

## EXTRAVAGANT EXPECTATIONS OF AN AUTHOR.

The late Mr. Johnson, of St. Paul's Church-yard, a well-known publisher of religious works, used to tell a laughable anecdote illustrative of the extravagant notions which authors often entertain of the demand there will be for their works. A clergyman called on him, and said that he wished him to be the agent for a volume of sermons, price 10s. 6d., which he (the clergyman) had resolved on publishing on his own account. The bibliopole asked him how many copies he meant to throw off. 'At least 10,000,' replied the divine. The worthy publisher remonstrated, saying that 250 would be nearer the mark. 'Two hundred and fifty!' exclaimed the theologian, in a tone of stifled indignation at the censure cast on his professional acquirements, as he thought, by the observation. 'Two hundred and fifty!' Why there are at least 10,000 clergymen in the communion of the Church of England, and every one of them will have a copy. Get me 10,000 copies printed,' said the divine, with an air of self-importance, 'and if they are not all sold, I myself will have to sustain the loss alone.' 'Very well,' said the publisher, and the parties bade each other good morning. The volume of divinity appeared, and continued to be advertised in all the magazines and papers for nearly six weeks. In about three months after the publication, the reverend author came to town (he was the rector of a parish in Yorkshire) with the sole view of balancing accounts with his bookseller, and receive the anticipated profits. A statement of accounts was demanded by the clergyman, and instantly furnished by the other. It was substantially as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
To printing and correcting . . . . .	246	0	0
To paper . . . . .	482	0	0
To board . . . . .	180	0	0
To advertising . . . . .	66	15	0
	974	15	0

The number of copies sold was 45, after deducting commission and allowance to the trade, amounting to . . . . . 15 15 0

Making the balance due by author to his agents, &c. . . . . 959 0 0

The rev. gentleman was quite horror-struck at this statement of accounts. He declared himself a ruined man by the result of his publishing speculation. The worthy bibliopole, seeing he had fairly convinced the divine how grossly he had over-rated the demand for books, told him the account he had submitted to him was drawn out agreeably to the number of the copies he had ordered to be printed; but that he, knowing better about such matters, had instructed the printer to throw off only 250. A thousand blessings invoked on the head of Mr. Johnson, was the emphatic manner in which the reverend author expressed his obligations to his benefactor.—*Great Metropolis.—Second Series.*

**SINGULAR PRESERVATION.**—In the Annual Register for 1765, and in the Philosophical Transactions, vol. 49, is an authentic narrative of a family remarkably preserved under the snow. The village of Bergemolletto, in Switzerland, was overwhelmed with a valanca, an immense mass of snow, suddenly rolled down from the mountains, March 19, 1755. Some of the inhabitants had just time to escape, but a considerable number were instantaneously suffocated. The wife of Joseph Roccia, two of her children, and her sister-in-law, were in a stable adjoining the house, when the valanca descended upon the village. With these human beings were an ass, six goats, and five or six fowls, all immersed in a narrow space and awful darkness, covered with a heap of snow, forty-two feet in height, two hundred and seventy in length, and sixty in breadth. A situation more dismal, more calculated to create despondency, can scarcely be conceived. Joseph Roccia and his neighbours did all they could, but, from the continued falling of snow, with little effect, towards removing the incumbent weight, in search of their lost families. Several houses were uncovered, and all the bodies found in them were dead. It was not before the 25th of April, that Mrs. Roccia and her companions were taken alive out of their horrid confinement. One of her children died, and the rest were supported almost wholly by the milk of two female goats, which they fed with hay within their reach. The ass and the fowls died, and the unhappy party suffered more from the stench and filth of the place than from hunger. After being five weeks, as it were, entombed alive, what emotions of gratitude and joy must have thrilled their bosoms, when they heard the poles and other instruments at work, removing the ice and snow! nor was Joseph Roccia less astonished and delighted, when a hoarse liquid voice issued from the bottom, which seemed to say, 'Help, my dear husband; help, my dear brother; help.' These sufferers were relieved by the munificence of the King of Sardinia, their Sovereign, and several donations from other hands, which enabled them to rebuild their

house, and retrieve their affairs. In April, 1757, they all enjoyed perfect health, except Mary Anne, who still laboured under dimness of sight, occasioned by her being too hastily exposed to the light.

**CONJUGAL CORRESPONDENCE.**—A gentleman, by mere chance, one day strolled into a coffee-house in Cornhill, where he met a captain of his acquaintance on the point of sailing for New York, and from whom he received an invitation to accompany him. This he accepted, taking care, however, to inform his wife of it, which he did in these terms:—

"Dear Wife,  
"I am going to America.  
Yours, truly."

Her answer was not at all inferior either in laconism or tenderness:

"Dear Husband,  
"A pleasant voyage.  
"Yours, &c."

**ROYALTY PUZZLED.**—William and his followers landed at Torbay, on Nov. 5, 1658. A Mr. John Duke, (of Otterton,) a man of wealth and influence in Sidmouth, joined the hero on his arrival: being presented to the King, who asked him for his name, he replied, with a timid hesitation, "John Duke of Otterton." The prince expressed his surprise, and taking a list of the nobility from his pocket, which he had been led to suppose was correct, looked over it, and then declared that no such duke was to be found there! The gentleman, however, soon rectified the mistake, by repeating his name with an accelerated pronunciation.—John Duke, of Otterton. The mistake being thus corrected, William smiled at it, and embraced John Duke with joy.

**PORCELAIN.**—The pink colour which ornaments the English porcelain has been hitherto unknown in France, and when required in that country was always bought here. M. Malagatti, of the manufactory of Sevres, has analyzed this colour, till he is now able to compose it. In the course of his experiments, he discovered another colour, similar to crimson lake, which is much more durable than any derived from the animal kingdom, and which may be advantageously employed in oil painting.—*Athenæum.*

**A LARGE FLY.**—An English gentleman wrote over to a foreign entomologist, to inform him of the death of a friend, caused by being knocked down by a fly. The entomologist upon reading the letter, remarked that the unfortunate gentleman must have been exceedingly small, or else the English flies must be exceedingly large, and of a species quite unknown to him. J. H. F.

**C. H. BELCHER,**  
BOOKSELLER & STATIONER,  
OPPOSITE THE PROVINCE BUILDING,  
HALIFAX.

**H**AS received by the Acadian from Greenock, Part of his Importations for the Season—the remainder expected by the Lotus from London.

BOOK-BINDING in all its branches executed in the neatest manner.

BLANK BOOKS of all kinds constantly on hand, or made and ruled to patterns.

PAPER HANGINGS and BORDERINGS, a neat assortment, handsome patterns and low priced. \* \* \* A further Supply of these Articles, of rich and elegant patterns, expected from London.

PRINTING INK, in Kegs.  
June 17, 1837.

**HENRY G. HILL,**  
Builder and Draughtsman.

**R**ESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public, that he has discontinued the Cabinet business, and intends to devote his time exclusively to

PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL BUILDING.

He begs to offer his grateful acknowledgments to those who have hitherto patronised him, and now offers his services as an Architect, Draughtsman and Builder, and will be prepared to furnish accurate working plans, elevations and specifications for buildings of every description, and trusts by strict attention to business to insure a share of public patronage.

Residence, nearly opposite Major McColla's.  
Carpenter's shop—Argyle-street. June 10.

**MIRAMICHI SHINGLES.**

400 M: bed prime Shingles for sale by the Subscriber.  
ROBERT H. SKIMMINGS.  
June 3, 1837.—6w.

**HUGH CAMPBELL,**  
No. 18, Granville St.

**R**ESPECTFULLY acquaints the Public, that he has received by the late arrivals from Great Britain, a Supply of the following articles, which he sells at his usual low terms.

CHAMPAGNE, Claret, Burgundy, Hock: Santerne, Vin-de-Grave, Blackburn's and others sup. Madeira, Fine old Brown, and pale Sherries, fine old Port, Marsala, Teneriffe, Bucellas, Muscatel and Malaga } WINES.

Fine old Cognac pale and colored, BRANDIES, Do. Hollands, fine old Highland Whiskey, Do. Irish Whiskey, fine old Jamaica Rum, direct from the Home Bonded Warehouse.

Assorted Liqueurs, Cherry Brandy. Curacao and Mareschino. Barclay and Perkin's best London Brown Stout, Edinburgh and Alloa ALES—Hodgson's pale do. Fine light Table do., and Ginger Beer.

Nova Scotia superior flavored Hams; Cheshire and Wiltshire Cheese, double and single refined London and Scotch Loaf Sugar, muscatel and bloom Raisins, Almonds, assorted preserved Fruits, a general assortment of Pickles and Sauces, Olive Oil, for lamps, Robinson's patent Barley and Groats, Cocoa, and West India Coffee.

Soda and wine Biscuit with a general assortment of Groceries usual in his line. Halifax, June 17.

**THE SUBSCRIBER.**

Has just received, from London & Glasgow, a large assortment of

STATIONARY, BOOKS, &c. &c.—viz

LEDGERS & JOURNALS, various sizes, Day, Cash, Land Registrar Book, Writing Papers, various sizes and qualities, Quills, Pens, Pencils, Slates, Sealing Wax, Wafers, Penknives, Ink and Ink Powders, Bibles, Testaments, Prayer, Psalm and Hymn Books, English, French and Latin School Books. A large variety of children's Books, Pocket Books, Gunter Scales, Dividers, CHARTS, Wax Taper and Stands, Writing Desks, Travelling Dressing Cases, &c. &c. all of which will be sold at low prices.

Blank Books made to order.  
June 10. 6w. J. MUNRO.

**MERCANTILE AND NAUTICAL**  
ACADEMY.

THOMAS BURTON,

**B**EGS leave to notify to his friends and the public, that he has opened an Academy in

Brunswick-Street, opposite the New Methodist Chapel, where he intends instructing youth of both sexes, in the following branches of education, viz. Orthography, Reading, Writing, English Grammar, Arithmetic, and Mathematics, generally. Likewise, Maritime and Land Surveying, Geometry, Trigonometry, Navigation, and the Italian and modern methods of Book-keeping by double entry. The strictest attention will be paid to the morals and advancement of such pupils as may be committed to his care. July 9.

**CARD.**

**D**R. RUFUS S. BLACK, having completed his Studies at the Universities of Edinburgh and Paris, intends practising his profession in its various branches in Halifax and its vicinity.

Residence for the present, at Mr. M. G. Black's, Corner of George and Hollis Streets.

Advice to the Poor, gratis. 8w. July 8.

**IMPROVED AROMATIC COFFEE.**

**T**HE attention of the Public is called to the above article. By the new and improved process of roasting which, the whole of the fine aromatic flavor of the berry is retained. Prepared and sold by

LOWES & CREIGHTON,  
Grocers, &c.

Corner of Granville and Buckingham Streets.  
June 3, 1837.

PRINTED every Saturday, for the Proprietor By Wm. CUNNABELL, at his Office, corner of Hollis and Water Streets, opposite the Store of Messrs. Hunter & Chambers. HALIFAX, N. S.

**TERMS.**—Fifteen Shillings per annum—in all cases one half to be paid in advance. No subscription taken for less than six months.