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Weekly Almanack.

December—1831.	Sun Rises.	Sun Sets.	Moon Rises.	Full Sea.
21 Wednesday - -	7 44	4 16	7 29	0 49
22 Thursday - -	7 44	4 16	8 41	1 32
23 Friday - -	7 44	4 16	9 57	2 15
24 Saturday - -	7 44	4 16	10 59	3 1
25 Sunday - -	7 44	4 16	morn.	3 52
26 Monday - -	7 44	4 16	0 5	4 51
27 Tuesday - -	7 43	4 17	1 8	6 1

Last Quarter 25th, 7h. 46m. evening.

THE GARLAND.

EVENING PRAYER AT A GIRL'S SCHOOL.

BY MRS. HEMANS.

Hush! 'tis a holy hour!—the quiet room
Seems like a temple, while yon soft lamp sheds
A faint and starry radiance, through the gloom
And the sweet stillness, down on bright young heads,
With all their clustering locks, untouch'd by care,
And bow'd—as flowers are bow'd with night—in prayer.

Gaze on, 'tis lovely! childhood's lip and cheek,
Mantling beneath its earnest brow of thought!
Gaze, yet what seest thou in those fair and meek
And fragile things, as but for sunshine wrought?
—Thou seest what grief must nurture for the sky,
What death must fashion for eternity!

O joyous creatures! that will sink to rest
Lightly when those pure orisons are done,
As birds with slumber's honey-dew oppress'd,
Mid'st the dim folded leaves, at set of sun;
Lift up your hearts! tho' yet no sorrow lies
Dark in the summer-heaven of those clear eyes.

Though fresh within your breast th' untroubled springs
Of hope make melody wherever ye tread,
And o'er your sleep bright shadows from the wings
Of spirits visiting but youth, be spread;
Yet in those flute-like voices, mingled low,
Is woman's tenderness—how soon her woe!

Her lot is on you!—silent tears to weep,
And patient smiles to wear through suffering's hour,
And sunless riches, from affection's deep,
To pour on broken reeds—a wasted shower!
And to make them idols, and to find them clay:
And to bewail that worship—therefore pray!

Her lot is on you!—to be found untir'd
Watching the stars out by the bed of pain,
With a pale cheek, and yet a brow inspir'd,
And a true heart of hope, though hope be vain!
Meekly to bear with wrong, to cheer decay,
And, oh! to love through all things—therefore pray!

And take the thought of this calm vesper time,
With its low murmuring sounds and silvery light,
On through the dark days fading from their prime,
As a sweet dew to keep your souls from blight!
Earth will forsake—Oh happy to have given
The unbroken heart's first fragrance unto heaven!

From the Token for 1832.

WHAT IS LIFE?

What is life? Saith the sage, we are born but to die!
We live for a summer, but cannot tell why;
And the strong and the feeble, the plain and the fair,
All go in the winter, we cannot tell where.
What is life? Saith the preacher, we live and we die,
Permitted to flutter, but hardly to fly;
And hereafter we live, as in this world we do,
Either false and deceitful, or faithful and true.
What is life? Saith the lover, a season of bliss,
And all bliss and all life is compressed in a kiss;
To live, is to love—to be scorned, is to die—
I revive with a kiss, and expire in a sigh.
What is life? Saith the soldier, 'tis glory, my son,
The forts that are stormed, and the fields that are won;
'Tis thunder and pillage, 'tis glory and strife,
With a sprinkling of beauty—and this, this is life.
What is life? Saith the miser, 'tis twenty per cent;
'Tis a mortgage foreclosed; it is premium and rent;
While his heir will asseverate, 'Powder my wig!
'Tis to dress, and to drink, and drive fast in a gig.'
What is life? Saith my dame, to be seen and admired;
To be envied, and loved, and genteely attired;
To be toasted as belle, to be honoured as wife;
This, this is the end and enjoyment of life.
What is life? Saith the statesman, political rank.
Saith the merchant, oh no, it is credit in bank.
Saith the lawyer, 'tis weight with the jury and judge;
And I say, with honest old Burchil, 'tis fudge!

MISCELLANEA.

A WINTER MARCH FROM NEW-BRUNSWICK TO CANADA.

In 1813.

(CONCLUDED.)

On Wednesday, the 2nd of March, we arrived at *Larouciers*, at the head of the Madawaska settlement; here I began to find the French language of great service to me, as I did through all Lower Canada.—The worthy Cure, *Monsieur Rabbi*, was delighted to meet a British officer who could converse with him freely, and accordingly not only invited me to take my billet at his house, but also insisted that one of my brother subs should accompany me, where he treated us with the greatest hospitality.

This insulated settlement is entirely separated from the busy world; a few hundred French are here settled in peaceful retirement; their kind and worthy Pastor assured me that crimes were quite unknown in this peaceful spot, he was their confessor, their adviser, and their judge, and if a difference ever did exist amongst them, it was speedily referred to him, and his decision was final. Their habits and manners were simple and kind, altogether French; like the ant in Lafontaine's fable, they told me they grew enough in summer to supply their wants for the winter, which they passed in mirth and friendly intercourse. From the worthy Cure's description, and the lively and contented air of the people, I should take this to be the only Arcadia now existing in the world. I am not aware that these good people considered us as great intruders, but they certainly did not give us much time to corrupt them, as they mounted the whole of us, officers and men, in sleighs, and drove us through their settlement, twenty-one miles in a day, which by the way was a great treat, and the men vowed it was the pleasantest day's *march* that they had had.

On the 4th of March the cold was gradually increasing, and an incessant snow-storm filling the track up rapidly, made the dragging of the tobogins exceedingly laborious, especially as we occasionally had to quit the Madawaska river owing to rapids in it which had not frozen, and the thickness of the brush-wood and forest along the edge of it. When we got to the end of our day's march the cold was so intense that the men could scarcely use their fingers to hew down the fire wood, or to build huts, and it was dark before we could commence cooking; if sticking a bit of salt pork on the end of a twig and holding it to the fire could be so termed.

On the morning of the 5th the cold had greatly augmented, and the thermometer once more fell to 27° below zero, together with a gale, a north-wester in our teeth, which scarcely left us power to breathe indeed, the intensity of the cold is indescribable, the captain of the company anticipated the effects of it, and went on with an officer and a few men to arrange the huts, and to prepare fires for our reception. About mid-day, on turning an angle or corner along the river, I was surprised to find that the head of the company had stopped, which caused the centre and the rear to halt as they came up; knowing the dangerous consequences that might ensue from a prolonged halt in such excessive cold, I hastened in the deep snow to the head of the company, and going along, I observed that almost every man was already more or less frost-bitten, and was occupied in rubbing his cheeks or nose, or both with snow; in my progress I also was caught by the nose, and when I turned the corner in the river, I really thought I should not have been able to proceed, the cold wind appeared to penetrate through my body in defiance of flannels or furs; I however urged the men on, as soon as we had taken time to lay one poor fellow upon a tobogin whose whole body was frost-bitten, and covered him with blankets. By changing the leading file every four or five minutes we at length got to the huts, having about ninety men out of 105 more or less frost bitten on that occasion. On arriving at the huts, we found that the company which should have been a day's march a-head of us were still halted, they had attempted to cross the Temisquata lake in the morning, but the cold wind blowing over it was so exquisitely keen, as to freeze many of his men, that after marching a mile, the captain of it faced about and returned to the huts. It was impossible to get warm that night, one officer literally scorched his moccasins on his feet in his sleep, by being anxious to keep them warm.

The next morning the wind having abated, both companies crossed the lake. The marching this day was very different from any thing that we had yet experienced in our journeys; the sun having begun to have some power on the snow had thawed the surface of it, which froze again in the night, and formed a sheet of thin ice, sufficiently strong to bear a light person, but a heavy man would frequently break through, and sink into the substratum of snow till he was arrested by the firm ice on the lake; this was very troublesome and laborious work, but those who chose to keep their snow-shoes on, avoided it, and marched at a great pace over the ice. It was an eighteen-mile march, and we were delighted to get to an habitation on the edge of the portage.

We had to leave poor Rogers, who was so severely frost-bitten on the 6th, in charge of a corporal with the woodsman at the portage, who promised to recover him speedily by means of simples and herbs, though to us his life appeared in danger; he was quite a hideous spectacle, altogether one ulcerated mass, as if scalded all over from boiling water; however, he rejoined us at Kingston in six weeks perfectly recovered.

The next day's march was through a mountainous country, which is called the "Grand Portage;" some parts of the pine forests through which we passed had been burned for clearing, and presented a curious picture. The black and tall grim pine trees, rearing their scathed heads to the sky, seemed like the ghosts, or rather skeletons, of the noble forms they once possessed, and contrasted strangely with the virgin snow on which they appeared to stand. It was altogether a most dreary and laborious day's march, as the snow drift in some places was ten or twelve feet deep, and the constant ascent and descent made it excessively fatiguing for the tobogin men; the descent of the hills was even more dangerous than the ascent, for if a *tobogin* once got a fair start down hill, it shot to the foot of the hill like a car down a "*montagne russe*" with amazing velocity, excepting where the rider was awkward, and in this way there were several upsets to the great amusement of all who escaped an accident; thus it was necessary speedily to put an end to this, as some of the *tobogins* got injured by it, and on this occasion delayed the rear of the company so much, that the head of it had finished its march by ten or eleven o'clock in the morning, whereas the rear-guard did not arrive till half past five. After our regal meal of biscuit and pork, we turned not in, but as usual round the fire on our green bed of pine; but our refreshing sleep was doomed to be broken this night by a novel accident.

The wind being high had so completely dried the top of our pine thatch, that it caught fire, and on waking from a sound slumber, I found myself in a blaze, in a complete "*auto da fe*," for there was no appearance of a door way or outlet, so instantaneous was the blaze; however, a yell of despair from the giant form of an officer of the regiment, who dashed into the hut through the flames, exclaiming, "Poly J——s, my money box!" which he snatched up with the fondness of a father saving his only child from peril, enabled me to dash out after him, dragging my *all* with me, a change of suit, in a hysterical fit of laughter, at the strange lamentation of our brother-officers. We were some little time occupied in snow-balling the fire to extinguish the flames, for fear that the men's huts should have also caught fire; but it was a most ludicrous sight as we were thundering in the deep snow, up to our middles or shoulders, not having time to put on our snow-shoes; several of the men and officers got frost-bitten in this adventure.

The next morning we started with joyful countenances, under the impression that it was our last day's march through an uninhabited country, and that the morrow should enable us to march in a region where the axe had mastered the forest, and cultivation, however rude, and in its infancy, announced at least that the hand of man was there; it was so solemn a reflection, that we had been completely left to ourselves for many days, with nothing but snow, the sky, or the interminable silent forest to look upon, that hath men and officers were heartily rejoiced when [illegible] behold a worthy gentleman of the commissariat with *a horse* in a sleigh, who had been sent from Quebec to receive us; and in addition to the Government rum and rations provided for us, he kindly and considerately brought with him an ample supply of fowls, hams, veal and wines, three miles into the portage, which afforded us the best meal we had ever tasted, and gratitude proclaimed our worthy friend ever after a standing toast amongst us.

After our repast, we moved on in the parish of St. Andrews, to a village from whence we saw spread before us the magnificent St Lawrence, eighteen miles wide; we obtained comfortable huts for men and officers, and where for the first time in seventeen days we regularly washed and dressed ourselves, in addition to which a well cooked dinner, which more vitiated appetites would have probably called execrable, and good beds, made us forget all our fatigues. Our march from hence to Quebec was along a good beaten snow road, and marches of eighteen or twenty miles were exercise for us, so that our last seven days past away merrily, under the cheering smiles of the worthy Canadians, who welcomed us as a manuscript race that had never been seen in those quiet parts before, being the first regiment that had ever been there, and our merry bugles were quite a novel treat to the Canadian lasses. The country along the river St. Lawrence up to Quebec was cleared in a belt; ranging from half a mile to three miles in depth. We passed through several villages almost entirely built of wood, with neat looking churches roofed with tin, so that when the sun shone on them, they presented a brilliant and elegant appearance.

On the 20th, our twenty-fourth day's march, we entered Quebec, greeted by an immense concourse of people, who appeared to consider us quite the lions of the army, after our unexampled march; the Quebec papers called us in the words of the poet—

"Fine young fellows, fit to pluck
Bright honour from the pale-faced moon."

Sir George Prevost, on inspecting our six companies 550 rank and file, paid us the highest compliments, and to show us that he really thought us in good wind, he ordered the grenadiers and light company to march on the 20th, 200 miles for Chambly, to join the light brigade there, but it happened as if every General Officer who saw or heard of us considered that we were in thorough training, for on getting near Montreal, Colonel Drummond sent me on to Gen. de Rottenburg to report our speedy arrival, when on my honestly avowing we were in excellent wind, the General said, "Then he should send us on 200 miles farther to Kingston"—when I reported the circumstance to Colonel Drummond, who was marching at the head of the companies, one of the men exclaimed—"It's no wonder; they think we are like the children of Israel, we must march forty years before we halt!" others hoped that as it was the 1st of April, the General merely meant to make April fools of us, and let us off with a fright; but the 2nd of April undeceived us; we were off for Kingston.

I do not describe this part of our march from Quebec to Kingston, as many other regiments have performed it, none however in so short a space of time; it was nevertheless very severe, as the sun had now power to thaw the snow and the ice over the small streams, some of which we were obliged to ford up to our middles, when the water was so intolerably cold, that the sudden shock to our pores, open from perspiration, was not a little trying to the best constitution, and caused excessive pain in the loins.

On the 12th of April we were marching up a gentle ascent, and just as the head files were rising it, there was a general exclamation of "The sea, the sea—the ships, the ships!" the whole of us spontaneously broke and ran to witness the novel and interesting sight.—Some of us had been marching between eight hundred and a thousand miles in six weeks, with only ten days halt, during which time we had never lost sight of a forest, when suddenly there lay before our astonished and delighted view the town of Kingston, the magnificent Lake Ontario, and what was far more surprising still, a squadron of ships-of-war frozen on its bosom. It produced a striking and indescribable sensation, as none of us Europeans appeared to have reflected on the circumstance of being sure to find a fleet of men-of-war on a fresh water lake. After having feasted our eyes a while, the companies resumed their wonted order, and having washed the mud off our legs in a rivulet, that we might appear very clean in getting under the scrutiny of the fair sex, we made our triumphant entry into Kingston to the sound of our merry bugles.

As my purpose was merely to describe a winter march in Canada, I shall avoid other descriptions; but as a few general observations may be useful, I may be pardoned for making them.

The comparative repose, which necessarily followed our long march, together with good feeding, occasioned disorders amongst the men; and although we had not lost a single man during the march, many were ill and a few died from the effects of it; but it was observed that these were all the hardest drinkers; in fact, there is no doubt whatever that dram-drinking is highly injurious in a very cold country, as the heat that is unnecessarily conveyed to the body is followed by a reaction, which the cold turns quickly into a numbness, and retarded circulation.

Under the circumstances of a regiment having to perform a similar march, it would appear advisable to use snow-shoes for eight or ten miles daily, for at least a month previous to its march, in order to accustom the men not only to tie on their snow shoes, and to wear them with ease to themselves, but also to enable them to know how to dress their moccasins properly, and to pack and drag their tobogins.

In fatigues or natives should be sent on a day's march ahead of the regiment to prepare huts for the officers and men, to cut wood, and to boil water in readiness for their arrival, as I should consider warm tea or warm broth made from portable soup, far more refreshing and restoring than the piece of pork that was allowed to the 104th Regiment.

The men were so benumbed and chilled by the cold on some occasions, that they would scarcely exert themselves to cut wood for fuel; and I feel confident, that under similar circumstances a corps differently composed, might have been placed in a very uncomfortable situation; but the advantage of having a great number of natives of the country in the corps was manifest.

Brother soldiers will pardon the *esprit de corps* which leads me to say, that during this long march, under considerable privations and hardships, not one single robbery was committed by the men, nor was there a single report made against them by the inhabitants to the commanding officer.

J. L. C——, Capt. late 104th Regt.

Beauty—Has been defined, by an ancient painter, to be a "symmetry of limbs, accompanied by a goodness of colour." It was this principle that governed the magic pencil of Apelles, when he delineated the "sea-born goddess," so lovely and inimitable in the blaze of personal charms—so full of attraction, grace, and the enchantment of fascination! It was this plastic principle that fired the genius of Lysippus, when he perpetrated such a sublime miracle of art in creating the beautiful beauties' illumination of perfection and celestial character, that breathe their charms over the Apollo Belvidere.

Lucian, who was an accomplished judge of the subject, bestows high encomiums on Homer, for comparing Menelaus' naked arms to ivory, neatly dyed in purple, as such, according to his opinion, should be the colour of the whole body. Ausonius, the celebrated Roman poet, who loved so ardently and enthusiastically the beautiful daughter of the Emperor Valentinian, the graceful and incomparable Bissula, thus addresses a painter whom he employed to draw her portrait. "Go then, happy artist! and confound red roses with dew-washed lilies, and whatever reflection the air takes from them, let that be the colour of her face, of enchanting smiles." Petrarch, in his vivid [illegible] loveliness of and glowing description of the charming [illegible] ched Laura, represented the voluptuous rose and blan[illegible] lily blooming on her cheeks; and that, when she smiled, her breath exhaled perfumes as sweet and balmy as the odour of the peach-blossom, displayed, at the same time, ivory teeth of the finest enamel, and resembling a brilliant row of pearls set in cubs of pure coral. The impassioned Byron thought that beauty never appeared so attractive and winning, as when bathed, like April flowers, in the "dewy tears" of melancholy sadness. But the finest and finest features, even if arranged by the graceful hand of Nature, in the most harmonious symmetry, and heightened by the most blooming complexion, must be animated with a glowing expression of sensibility before they can strike the passions, elicit the sparks of sympathy, or enchain the adoration of love. To invest beauty with the power of conquest it is necessary, as Leon Dyron, the sublimest of poets—the most feeling of lovers, observed, that there should be

"Heart on the lips, and soul within the eyes."

Among the most peculiar blandishments and attractive graces of a beautiful face, the dimple has always borne away the palm of pre-eminence, and the reason is evident; dimples illuminate the countenance with the light of smiles, which reflects, as a mirror, the sensibility of the soul, the emotions of the passions, and the sweetness of temper which connect beauty with sentiment, and express a powerful and winning charm, that is not the property or characteristic of any other particular set of features, but may be, and is perhaps, possible to all.—*Philadelphia Irish Shield.*

British Peers.—So very much has it been the practice in England to create Peers for political emergencies, that, of the present 557 British Peers, no fewer than 160 have been created, or raised to a higher rank, since the accession of George III.

Lord Elibank made a happy retort on Dr. Johnson's definition of oats, as the food of horses in England, and of men in Scotland. 'Yes,' said he; 'and where else will you see *such horses* and *such men*?'

Hint for Lovers.—If a youth is wooingly disposed to any damsel, as he values his happiness, let him follow my advice; call on the lady when she least expects him, and take note of the appearance of all that is under her control. Observe if the shoe fits neatly—if the gloves are clean, and the hair well polished. And I would forgive a man for breaking off an engagement, if he discovered a greasy novel hid away under the cushion of a sofa, or a hole in the garniture of the prettiest foot in the world. Slovenliness will ever be avoided by a well regulated mind, as would a pestilence. A woman cannot be always what is called *dressed*, particularly one in middling or humble life, where her duty, and it is consequently to be hoped, her pleasure, lies in superintending and assisting in all domestic matters; but she may be always neat—well appointed. And as certainly as a virtuous woman is a crown of glory to her husband, so surely is a slovenly one a crown of thorns.—*Mrs. S. C. Hall.*

Trial by Jury.—The following important recommendation appears in the Third Report of the English Law Commissioners, which has been just printed. It relates to civil causes:—"Jury not to be kept in deliberation longer than twelve hours, unless at the end of that period they unanimously apply for further time—at the end of that time the concurrence of Nine to be a verdict; and Nine not concurring, the case to be a *remanet*." [*Eng. paper.*

Sir Walter Scott.—This distinguished individual set out from Abbotsford on Saturday, on his way to Italy. On Sunday evening he dined and slept at Boroughbridge, Yorkshire. He appeared in excellent spirits. He performs the voyage in a King's ship, and will make Naples his residence for the winter. His daughter, Miss Scott, accompanies him.

New-York Schools.—An estimate of the number of scholars in the various schools of the State, exhibits a view of the encouragement given there to education, astonishing to persons at a distance, and most honorable to the rulers and inhabitants of the State.—There are—it is stated—550,000 scholars receiving instruction annually, which is as 1 to 2½ of the whole population according to the last census.

LORD ELDON ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

House of Lords—October 7.

The Earl of Eldon addressed their Lordships—* * * He was anxious to state his reasons for the vote he meant to give, because threats had been thrown out against their lordships generally, but particularly against himself, in order to create intimidation, and to prevent them from a fearless discharge of their duty. Now, not caring from what quarter those threats might come, he would take that opportunity of declaring that he would rather die a member of the happiest and most glorious nation on the face of the earth,—he would, he said, rather die and descend to his grave the victim of those threats, than desert the great duties which at that moment he was called to discharge.—(Hear, hear.) He well remembered that, on a former occasion—he alluded to the discussion of the Catholic question, when he felt it to be his duty to God and his Country to state his opinion—he very well remembered that he then said, that in all probability that would be the last opportunity of which he should avail himself to address their lordships. He thought so at the time for he was far advanced towards fourscore years of age—a period at which all must look forward for experience the common lot of humanity. He would, while he was able to exercise his judgment, personally attend in that house, as he had hitherto done, to offer his reasons to the country for his approbation of any measure; or, on the other hand, to declare why he felt it necessary to dissent from it. (Hear, hear.) The infirmities of age, and an affliction which pressed on him still more, would prevent him from addressing their lordships at great length; but he would not let that day pass without giving his opinion against this most destructive measure—a measure which he would take upon himself to say, would, in its consequences, reduce this country hitherto (and it was no small pride to state it) the glory of all the nations of the earth—it would, in its consequences, reduce this country to a participation in those deep miseries which were now experienced on the continent of Europe. (Hear, hear.) It might be that no man was more freely than himself, from infirmity of age, or infirmity of mind, to be mistaken. But from the moment of his first entering that house he had always felt it to be his duty to give to every subject its due consideration; and, having done so, he had always endeavoured, through good report and evil report, to state his reasons for coming to any particular determination. (Hear, hear.) He had lately heard doctrines stated and law doctrines too, with respect to the subject now before their lordships, which had utterly astonished him, speaking as an Englishman, and in an English assembly. He found, according to the modern notion, which he had never heard of before (although he had spent a long life in considering what the law of this country was, and had been for some time occupied in the administration of that law)—he found that according to the modern notion, he had been wholly in the wrong with respect to some legal points of importance. If he were mistaken in supposing that what were called alterations were not necessarily improvements, he must ask pardon of his country. But he confessed that he was somewhat surprised when he saw in the preamble of a bill that it was expedient to destroy all the acknowledged rights of property,—that it was expedient to destroy charters,—that it was expedient to destroy close corporations, or rather to destroy all corporations, whether close or not,—when he found that the influence of property was to be taken away under the [illegible]ence that abuses were perpetrated in the exercise pre[illegible] sort of property,—when these propositions of that [illegible] essed that they greatly came under his notice, he could [illegible] astonished him. (Hear, hear.) Now he never could consent to hear this doctrine of expediency thus stated without replying to it. He was ready to admit that it was a very popular notion with respect to the boroughs of this country, that they were not property, but simply trusts. Now he contended that they were both property and trusts. (Hear, hear.) He was not singular in that opinion. These old-fashioned authorities, whose names would be held in everlasting reverence and regard—he meant such men as Coke and Hale—what had they said of these ancient places, now called boroughs? They said that they were both a franchise and a right. (Hear, hear.) No man could know better than he did, and if a franchise and a right were abused, they ought to be taken away merely because it was said there was an abuse. (Hear, hear.) He would ask their lordships, whether the history of this country ever recorded one single instance, whether a right of property had been taken away, merely on allegation of abuse? (Hear, hear.) He was not speaking as a minister of that day—he was speaking as a private man, a member of their Lordship's house, anxious to do his duty, and he would ask of his country, he would ask of their lordship's house, whether they would take away a right of property,—whether they would destroy a franchise, merely because the existence of abuse was alleged? Had they a right to say that an abuse existed, and without any further proceeding to act on that assertion? He demanded whether a single instance could be adduced in the history of this country, when such a right was taken away, without proof being given of the alleged abuse? He might be told that in some places this sort of formal proof was not called for.—This assertion however, did not meet his argument. He would ask their Lordships, if this doctrine were to be established, what would be the consequence to property of every species in the country? Rather it should be borne in mind there was no property that was not connected with some degree of trust. Was it possible for any man to have boldness to say that property was secure when they were sweeping away near 100 boroughs and almost all the corporations in the country because they had a notion that those who were connected with them had not executed their trust properly? Would they thus proceed on mere allegation? for such was the course pointed out.—Would they now do that which the house of Lords never before thought of doing? Would they proceed to defranchisement without arbitrating between party and party? Would they not hear the individuals against whom the allegation was made, as well as those who made it? Would they not hear the matter argued in their presence, and allow the right of calling witnesses, on whose evidence they might decide? (Hear, hear.) This new doctrine, he repeated, effected every species of property which any man possessed in this country. It was heretofore the glory of this country, that they would not legislate with respect to property without giving those who were concerned a full opportunity of being heard. They allowed a judicial proceeding in aid of their legislative proceeding. But what were they now doing? They were about to condemn without giving the accused parties an opportunity of being heard. (Hear, hear.) With respect to borough rights, it has been asserted that there was no property in them. Now, admitting for a moment that they were a mere trust, still he was yet to learn that because they only constituted a trust, they were authorised to take away the use of that trust without proof of its mal-administration. This doctrine might be treated as the opinion of a doating old lawyer, but still he would adhere to it while he found it supported by such men as Coke, and Hale, and Plowden, and all the most learned professors of the law. (Hear, hear.) This, he contended, was not only a franchise, but a right of property—a right of property next to that of land. (Hear, hear.) Now those who had a right of land ought to be cautious before they countenanced the sweeping away of God knows how many boroughs, without being aware that any one of them—and certainly with the moral conviction that not all of them—had been guilty of a mal-administration of trust. (Hear, hear.) If such proceedings were admitted, what security would there be for property in land? (Hear, hear.) He had heard, in the course of the last two or three months, a good deal about close corporations.—Now he would say, that close corporations were hereditary rights, held by charter from the Crown; and they had as good a right to hold their charters under the great seal, as any of their lordships had to the title of their peerage.—(Hear, hear.) Now he would ask one and all of them, to say how they would maintain their right to keep their peerages, if an existing majority in that house should say, on the creation of other Peers, "we will not do so unconstitutional an act as to allow you to be introduced into this house to secure a majority over us." (Cheering.) He imputed to no individual any intention of doing such a thing. (hear, hear.) He would not object to the courtesy of creating Peers on the occasion of the coronation. He should on the contrary, be happy to see individuals introduced to that House, if the members so created had not already voted for the Bill in the other House and then came here to vote for it again. (Hear, hear.)—He did not, however, think that any man, or set of men, would dare to counsel such a proceeding under the present circumstances of the country. By such a proceeding the real sense of that house might sooner or later be overruled.—(hear, hear.) He respected the whole house of Hanover.—He respected the King on the throne,—he was anxious to support his authority, and to forward the general interest of the state, but he believed nothing would be so subversive of the rights of that house, nothing more injurious to the welfare of the country, than to leave it in the power of any set of men deliberately to effect that proceeding to which he had alluded. (hear, hear.)—He did not believe that the noble earl whose political opinion he admitted, was the individual who would recommend a measure which, if the bill were in consequence passed, would amount to neither more or less than this—the total annihilation of that house. (hear, hear.) If such a measure were contemplated, he hoped that the house would, before their lordships stripped off their roles, approach their Sovereign, and respectfully express their sentiments to him. (hear, hear.) Were their lordships to do away with all corporations throughout the country, he would ask any man who remembered the men whom some of these corporations had sent to Parliament, whether he thought that the addition of all these corporations would be an advantage to the country? What did the bill propose? It went, in the first instance, to abolish the franchise of the boroughs in schedule A—that it partially disfranchised those in schedule B; and if it did not destroy all other corporations, it introduced other places to share the right of voting, which had no other claim or right whatever, but that they were within seven miles of the borough. The effect of thus throwing open those corporations would be no otherwise than greatly injurious to them. He was a freeman of the town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and he looked upon it as a high honour. It was one of the proud distinctions of this country, that, by the aid of these corporations, young men of even moderate talent, with industry and perseverance, might rise to the highest honours of the state. He was proud to acknowledge that he had had his education in the grammar-school of Newcastle.—As the son of a freeman of that town, he was entitled to it. He always looked back to that period of his life with no little pride and pleasure, and he had hoped that when lying in his grave, as he now must soon expect to be, that he should leave behind him some testimony to the merit of that school—one of whose scholars had risen to the high office of Lord High Chancellor of England. The corporation of that town consisted of about 700 electors, and he need only refer to the members who had been sent from it to Parliament within the last 30 years to say that those members would have been an honour to any place.—But those electors, were now to be mixed up with 2700 of 3s. 6d. a week co-voters. Were their lordships to assent to this mixture? Were they to take away the rights which these voters had exercised so [illegible] and so independently, without any thing being [illegible] proved against them? He would assert, that if their lordships, in their legislative or judicial functions, did so without hearing the parties in their own defence, they would inflict a greater injury on a nation's privileges than ever had been inflicted by any measure which had passed their lordship's house. (hear, hear.) (The noble and learned lord then proceeded for some time in so very low a tone, and with his face for the most part turned towards that side of the house at which he spoke, that not even the import of his remarks could be collected below the bar. We may here observe, that during the remainder of the noble and learned lord's speech, he was from the same cause, very frequently altogether inaudible, and at the best imperfectly heard.) We understood him next to observe, that when called upon to give his assent to a measure of reform, or to a change, or alteration,—for reform was not necessarily one or the other—but in giving his assent to either of these, call it by what name they might, he must give or withhold that assent according to the grounds which were laid before him of its necessity. He stood with respect to this in the same situation as he should stand with respect to any other measure. He was to judge of it by its own merits, without any pledge before hand to prejudice him one way or the other. He well remembered that on one occasion he fought under the banners of no less a man than Mr. Fox, in support of this proposition—that it was an injustice to disfranchise a borough even when a majority of its electors was proved to be corrupt. That great man went further, for he maintained that you had no right to take away the franchise of this or the other borough for corruption, unless you were prepared to tell all the other boroughs in the kingdom that they must expect the same. On that occasion he voted against every political friend he then had in favour of that proposition. He was then a representative for a nomination borough, but he would not have sat a moment in the House of Commons if he could not have voted on that and on every other question according to his own sense of what was