

[FOR THE BEE.]

POPULAR SUPERSTITIONS.—No. 2.

THE MOON.

Mr Dawson, Sir,—It is a common observation, that as knowledge increases superstition disappears; this in general may be true, but the power and influence ascribed to the moon seems to be an exception. I am surprised to hear one say, that grain should not be sowed but at a particular time of the moon—another that cattle should not be slaughtered—another that soap will not make—another that flax should not be pulled, &c., but at particular times of the moon. Some prognosticate the weather that is to follow, from its appearance, when first seen after the change to new moon; and believe that the weather is affected by its different changes, cautiously making an allowance of two or three days, before or after, so that they have little chance to be far wrong, as there are about seven days to each change. Some there are that give it an influence over animal life; one says that the appearance of the cat's eyes alters with the moon—another that it is not safe to castrate male animals but at a certain time, with many more such things, that it would not answer any good purpose to enumerate; so that taking all together, the whole guidance of things animate and inanimate, will be given to the moon. Now a question may be asked, has the moon this power inherent of itself, or is it delegated by God? if the first, then an acknowledgement is made that God is not omnipotent; if the latter, that the works of God are committed to a creature,—either of which I think is not agreeable to scripture or reason.

We all know that there is a kind of maniacs called lunatics, who, as far as I know, it has never been disputed were under lunar influence. Although at the risk of an imputation of lunacy, I call in question the existence of such a disease. Superstition has a powerful effect upon a sound mind, no wonder then that it acts powerfully upon the disordered; when a return of the disease is looked for at a particular time, it is most likely to happen at that time. Some will say, but a lunatic is spoken of in scripture. Granted, so are Astrologers, and the science they taught was as firmly believed some sixty years ago, as lunacy is now; the one is now exploded among the better informed, the other may ere long. Others may say, but we see the moon guides the tides; granted, but this will not establish the hypothesis: Natural Philosophers tell us, that all bodies in proportion to their magnitude and proximity, attract each other by the law of gravitation, which is the cause of the flux and reflux of the ocean, called tides.

If that time which is misspent in studying when to sow, plant, pull, and slaughter, and prognosticating of the weather from the appearance of the moon, were devoted to becoming acquainted with it, as forming a part of our solar system, harmonising with the other planets in ministering to our comfort, and displaying the wisdom and power of its divine Architect, we would then be led to give the glory where it is due; and that this may tend to this desirable end is the sincere wish of

Yours, &c.

AMICUS VERITATIS.

January, 1837.

ERUPTION AT SEA.—By the Alexandria, we learn that an eruption at sea, about 30 leagues N. E. of the Island of St. Michael's Azores, has occurred, during the past summer, and that many slight shocks of earthquakes have been experienced. A whale ship has been stranded on the island of Pico, and two vessels driven ashore at Fayal, and two at Terceira—*Cowier.*



FOR SALE,

AT A LOW PRICE,

A Valuable tract of LAND, belonging to the heirs of the late John Tullies, lying on the Northern side of the East Branch of River John, bounded by Lands granted to Robert Patterson and others, and containing

FIVE HUNDRED ACRES.

Apply to Abram Patterson, Esquire, Pictou, or to Messrs Young, Halifax.

October 5, 1836.

if

FARM FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber intending to quit the Province in the Spring of the year, offers for sale his FARM, STOCK, FURNITURE, &c.

as it now stands, situated on the West River of Pictou, seven miles from town, on the road leading to Halifax, and intersected by the roads leading from Rogers Hill, Loch Broom, Albion Mines, Green Hill, &c. all of which meet on the property; the new bridge on the river crosses at the door,—forming one of the most desirable situations for business to be found in the county, with every prospect of its soon becoming a thriving village. Three sides of the property front the roads, which will cause it to be highly valuable hereafter, should the possessor wish to dispose of any part of it in lots. The land is of first quality, well watered, and lying dry; it abounds in freestone of good quality for building, and a sufficiency of wood for fencing, &c. Possession will be given in May.

For further particulars apply to Mr N. Beck, in Pictou, or to ALEXANDER FORSYTH, West River, 20th December, 1836. if

HEALTH SECURED,

BY MORISON'S PILLS.

The Vegetable Universal Medicine of the British College of Health;

WHICH has obtained the approbation and recommendation of some thousands, in curing Consumption, Cholera Morbus, Inflammations, Bilious & all Liver Diseases, Gout, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Tick Doloureux, King's Evil, Asthma, Small Pox, Measles, Whooping Cough, Cholera, and all Cutaneous Eruptions—and keep unalterable for years in all Climates. Forming at pleasure the mildest Aperient, or by increasing the dose, the briskest and most efficacious Purgative, capable of giving relief in all cases of disease to which the human system is liable.

The Subscriber has been appointed Agent for the Eastern Division of the Province, for the sale of the above valuable Medicines, of whom only they can be had genuine, with Morison's Directions for their use.

OF WHOM ALSO MAY BE HAD,

A few BOOKS, describing the properties, uses, & almost innumerable cases of Cure, effected by this extraordinary Medicine.

Nov'r 23, 1836

JAMES DAWSON.

CAUTION.

Clerk of Peace Office; Special Sessions.

WHEREAS, many accidents have happened by Boys and other persons sliding and coasting down the hills in the streets of the Town of Pictou,

It is ordered, That all Boys and other persons hereafter found sliding or coasting on the snow or ice, in sleds or sleighs, down the hills, or upon the streets, of the town of Pictou and suburbs thereof, are hereby made liable, upon conviction before any one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Pictou, upon his own view, or upon the oath of one credible witness, to imprisonment; and to find security for his or their good behaviour for the future; and all Magistrates, Constables, and other persons, are hereby required and commanded to be aiding and assisting in bringing to punishment all offenders.

By order of the Sessions,

JAS, SKINNER, Jr. C. P.

Pictou Jany. 20, 1836.

THE NEW YORK ALBION,

Commencing first January, 1837, for sale by JAMES DAWSON.

ALMANACS, FOR 1837,

with an Appendix containing the Names of the MEMBERS OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

For sale by

J. DAWSON.

IMPORTED,

In the Brig Squirrel, from New York, and for Sale by the Subscriber:

ROWLAND'S PHILADELPHIA BEST MILL-SAW PLATES, 6 & 6½ ft

Do. Do. Circular Saws, of a new and superior construction.

ALSO;

Blacksmiths' BELLINGS, ANVILS & VICES Carron STOVES, 2½ and 3 ft. lengths.

IRON, well assorted.

Stove Salt in bags; Pots and Ovens, useful sizes; Large Pots, 20 to 35 gallons each.

GEO. SMITH.

December 20, 1836. c-m

FALL, 1836.

THE Subscriber has received per the ANN from Liverpool, and the ACADIAN from Greenock

A very complete Assortment

OF IRON-WARE, HARDWARE, AND CUTLERY, &c.

Very superior half-bleached COTTONS, fine yd. wide SHIRTINGS, Checks and Stripes and Woolens—suitable to the season. Fur Caps.

ALSO ON HAND.—A small assortment of SADDLERY, Mill Saws, Plough and Fanner Mountings, a variety of Mirrors, a few sets Tea and Coffee China, Groceries, Shoe Leather, Stone ware, Powder and Shot, &c. No. 1 Horning and Mackeral:

Which will be sold, on the most moderate terms; and the highest price will be given, either in exchange for Goods or in Cash or Flour, Meal, Pork, and Butter.

R. DAWSON.

Water street, Pictou, 1st Nov'r, 1836.

FOR SALE.

ALL that Tenement and building in Pictou, bounding on High Street and James Street, formerly owned by Hugh McKay deceased, and now occupied by Mr Marcus Gunn and others, with all the appurtenances and outhouses thereunto belonging. The house and premises may be viewed, and the boundaries pointed out, upon application to Mr Geo. McKay, Pictou, by whom, or the Subscriber, the terms of sale, which are liberal, may be made known.

JAMES BAIN.

Halifax, August 8th, 1836. if

JUST RECEIVED

Ex Schr. Greyhound from Quebec, and for Sale by the Subscriber, wholesale or retail.

18 CASKS best bending cut NAILS, assorted.

1 case MACHINE CARDS

ALSO—TO CLOSE CONSIGNMENTS, 3 Casks, containing Herbert's Liquid and Paste Blacking; 20 dozen Salmon Twines; 1 handsome Cooking Stove.

JAS. DAWSON.

Pictou, November, 1836.

OATS.—Cash will be given by Ross and Primrose for OATS, during the winter. November 30. if

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS.

THE subscriber in expectation of a large supply of Goods in the ensuing spring, will sell his present stock at greatly reduced prices.

R. DAWSON.

Pictou, January 4, 1837. if

TO LET: The SHOP lately occupied by Mr. James Kitchin. Apply to

J. D. B. FRASER.

January 4, 1837. if

ONE SET MACHINE CARDS—for sale by JAMES DAWSON.

Those who are Subscribers to THE NOVA SCOTIAN, in this County and at Arisaig, are informed that their Accounts up to the 31st Dec'r. are now at this Office, where payments will be received and receipts given.

JAMES DAWSON, Agent.

JOB WORK,

Neatly executed at this Office.