

The Weekly Observer.

Established in 1818, under the title of "THE STAR." Whole No. 861.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1834.

Vol. VII. No. 18.

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER.

PUBLISHED ON TUESDAYS, BY DONALD A. CAMERON. OFFICE—In Mr. HATFIELD'S brick building, west side of the Market-Square, St. John, N. B. TERMS—City Subscribers ... 15s. per annum Country do. (by mail) ... 17s. 6d. ditto; Country do. (not by mail) 15s. ditto;

Weekly Almanack.

NOVEMBER—1834.	SUN	MOON	FULL
	Rises.	Sets.	Rises.
5 WEDNESDAY	7 4 4 56	8 25	2 6
6 THURSDAY	7 5 4 55	9 29	2 57
7 FRIDAY	7 6 4 54	10 35	3 55
8 SATURDAY	7 8 4 52	11 41	5 5
9 SUNDAY	7 9 4 51	12 45	6 15
10 MONDAY	7 10 4 50	0 45	7 22
11 TUESDAY	7 12 4 48	1 48	8 17

First Quarter 8th day, 1h. 51m. morning.

INSURANCE.

MARINE INSURANCE AGENCY.

THE subscriber having been duly authorized by the PROTECTION INSURANCE COMPANY of HARTFORD, Connecticut, to take Risks upon Vessels, Cargoes, or Freight, agreeable to the general principles of MARINE INSURANCE, and having obtained by a late arrival from the United States, Blank Policies duly signed by the President and Secretary of the aforesaid Company—Now begs leave to inform the Merchants and Ship-Owners of this City and the Province at large, that he will attend to applications in writing to that effect, fairly stating particulars of the Risks required to be covered.—He would also remark for the information of the public, that the above Company have had a Marine Insurance Agency established at Halifax for some time past, under the management of J. L. STARR, Esquire, who has done a good deal of business in that line, and which he believes has given general satisfaction to the assured,—and that although the Company reserve to themselves the right of settling Averages, Partial or Total Losses, agreeable to the usage of Marine Insurance in the United States—that in any case where the claim for Loss is as dubious as to warrant an appeal to a Court of Law or Equity, the Office will submit to the decision of the Courts in this Province.

ANGUS M'KENZIE, Agent. St. John, Sept. 30, 1834. Office in the Store of A. M'KENZIE & Co., Prince Wm. Street.

WEST OF SCOTLAND INSURANCE OFFICE.

THE Subscriber begs leave to inform the Public, that he has lately received instructions to take Risks at lower rates than heretofore; and also, to issue New Policies at the reduced rates for all Insurances now effected, at the termination of the Present Policies, instead of Renewal Receipts.

JOHN ROBERTSON, Agent and Attorney. St. John, March 8, 1831.

PROTECTION INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Subscriber having been appointed Agent of the above Insurance Company, in this City, will insure Houses, Stores, Mills, Factories, Barns, and the contents of each, together with every similar species of property against LOSS or DAMAGE by FIRE, at as low a rate of Premium as any similar Institution; and will be always in readiness for taking Surveys of premises offered for Insurance in any part of the City, free of charge to the assured. He will likewise attend to the renewal of all Policies of Insurance issued by M'KENZIE & TISDALE, as Agents of the above Insurance Company; and act in all cases in reference to such as if subscribed by himself.

ANGUS M'KENZIE, Agent. St. John, November 6, 1832.

ÆTNA INSURANCE COMPANY, Of Hartford, Connecticut.

THE Subscriber having been appointed AGENT for the above Insurance Company, will issue Policies and Renewal Receipts (on Policies issued by the former Agent, E. B. W. RITCHIE, Esq.) for Insurance on Dwelling Houses, Stores, Mills, Factories, Barns, Vessels and Cargoes while in port, Vessels on the stocks, Household Furniture, Merchandise, and every other species of Insurable Personal Property,—against

Loss or Damage by Fire.

at as low rates of premium as any similar institution in good standing.—Will give personal attendance to the survey of premises, &c. in the City and vicinity, on which Insurance is desired, free of charge to the assured.—Applications in writing (post paid) from all other parts of the Province, describing the situation and the Property to be Insured, will receive prompt attention; the correctness of which description shall on all occasions be binding on the part of the applicant.

The ÆTNA INSURANCE COMPANY was incorporated in 1819.—Capital \$200,000, with Liberty to increase the same to half a million of dollars. The Capital has been all paid in, and invested in the best securities, independently of which a Surplus Fund of more than \$35,000 has been set apart to meet the occasional claims for Losses, and the Stock bears a high premium. The reputation the Office has acquired for promptness and liberality in the adjustment and payment of Losses, requires no additional pledge to entitle it to a liberal share of public patronage.

A. BALLOCH, Agent. St. John, N. B., 1st July, 1833.

NOTICE.

THE Subscriber, thankful for past favours, begs to inform the public that he has taken his Son THOMAS into Co-partnership, and that the Business of Cabinet Making and Upholstery, hitherto carried on by himself, will in future be conducted under the Firm of

THOMAS NISBET & SON.

They will constantly keep on hand, or make at the shortest notice, at their Manufactory, in Prince William-street, nearly opposite to the Bank of New-Brunswick, FURNITURE of every description, on the lowest terms. THOMAS NISBET. St. John, August 1st, 1834.

Co-Partnership Notice.

THE Mercantile Business heretofore conducted by EDWARD L. JARVIS, on his private account, will, from this date, be carried on by the subscribing Firm,

E. L. JARVIS & CO.

St. John, June 9, 1834.

NOW LANDING:

2 BALES Red FLANNELS, assorted; and 50 bags No. 1 Richmond TOBACCO.—For sale by CROOKSHANK & WALKER. 9th August, 1834.

BRIGHT SUGAR.—10 hogsheads, 5 tierces, and 10 barrels very superior SUGAR, now landing ex St. Christopher, from St. Kitts, for sale by 7th Oct. RATCHFORD & LUGRIN.

The Garland.

CALVARY, A SACRED ODE.

The following Sacred Ode, written for and adapted to Pergolesi's celebrated "Stabat Mater," having been sent to my hands by a friend, I am anxious to communicate to your readers the pleasure I have myself received from it. Those who are musical will be glad of a substitute for the original hymn; and those who are not may at least profit by the pious and sentiments.

CALVARY.

1. "Oh what was't that sight of anguish!"
"On the cross beheld him languish!"
"God's Belov'd the holy one!"
"Horror veils the noon-day sun."
SOLA.
2. Here I'll sit, in spirit viewing
"Mercy's streams in streams of blood;
Precious drops my soul bedewing,
Plead and claim my peace with God."
DUETTO.
3. Shame and sorrow, hope and wonder,
"Gratitude's emotions deep—
"A sinner's doom I ponder—
"Or my sinner's drink ere I."
SOLA.
4. Is there sought in earth or heaven
"Can revive the mourning soul,
Like this balm,—I'm now forgiven,
Safe while endless ages roll?"
DUETTO.
5. Should I wade through tribulation,
"What love's pledge could stronger be?
Guide till death! friend in disaster!
"Thou shalt be my Lord and master,
"Who wert'st my cup long drank for me."
DUETTO CORALE.
6. Hell's dread host his soul confounding,
"Man's black rage his body tore;
Still I hear the scourge resounding,
"Which the patient victim bore."
SOLA.
7. "Worn with pain, with terror shaken,"
"Fainting, dying, and forsaken,"
"Lo! he bows his sacred head."
SOLA.
8. Wondrous Saviour, lost man's lover!
"Now thy heavy travel o'er—
"Never may I forget thy smart;
"Never more may I offend thee,
"All thy goodness still attend me,
"Dwell forever in my heart."
DUETTO CORALE—Juga.
9. What is life, its pride and glory!
"Worldly joys how short their story!
Fading hopes and deepening woe.
"Let us lay up heavenly treasure—
"God to please is angel's pleasure,
"Him to love, praise, serve, and know."
DUETTO.
10. Father! thine what condescension,
"Thine what love past comprehension—
"Twas for us thy Son was slain!
"World! adore th' exalted Saviour,
"Seek his face, explore his favour—
"Once revild, he now doth reign.
"These behold him interceding!
"While on mercy's throne he's pleading,
"None shall sue and sue in vain.
"Grant us grace, O Lord of glory!
"May we humbly walk before thee—
"Lift eternal, noblest blessing,
"Through thy mighty toil possessing—
"Thou for thine that prize hast won."
SOLA.
11. When the trumpet sounding,
"Thou' the tambour rebounding,
"Up shall roll the slumbering clay;
"Calling happy saints away;
"Then his foes shall tremble
"Then his friends assemble
"Round his throne in bright array—
"Save us, Lord, in that great day!"
DUETTO.
12. Oh what songs of joy and praise
"All th' ascending choir shall raise!
"Loud they swell the immortal strain;
"Hymning sweet th' vast expiations,
"Chanting mid th' eternal mansions
"Glorious to the Lamb once slain!"
DUETTO CORALE—Juga.
13. Father! may my feeble spirit—
"When this pale form a move—
"Trusting in thy Saviour's merit,
"Rise to realms of heavenly love!"
DUETTO CORALE—Juga.
14. Amen! when mortal souls are gone,
"Sublimar tones shall there roll on."
Amen.

Miscellanea.

THE HUMAN FRAME.

(FROM DR. ROBERT'S BRIDGEWATER TREATISE.)

The series of structures modelled on the characteristic type of the mammalia, after having exhibited the successive development of all its elements, attains the highest perfection in the human fabric; for even independently of those prerogatives of intellect and of sensibility, by which man is so far exalted above the level of the brute creation, both his physical structure and his physiological constitution place him inconceivably at the summit of the scale of terrestrial beings. Considered zoologically, indeed, the human species must rank among the mammalia; and it even makes a near approach to the quadrumania; yet there exist many peculiarities of structure which entitle man to be placed in a separate order, where, disclaiming any close alliance with inferior creatures, he proudly stands alone, towering far above them all.

It is not, however, on a pre-eminence in any single physical quality or function that this title to superiority can be founded; for in each of these endowments man is excelled in turn by particular races of the lower animals; but the chief perfection of his frame consists in its general adaptation to an incomparably greater variety of objects, and as an infinitely more expanded sphere of action. As the beauty of an edifice depends not on the elaborate finishing of any one portion, but results from the general suitability of the whole to the purposes for which it was constructed, so the excellence of the human fabric is to be estimated by the exquisite proportion and harmony subsisting among all its parts, and pervading the whole system of its functions. The design of its structure and economy embraces widely different, and far higher aims than those contemplated in the organization of any of the inferior animals. Destined to an intellectual, a social, and a moral existence, man has had every part of his organization modified with an express relation to these great objects of his formation. This will best appear when we come to examine the organs which are subservient to the sensitive and active faculties; but even here, where our views must, for the present, be limited to the mechanical circumstance of his structure, the proofs are sufficiently numerous to warrant this general conclusion.

Man presents the only instance among the mammalia of a conformation by which the erect posture can be permanently maintained, and in which the office of supporting the trunk of the body is consigned exclusively to the lower extremities. To this intention the form and arrangement of all the parts of the osseous fabric, and the position and adjustments of the

organs of sense, have a well-marked reference.* The lower limbs are qualified to be the efficient instruments of progression by their greater length and muscularity, compared with the generality of quadrupeds. The only exceptions to this rule occur in those mammalia which are constructed expressly for leaping, such as the Kangaroo and Jerboa, where, however, the hind legs are employed almost solely for that mode of progression. The quadrumania, which come nearer to the human form than any of the other tribes, have the lower limbs comparatively weak. In still other quadrupeds the disproportion is almost greater, the thigh being short, and almost concealed by the muscles of the trunk, and the remainder of the limb being slender, and not surrounded by any considerable mass of muscles.

The articular surfaces of the knee joint are broader, and admit of greater extent of motion in man than in quadrupeds; hence the leg can be brought into the same line with the thigh, and form with it a straight and firm column of support to the trunk; and the long neck of the thigh bone allows of more complete rotation. The widely spread basin of the pelvis effectually sustains the weight of the digestive organs, and they rest more particularly upon the broad expansion of the iliac bones; in quadrupeds, these bones, having no such weight to support, are much narrower.

The erect position in which the whole body is supported in the erect position is constituted by the toes, and by the heel, the bone of which projects backwards at right angles to the leg. Between these points the sole longitudinal, and the other transverse, constituting a double arch. This construction, besides conferring strength and elasticity, provides room for the convenient passage of the tendons of the toes, which proceed downwards from the larger muscles of the leg, and also for the lodgment of smaller muscles affixed to each individual joint, and for the protection of the various nerves and blood vessels distributed to all these parts. The concavity of the foot adapts it also to retain a firmer hold of the inequalities of the ground on which we tread. The muscles which arise from the heel, and which compose the calf of the leg, are of great size and strength, and derive a considerable increase of power from the projection of the bone of the heel, into which their united tendons are inserted. In all these respects the human structure possesses decided advantages over that of the monkey, with reference to the specific objects of its formation.

It is impossible to doubt that nature intended man to assume the erect attitude, when we advert to the mode in which the head is placed on the spinal column. The enormous development of the brain, and of the bones which invest it, increases so considerably the weight of that part of the head, which is situated by its articulation with the vertebrae of the neck, that the balance of the whole is much more equal than it is in the monkey, where the weight of the fore part very greatly preponderates. The muscles which bend the head back upon the neck, and retain it in its natural position, are therefore not required to be so powerful as they must be in quadrupeds, especially in those which graze, and in which the mouth and eyes must frequently be directed downwards, for the purpose of procuring food. In man this attitude would, if continued, be extremely fatiguing, from the weakness of those muscles, and the absence of that strong ligament which sustains the weight of the head in the ordinary horizontal attitude of quadrupeds.

The space comprehended by the two feet is extremely narrow, when compared with the extended base on which the quadruped is supported. Hence the stability of the body must be considerably less. The statue of an elephant placed upon a level surface would stand without danger of oversteering; but the stance of a man resting on the feet, in the usual attitude of standing, would be thrown down by a very small impulse. It is evident, indeed, that in the living body, if the centre of gravity were at any moment to pass beyond the base, no muscular effort which could then be made would avail to prevent the body from falling. But the action of the muscles are continuously exerted to prevent the yielding of the joint under the weight of the body, which tends to bend them. In quadrupeds less exertion is requisite for that purpose; and standing is in them, as we have seen, a posture of comparative repose; in man it requires nearly as great an expenditure of muscular power as the act of walking. Soldiers on parade experience more fatigue by remaining in the attitude of standing, than they would by marching during an equal time. Strictly speaking, indeed, it is impossible for even the strongest man to remain on his legs, in precisely the same position, for any length of time. The muscles in action soon become fatigued, and require to be relieved by varying the points of support, so as to bring other muscles into play. Hence the weight of the body is transferred alternately from one foot to the other. The action of the muscles, in fact, of a series of small and imperceptible motions, by which the centre of gravity is perpetually shifted from one part of the base to another; the tendency to fall to any one side being quickly counteracted by an insensible movement in a contrary direction. Long habit has rendered us unconscious of these exertions, which we are, nevertheless, continually making; but when suddenly arrested to walk finds it difficult to accomplish them successfully. It is one among those arts which he has to acquire, and which costs him in the apprenticeship many painful efforts, and many discouraging falls. But, whenever nature is the teacher, the scholar makes rapid progress in learning; and no sooner have the muscles acquired the necessary strength, than the child becomes an adept in balancing his body in various attitudes, and in a very short time is unconscious that these actions require exertion.

In walking, the first effort that is made consists in transferring the whole weight of the body upon one foot, with a view to fix it on the ground; and then the other foot, being at liberty is brought forward. By this action the centre of gravity is made to advance, till it passes beyond the base of the foot; in this situation the body, being unsupported, falls thro' a certain space, and would continue its descent, were it not that it is received on the other foot, which, by this time, has been set upon the ground. This falling of the body would, if not immediately checked, become a child's game; as happens when, on walking intently, the foot we had advanced comes down to a lower level than we were prepared for; in which case the body, having acquired a certain shock when its greater descent, receives a sudden check when that velocity is checked, and thus a disagreeable jar is given to the whole frame.

While the weight of the body is thus transferred alternately from one foot to the other, the centre of gravity not only rises and falls, so as to describe a wavy line, but also vibrates from side to side, so that the series of curves it describes are somewhat complicated in their form. This undulation of the body from one foot to the other would scarcely

ever be performed with perfect equality on both sides, if we trusted wholly to the sensations communicated by the muscles, and if we were not guided by the sense of sight, or some other substitute. Thus a person blindfolded cannot walk far in a straight line; for, even on a level plane, he will incline unconsciously either to the right or to the left.

In all quadrupeds, and even also in the quadrumania, the fore extremities more or less contribute to the support and progression of the body; it is only in man that they are wholly exempted from these offices, and are at liberty to be applied to other purposes, and employed as instruments of prehension and of touch. In the power of executing an infinite variety of movements and actions, requiring either strength, delicacy, or precision, the human arm and hand, considered in their mechanism alone, are structures of unrivalled excellence; and, when viewed in relation to the intellectual energies to which they are subservient, plainly reveal to us the divine source from which have emanated this exquisite workmanship, and these admirable adjustments, so fitted to excite in our breasts the deepest veneration, and to fill us with never-ceasing wonder.

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RIPE BREAD.

Bread, made of wheat flour, when taken out of the oven or skillet is unprepared for the stomach. It should go through a change or ripen before it is eaten. Young persons, or persons in the enjoyment of vigorous health, may eat bread immediately after being baked without any sensible injury from it, but weakly and aged persons cannot and none can eat such without doing harm to the digestive organs. Bread after being baked goes through a change similar to the change in newly brewed beer, or newly churned butter-milk—neither being healthy until after the change. During the change in bread, it sends off a large portion of carbon, or unhealthy gas, and imbibes a large portion of oxygen, or healthy gas. Bread has, according to the experiments of the physicians in London, one fifth more nutriment in it when ripe, than it has when just from the oven.—It not only has more nutriment, but imparts a much greater degree of cheerfulness. He that eats old ripe bread will have a much greater flow of animal spirits than he would if he were to eat unripe bread.

Bread as before observed discharges carbon and imbibes oxygen. One thing in connexion with this thought should be particularly noticed by all householders. It is to let the bread ripen where it can inhale the oxygen in a pure state. Bread will always taste of the air that surrounds it while ripening—hence it should ripen where the air is pure. It should never ripen in a cellar, nor in a close cupboard, nor in a bedroom. The noxious vapours of a cellar or a cupboard should never enter into and form a part of the bread we eat. The ripening of bread has often eaten bread of this kind, and has felt strongly disposed to lecture the mistress of the house on the subject of keeping bread in a pure atmosphere. Every man and woman ought to know that much of health and comfort depends upon the method of preparing their food. Bread should be light, well baked, and properly ripened before it should be eaten.—N. England Farmer.

COLOUR OF THE EYE.—That the colour of the eyes should affect their strength may seem strange; yet that such is the case need not at this time of day be proved, and those whose eyes are brown or dark, are more susceptible of injury from various causes than grey or blue eyes. Light blue eyes are, *cæteris paribus*, generally the most powerful; and next to those are grey. The lighter the pupil, the greater and longer continued is the degree of tension the eye can sustain.—Curtis on the Eye.

ABSORPTION.—Absorption, in like manner, takes place from the lining membrane of the lungs, as we have seen it do in the skin. When a person breathes an atmosphere loaded with fumes of spirits, of tobacco, of turpentine, or of any volatile substance, a portion of the fumes is taken up by the absorbing vessels of the lungs, and carried into the system, and there produces precisely the same effects as if introduced into the stomach. It has occasionally happened that a person has unwarily become intoxicated in this way; and the lungs thus become a ready inlet to contagion, miasmata, and other poisonous influences diffused through the air which we breathe.

THEORY OF THE TEETH.—In a curious Arabic work, ascribed to Helimus, probably a corruption of Apollonius, we find the following question and answer:—"Why have animals the teeth in the mouth? It is the effect of heat. Teeth are a species of vegetable; they derive their origin from the substance of the bone; the bones being congealed by the fiery principle, and having acquired a certain consistency, a part of the substance destined to their support remains superfluous. This substance is of the same nature as the bones; but when they are complete it cannot be used for its original destination. Heat continuing to act upon it, it rises to avoid this influence; and having reached the mouth it buds forth; the substance becomes hardened by exposure to the air, and thus the teeth are formed."

Bestow thy youth so that thou mayst have comfort to remember it, when it hath forsaken thee, and not sigh and grieve at the account thereof. Whilst thou art young thou wilt think it will never have an end; but behold, the longest day hath its evening, and that thou shalt enjoy it but once, that it never return again; use it therefore as the spring-time, which soon departeth, and wherein thou oughtest to plant and sow all provisions for a long and happy life.—Sir W. Raleigh—to his son.

He that boasteth of his ancestors, confesseth he hath no virtue of his own. No other person hath lived for our honor; nor ought that to be reputed ours which was long before we had a being; for what advantage can it be to a blind man that his parents had good eyes? does he see one whit the better?—Charron.

BOY-MEN AND GIRL-WOMEN.

The girl-woman is generally a rather pretty creature, dressed in something between a frock and a gown, made of white muslin, with a pink sash round her waist. Her face has lost the free and unembarrassed expression of childhood, without having obtained the self-possession and dignity of woman. The graces of her person are as yet but half developed; her shoulders are sharp and angular, and her arms long and unpleasantly slender. She is too mature to wear her hair in a crop, and too childish to have it piled in towers of curls and combs on the top of her head. Indeed, let her dress be what it may, it appears alike unfit for the stage through which she has just passed, or on the one which she is about to enter. Her intellectual faculties and conversation are in an equally early and untried state, and the person who addresses her is sorely puzzled how to hit the right medium between juvenility and maturity. She has not made up her mind whether she likes Byron or the skipping-rope; but decidedly prefers Mrs. Opie to the author of Waverley. If you talk of school, you offend her; and yet she knows not how to discourse about any thing else—so that all the conversation consists of an abrupt observation and conversation are in an equally early and untried state, and the person who addresses her is sorely puzzled how to hit the right medium between juvenility and maturity. She has not made up her mind whether she likes Byron or the skipping-rope; but decidedly prefers Mrs. Opie to the author of Waverley. If you talk of school, you offend her; and yet she knows not how to discourse about any thing else—so that all the conversation consists of an abrupt observation and conversation are in an equally early and untried state, and the person who addresses her is sorely puzzled how to hit the right medium between juvenility and maturity. 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