hard day's literary labour, he sat ruminating at his fire-side, waiting for his favourite beverage) that the tiny volume of white smoke he was listlessly gazing at, as it issued from the spout of his iron tea-kettle, was a power competent to rebuke the waves and to set even the hurricane at defiance—the red children of nature would listen to the intelligence with no greater astonishment than our venerable lexicographer would have received it. * * * On salt water as well as on fresh—reeking and fuming under the line, as well as freezing in Canada—on crowded rivers, as well as on those whose shores are desolate—on large streams as well as on small ones—in bays, harbours, friths, estuaries, and channels—on the small lakes of Ireland, Scotland, and Switzerland—on the large ones in America—on the Red Sea—on the Black Sea—on the Mediterranean—on the Baltic—in fair weather—in foul weather—in a calm as well as in a hurricane—with the current, or against it—this power, when tested, has most successfully answered the great purpose for which it was beneficently created: and it is impossible to reflect on the thousands of human beings who at this moment are being transported by it; it is impossible to summon before the imagination the various steamers, large and small, which, in all directions, in spite of wind and weather, are going straight as arrows to their targets, without feeling most deeply that after all there is nothing new in the discovery that "the spirit of God moves upon the face of the waters."—*Quarterly Review.*

Singular and Very Successful Operation upon a Horse:—Mr. Robert Eland, of Womerley, farmer, has a horse, which on being taken up from grass, exhibited symptoms of broken wind, and became gradually worse until about the middle of March. On the 16th of that month, Mr. Nicholson, farrier of the village, ascertained on examination, that there was an indentation of the windpipe, and that its circular form was lost, and it was very evident that the horse must die of suffocation. He performed the operation of tracheotomy in the following manner. The integument and muscles covering the windpipe were divided and dissected back to the length of five inches—a portion of the trachea about an inch square was cut out: and, upon the finger being introduced into the windpipe, it was found that the rings of the trachea were actually broken and a false membrane had exuded over the broken portion; so that an aperture existed for the horse to breath through, which would admit only a small probe to be passed through. The whole of the broken rings were then dissected out, and a semicircular tube introduced, which remained in for several days, and the external parts were gradually brought together and healed. The horse is fifteen years old, and is now in perfect health and at daily work. Some of the rings are in possession of the farrier, at Womersley, near Pontefract.—*Leeds Intelligence.*

FAITHLESS NELLY GRAY.

(From Hood's Whims and Oddities.)

Ben Battle was a soldier bold,
And used to war's alarms;
But a cannon-ball took off his legs,
So he laid down his arms!

Now as they bore him off the field,
Said he—"Let others shoot,
"For here I leave my second leg,
"And the Forty-second Foot!"

The army surgeons made him limbs;
Said he—"They're only pegs:
"But there's as wooden members quite,
"As represent my legs!"

But when he called on Nelly Gray,
She made him quite a scoff;
And when she saw his wooden legs,
Began to take them off!

"O Nelly Gray! O Nelly Gray!
"Is this your love so warm?
"The love that loves a scarlet coat
"Should be more uniform."

Said she—"I loved a soldier once,
"For he was blithe and brave,
"But I will never have a man
"With both legs in the grave!

"Before you had those timber toes,
"Your love I did allow;
"But then, you know, you stand upon
"Another footing now!"

"O Nelly Gray! O Nelly Gray!
"For all your jeering speeches,
"At duty's call, I left my legs
"In Badajoz's *Breaches!*"

* * * * * * * * * *

"O, false and fickle Nelly Gray!
"I know why you refuse:
"Though I've no feet, some other man
"Is standing in my shoes!"

* * * * * * * * * *

Now when he went from Nelly Gray,
His heart so heavy got—
And life was such a burden grown,
It made him make a knot!

So round his melancholy neck
A rope he did entwine,
And, for his second time in life,
Enlisted in the line!

One end he tied around a beam,
And then removed his pegs,
And, as his legs were off—of course,
He soon was off his legs!

And there he hung, till he was dead
As any nail in town—
For though distress had cut him up,
It could not cut him down!

FUELS FROM PEAT AND RESIN.—At a recent meeting of the institution of civil engineers, Mr. C. W. Williams presented specimens of peat, from the first state, and taken from the bog, to the last, when compressed and converted into a hard coke; and of his new resin fuel, or artificial coal, which is composed of resin and turf coke. This resin fuel is found of the greatest use in long voyages, when used with a proper proportion of coal, as it enables the fireman to maintain the requisite pressure of steam with great regularity, and also to raise steam more rapidly on any emergency. It is not adapted for use as a fuel by itself: but when about 2½ cwt. of this fuel is used with 20 cwt. of coal, by throwing it in front of the fire with each charge of fresh coal, a much better combustion of the coal takes place, and the effect is equal to that which would be produced by 27 cwt. of coal. Thus, 2½ cwt of this fuel so employed is equivalent to 7 cwt. of coal. The cost is from 35s. to 40s. per ton. The transatlantic steamers carried from 40 to 60 tons of it; and besides the advantages attending its use, there was a saving in room, which was applicable to the stowage of cargo. A long discussion took place on the important facts which the application of this fuel had elicited. These appeared in some measure contradictory to the results, which were doubted, that 9lb. of coke will do as much in any department of the arts as 12lb. of coal; for on adding to coal a peat and a hydro-carbon, far more inflammable than coal, the result is equivalent to that which is produced by all the carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, in many times the quantity of coal. It was remarked, that the circumstances under which fuel was employed ought to be considered, as the consumption of fuel under steam boilers could hardly be compared with the consumption for simply heating and keeping hot a large mass of matter as in a glass house. It could not be believed, that the absolute quantity of heat from the coke of a ton of coals is the same as of the ton of coals; for in that case all the heat of a coke oven would go for nothing, and there were instances of this being beneficially employed.—*Athenæum.*

THE DOCTOR AND HIS PATIENT.—A lady being visited with a violent disorder, was under the necessity of applying for medical assistance; the doctor being a gentleman of great latitude in his religious sentiments, endeavoured in the course of his attendance to persuade his patient to adopt his creed, as well as to take his medicines; he frequently insisted, with a degree of dogmatism, that repentance and reformation were all that either God or man could require of us. But as this was a doctrine the lady did not like, she contented herself with following his medical prescriptions, without embracing his creed. On her recovery, she forwarded a note to the doctor, desiring the favour of his company to tea, when it suited his convenience, and requested him to make out his bill. In a short time he made his visit, and the tea-table being removed, she addressed him as follows:—"My long illness has occasioned you a number of journies, and I suppose, doctor, you have procured my medicines at considerable expense;" the doctor acknowledged that good drugs were not to be obtained but at a very high price; upon which, she replied, "I am exceedingly sorry that I have put you to so much labour and expense, and, also promise, that on any future indisposition I will never trouble you again, so you see I both repent and reform;" the doctor immediately shrugging up his shoulders, exclaimed "that will not do for me."—"The words of the wise are as goads."

THE BRITISH OAK.—Among the traditions of this wonderful tree, the following will, I have no doubt, prove interesting to your readers. The large Golenos oak, which was felled in the year 1810, for the use of his Majesty's navy, grew about four miles from Newport, in Monmouthshire: the main trunk at ten feet long produced 450 cubic feet; one limb, 355; one ditto, 472; one ditto, 156; one ditto, 106; one ditto 113; and six other limbs of inferior size averaged 93 feet each, making the whole number 2426 cubic feet of sound and convertible timber. The bark was estimated at six tons, but as some of the heavy body bark was stolen out of the barge at Newport the exact weight is not known. Five men were twenty days stripping and cutting down this tree: and a pair of sawyers were five months converting it, without losing a day (Sundays excepted.) The money paid for converting only, independent of the expense of carriage, was £82, and the whole produce of the tree when brought to market, was within a trifle of £600. It was bought standing for £405. The main trunk was nine feet and a half in diameter; and in sawing it through a stone was discovered six feet from the ground, above a yard in the body of the tree, through which the saw cut; the stone was about six inches in diameter, and completely shut in, but round which there was not the least symptom of decay. The rings in its butt, carefully reckoned, amount to above four hundred in number, a convincing proof that this tree was in an improving state for upwards of four hundred years; and as the ends of some of the branches were decayed and had dropped off, it is presumed it had stood a great number of years after it had attained maturity.

THE SAMARITANS.—It was with no common interest that we entered into the synagogue of these remarkable people, as a prelude to which they required that we should take off our shoes. Their "cohen," or priest, showed us a copy of the Pentateuch on two rollers, which they maintain to be the oldest manuscript in the world, saying that it was written by Abishua, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron. It bears marks of very great age, and is here and there patched with pieces of parchment. Some of the learned are of opinion that it is only a transcript from Ezra's copy, written again in the old Hebrew or Phœnician letter, out of which Ezra transcribed it into that of the Chaldeans, then first adopted, and since commonly used by the Jews; others are disposed to regard it as an independent record which has been preserved ever since the days of Jeroboam, first by the twelve revolting tribes, and subsequently by the Samaritans. In either case it affords a remarkable testimony to the accurate preservation of the books of Moses during a period of two thousand three hundred years: for as the rival sects of Christianity have acted as checks on each other, to prevent the corruption of any portion of the sacred Scriptures since the first schism in the Apostolic Church, so the quick sighted jealousy of the Jews and Samaritans has proved an infallible safeguard of the text of the Pentateuch since the days of their separation. In the earlier ages of society, when MSS. were scarce, and the knowledge of letters was confined to a very few, it would have been easy for an unanimous priesthood to mutilate the inspired volume; but even suspicion itself can have no place in reference to a record of faith kept with equal veneration and care by men whose national and religious antipathies have separated them in every other respect, but who, in their agreement as to that, afford incontestible evidence to its genuineness. Like the mountains of Ebal and Gerizim, as to which alone their manuscripts differ, they present a front of irreconcileable opposition—but their very hostility enhances the value of their testimony, and renders them unconscious guardians of the truth of that Mosaic dispensation, a full belief in which neither party admits to be possessed by the other.—*Elliot's Three Great Empires.*

NATIVE INDIAN SWELL MOB.—It is astonishing with what care natives of India who have received little or no education, and who may be of low caste, will assume the manners of their superiors. A man with a good address, a handsome person, and a graceful carriage is selected upon an occasion of importance—one who is a stranger in the place in which the affair (of robbery) is to be carried on, and who, gifted with invention, can be ready with a plausible answer to every question that may be put to him. Such a person is provided with a dress suited to his assumed rank, and attendants if necessary. He presents himself with great confidence at the door of the shroff or banker, taking care to impress the domestics who may be in waiting with a proper idea of his consequence. He makes a display of money, and shapes his inquiries with great adroitness so as to ascertain the probable amount of property either in specie or jewels, and the best plan of proceeding in order to obtain possession of it. He takes occasion to repeat his visit more than once, making some purchases and negociating for others with an air of the greatest liberality. Having become acquainted with the localities of the house, the gang assemble in some secluded place to determine upon future operations. A wedding procession is sometimes the cover for an entrance into a town, and in one case of great and successful daring, the party entered the town under the pretence of being devotees going to a place of pilgrimage. Many were dispersed as fakeers, and had bullocks with them which carried wedges, sledge-hammers, and other burglarious implements wrapped up in unsuspicious-looking bundles.—*Asiatic Journal.*

THE ORIGINAL MODE PRACTISED OF ADVERTISING.—In the earlier part of the reign of Elizabeth it was customary, when any person had lost any property, or in want of any or had articles for sale, to affix a bill on the doors of St. Paul's church. The advertisements were always headed with the word "*Siquis*," (from *Scil. invenerit*, to find.)

"Sawst thou ere *Siquis* patch'd on Paul's church dore,
To gain some vacant vicarage before?"

Decker, in his Guls Horne Booke, says, "The first time that you enter into Paules, pass through the body of the church like a porter: yet presume not to fetch so much as one whole turne in the middle ile, nor to cast an eye on *Siquis* doore, pasted and plastered up with serving mens supplications," &c.

GOOD SENSE.—Good sense is not a merely intellectual attribute; it is rather the result of a just equilibrium of all our faculties, spiritual and moral. The dishonest, or the toys of their own passions, may have genius, but they rarely, if ever, have good sense in the conduct of life. The man whom I perceive walking an honourable and upright career, just to others and also to himself—(for we owe justice to ourselves—to the care of our fortunes—our character—to the management of our passions)—is a more dignified representative of his Maker than the mere child of genius. Of such a man we say he has good sense; yes, but he has also integrity, self-respect, and self-denial. A thousand trials which his sense braves and conquers, are temptations also to his probity, his temper—in a word, to all the many sides of his complicated nature. Now, I do not think he will have the good sense any more than a drunkard will have strong nerves, unless he be in the constant habit of keeping his mind clear from the intoxication of envy, vanity, and the various emotions that dupe and mislead us. Good sense is not, therefore, an abstract quality or a solitary talent; but it is the natural result of the habit of thinking justly, and therefore seeing clearly, and is as different from the sagacity that belongs to a diplomatist or attorney, as the philosophy of Socrates differed from the rhetoric of Gorgias.—*Bulwer.*

CURE FOR SEA-SICKNESS.—At this season, when so many make sea-voyages by steam for pleasure, and are so often cheated out of their enjoyment by that pleasure-destroying disease, sea-sickness, it may be proper to mention the following simple remedy, which has seldom failed to give almost instant relief.—Make some green tea, strong, with just as much sugar in it as will make it palatable, and bottle it up. When sickness begins to come on, take about a cupful; if that does not prevent the vomiting, let the stomach be completely emptied; take the same quantity, more or less, as the stomach is able to receive it, repeat it two or three times, and restoration will take place.—*Canterbury Journal.*

THE WILD STEPPES OF RUSSIA.—At daylight we awoke and found ourselves upon the wild steppes of Russia, forming part of the immense plain which, beginning in Northern Germany, extends for hundreds of miles, having its surface occasionally diversified by ancient tumuli, and terminates at the long chain of the Urals, which, rising like a wall, separates them from the equally vast plains of Siberia. The whole of this immense plain was covered with a luxuriant pasture, but bare of trees like the prairie lands of America, mostly uncultivated, yet everywhere capable of producing the same wheat which now draws to the Black Sea the vessels of Turkey, Egypt, and Italy, making Russia the granary of the Levant. Our road over these steppes was in its natural state—that is to say, a mere track worn by caravans of waggons: there were no fences, and sometimes the route was marked at intervals by heaps of stones, intended as guides when the ground should be covered with snow. I had some anxiety about our carriage; the spokes of the wheels were all strengthened and secured by cords wound tightly around them, and interlaced so as to make a network; but the postilions were so perfectly reckless as to the fate of the carriage, that every crack went through me like a shot. The breaking of a wheel would have left us perfectly helpless in a desolate country, perhaps more than a hundred miles from any place where we could get it repaired. Indeed, on the whole road to Chioff there was not a single place where we could have any material injury repaired; and the remark of the old traveller is yet emphatically true, that 'there be small succour in these parts.'—*Stephens's Incidents of Travel in the Russian and Turkish Empires, &c.*

NIGHT OF KNOWLEDGE.—So depressed was the state of general knowledge during the middle ages, that Cosmas, a Greek merchant of the sixth century wrote a geographical treatise, the chief intent of which was to confute the heretical opinion of the earth being a globe, together with the Pagan assertion that there was a temperate zone on the southern side of the torrid zone. He informed his readers that according to the true orthodox system of cosmography, the earth was a quadrangular plane, extending four hundred courses, or days' journeys, from east to west, and exactly half as much from north to south, inclosed by lofty mountains, upon which the canopy or vault of the firmament rested; that a huge mountain on the north side of the earth, by intercepting the light of the sun, produced the vicissitudes of day and night; and that the plane of the earth had a declivity from north to south, by reason of which the Euphrates, Tigris, and other rivers running southward, are rapid; whereas the Nile, having to run up-hill, has necessarily a very slow current.

SHAKING HANDS.—Two duellists having exchanged shots without effect, one of the seconds interfered, and proposed that the parties should shake hands. To this the other second objected as unnecessary, "for (said he) their hands have been shaking this half hour."—*New Monthly Belle Assemblee.*

IRISH SUPERSTITIONS.—It is a well-known and accredited fact, that the fortunate finder of a *four-leaved* shamrock is expected to become immediately possessed of immense wealth. Many an Irish person has spent, and does spend, hours and days in vainly searching for this envied plant. What, then, will Mr. Lover say, who (in a note to his popular song on this subject) boldly asserts that "no such thing exists?" What will the Botannical Society, now lecturing at Newcastle?—What, above all, will Crofton Croker say, when informed that no less than *three* specimens of this magic quatrefoil have, within this week, been found by a lady residing at Fulham. It will, no doubt, create still greater surprise to learn, that up to the present moment the delighted lady has reaped nothing more than the congratulatory addresses poured upon her by her numerous friends, by which, and the interesting anxiety of the circumstances, she is kept (as is said of a neighbourhood where mad dogs abound) "in a state of the greatest excitement."—*Literary Gazette.*

The nimbus, or glory, drawn by painters round the heads of the saints, ect. was first used by the Cæsars and their flatterers.

EXTRACTS FROM THE NARRATIVE OF SIR FRANCIS B. HEAD.

No. 26.

Toronto, 21st April, 1836.

MY LORD—

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship two addresses from the House of Assembly to his Majesty, as also a copy of one to the House of Commons, reprobating in unusual language my conduct as Lieutenant-Governor of this province. I have also to inform your Lordship, that the House of Assembly have deemed it their duty to stop the supplies—that, in consequence of this proceeding, I have reserved all their money bills for the consideration of his Majesty; and that I have declined to grant their contingencies. I also inclose to your Lordship a copy of my speech on proroguing the Provincial Legislature.

Under these circumstances, I feel it incumbent to submit to your Lordship a plain statement of the whole affair.

In my despatch No. 3, to your Lordship, dated 5th February, I stated as follows:—

"As far as I have been able to judge, I should say that the republican party are implacable, that no concession whatever would satisfy them, their self-interested object being to possess themselves of the government of this province, for the sake of lucre and emolument."

In my despatch No. 9, dated 22d February, I stated to your Lordship as follows:—

"Having now informed your Lordship of the individuals I have added to the Executive Council, with the circumstances which have preceded their appointments (which I trust may be confirmed), it only remains for me to state that although tranquillity in this province is, I conceive, now momentarily established, I do not expect that the present House of Assembly will long discontinue their agitations.

"It shall be my duty, however, to afford them no reasonable cause for complaint. To their addresses, as well as their opinions, I shall give every possible attention, and will afford them every assistance to correct all real grievances; but I am so convinced that every improper concession will not only strengthen their demands, but weaken my influence in the province, that I shall continue to resist, as I have hitherto done, any demand that may at all tend to undermine the happy constitution of the province, as I believe that this policy will eventually secure to the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada (whoever he may be) the confidence and support of the community."

To the foregoing opinions, expressed to your Lordship, I firmly continue to adhere, and refer to them for the object of proving that the political state of this province requires no deep experience, but that its moral was evident to me before I had been a month in this capital.

The speech I yesterday delivered on proroguing the Provincial Legislature will sufficiently explain the attempts I have in vain made to carry into effect the remedial measures with which I was intrusted. I will, therefore, only shortly observe, that the Grievance Report remains unopened—that not one of the remedies your Lordship prescribed has been carried into effect; that, in fact, this Grievance Report was nothing but a revolutionary *ignis fatuus*, purposely created to deceive the British Government, and that as I stated in my despatch, No. 24, dated 6th April, "far from desiring to remove these grievances, the republican members deem them the fulcrum for subverting the government, and for destroying the constitutional liberties of the province."

The decided measures which your Lordship took promptly to correct the alleged grievances which were brought before you have had the happy effect of breaking up the faction which, from want of firmness, has long been undermining the constitution of this province. Its enemies are now unmasked, disarmed, and discomfited, and the inhabitants of this country are now indignantly exclaiming, as Cromwell said, "*You who are deputed here by the people, to get their grievances redressed, are yourselves become the greatest grievance!*"

If the sentiments contained in these petitions from the House of Assembly were really the sentiments of their constituents, this province might justly be said to be in a state of revolt; whereas the fact is, as I stated it to your Lordship in my despatch No. 21, "that a burst of loyalty will very shortly resound from one end of the province to the other, as a more honest, well-meaning yeomanry cannot exist than his Majesty's subjects in this noble province;" and for a proof of this assertion, I refer your Lordship to the enclosed addresses I have already received.

Your Lordship cannot but remark, that, for the first time in the history of this province, the supplies have been stopped; that the whole country has thus been thrown into confusion, and that the period selected for this violence has been my arrival with your Lordship's instructions to correct all the grievances of the country! Had the object of those who have styled themselves Reformers been *reform*, your Lordship's instructions would have been hailed with joy; instead of which they have been repudiated by the Republicans, as the enemy of their hopes.

The case is fortunately so clear, that no one even in England can now fail to understand it.

"*Why*," it will be asked, "*have the supplies in Upper Canada been stopt?*" The answer is, because the complaints of the Republicans were ordered to be corrected, and being thus driven off their grievance-ground, they were forced by your Lordship to unveil their real object, which has been neither more nor less than to seize upon the power and patronage of the Crown!

"*And how,*" it will be asked, "*have they attempted to do this?*" I reply, by demanding that the Executive Council be henceforward responsible to the people: or, in other words, to themselves, for the acts of the Lieutenant-Governor.

"*And is this all?*" No; they further demand that the Legislative Council shall be elective; or, in other words, that it also shall be nominated by themselves: and if this does not betray their real object—if this does not prove to people in England the traitorous democratic intentions of the half-dozen Republicans who have been allowed to agitate this noble province, facts are useless, and argument powerless!

If the duties of the Lieutenant-Governor of this province merely consisted in his being one branch out of three of the Colonial Legislature, even in that case there could be no more reason why HE should be *governed* by an Executive Council, than that such a body should be created to govern the House of Assembly or the Legislative Council; but, besides the Lieutenant-Governor's station in Provincial Legislature, he has to guard the lands and properties of the Crown: in short, he is the only individual in this colony competent to consider the interests of the British Empire, of which this colony is but an atom.

The Executive Council are his Privy Council, to give him sworn advice when he wants it, and not to "encumber him with help" when he does not require it.

If I had been governed by my late Council, the constitution of this province would at this moment be subverted, for it will be evident to your Lord-