

POETRY.

THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.—A SONNET.

"I don't think," said Dixon, "that Mounsheer knows what our Liberty of the Press means."—"Yes," said Ronfleur; "de Liberte de Press, is de Liberte you always quarrel for, and which is no more nor less than to take poor devil men out of dere house and famille, to fill your ships to fight, whether dey will or no---eh?---dat is your Liberte de Press---and beautiful Liberte he is too, I declare,---eh?"---*Sayings and Doings, 2d. Series.*

One day I listened to a long harangue  
On England's "glorious" Freedom of the Press,  
When pondering on the phrase, as if to guess  
Its meaning, I bethought me how the gang,  
The press-gang prowling in her Ports, attack  
The famished Englishman---how tenderly  
They drag him to a tender, and apply  
The cat or cutlass to his free-born back!  
The "Freedom of the Press!"---detested cant!  
A cheat that glosses over every ill;  
For so that we submit to woe and want,  
And dig their fields and fight their battles still,  
Our tyrants---curse their condensation!-- grant  
That we may write and print wlat'er we will.

THE BRIDE'S REUTRN.

She hath her wish---for which in vain  
She pined in restless dreams---  
"Oh mother! is this home again!  
How desolate it seems!  
Yet all the dear familiar things  
Look as they did of yore;  
But oh! the change this sad heart brings---  
This is my heart no more!  
I left thee; like the dove of old  
I left thy parent breast---  
But on life's waste of waters cold  
My soul hath found no rest!  
And back the weary bird is come,  
Its woe---its wanderings o'er;  
Ne'er from the holy ark to roam---  
Yet this is home no more.  
Oh, mother sing my childhood's songs;  
They fall like summer's rain  
On this worn heart, that vainly longs  
To be thine all again.  
Speak comfort to me; call me yet  
"Thy Mary!"---as of yore;  
Those words could make me half forget  
That this is home no more.  
Sit near me---oh! this hour repays  
Long years of lonely pain:  
I feel as if the old bright days  
Were all come back again,  
My heart beats thick with happy dreams---  
Mine eyes with tears run o'er;  
Thou'rt with me mother!--oh! it seems  
Like home---our home once more!  
Oh, home and mother! can ye not  
Give back my heart's glad youth?  
The visions which my soul forgot,  
Or learnt to doubt their truth!  
Give back my childhood's peaceful sleep,  
Its aimless hopes restore;  
Ye cannot---mother let me weep---  
For this is home no more!"  
Thou mourner for departed dreams!  
On earth there is no rest---  
When grief hath troubled the pure streams  
Of memory in thy breast.  
A shadow on thy path shall lie  
Where sunshine laughed before:  
Look upwards---to the happy sky!  
Earth is thy home no more.

CAP. III.

An Act to prevent dangerous quantities of Gunpowder being kept within the Town of Harbor Grace, and to provide for the safe storing of the same.

[12th June, 1834.]  
WHEREAS, large quantities of Gunpowder have been recently kept within the town of Harbor Grace, to the great danger of the lives and property of His Majesty's subjects there; Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council and Assembly, that from and after the expiration of thirty days next ensuing the passing of this Act, no person or persons shall have or keep more than twenty-five pounds weight of gunpowder in any house, storehouse, warehouse, shop, cellar, yard, wharf, or other Building occupied, or used by the same person or persons in the town of Harbor Grace, or within half a mile thereof (all buildings and places adjoining each other, and occupied together, being to be deemed one house or place within the meaning of this Act) save and except in such magazines as shall be built and erected or provided by the persons, and in the manner hereinafter prescribed, for the safe storing of gunpowder.

II.—And be it further enacted, that not more than twenty-five pounds weight of gunpowder shall be kept, at any one time, in any ship, boat, or other vessel, in the Harbor of Harbor Grace, longer than twenty-four hours after such ship boat or other vessel shall have come alongside of any ship, boat, or other vessel, or shall have been anchored, moored, or stationed within any distance less than one hundred fathoms from any wharf, or other building: Provided always, that this act shall not extend, nor be construed to extend to any ship or vessel of war, belonging to His Majesty, his heirs or successors, or to any ship or other vessel employed in the public service of the Government.

III.—And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for any magistrate or Justice of the Peace of the Northern

District of this Island, on complaint made upon oath by any constable or other person that he has reasonable cause to suspect that any quantities or quantity of gunpowder is or are deposited or kept in any house, storehouse or other Building or place as aforesaid, within the said town of Harbor Grace or the limits aforesaid, or on board any ship, boat, or other vessel in the Harbor of Harbor Grace, contrary to the provisions of this Act, to issue his warrant or warrants to one or more constables to search for the same in the day-time; and for that purpose admittance being first demanded by such constable or constables, and refused by any proprietor or occupant of any such house, storehouse, or building or place as aforesaid, or by the master or other person in charge or command of any ship, boat or other vessel in the said Harbor of Harbor Grace, wherein it is so suspected that gunpowder is unlawfully kept or deposited, it shall and may be lawful for such constable or constables, if there shall be occasion, to break open any such house, storehouse or other building or place as aforesaid, or any such ship, boat or other vessel as aforesaid, and to enter into, examine and search the same; and if upon any such search, or examination a greater quantity of gunpowder than by this Act is allowed, shall be found by him or them, it shall and may be lawful for any such constable or constables to seize the same; and he or they shall without delay, remove the gunpowder so seized and deposit the same in the public magazine, and without delay then give information and make complaint of such seizure before one or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the said Northern District, who shall thereupon issue process of customary summons to the owner or owners of the gunpowder so seized, and to the person or persons in whose house store, or other Building or place, or in whose ship, boat, or other vessel, or in whose keeping the said gunpowder shall be found, requiring the said party or parties to appear and answer or defend the said information or complaint, which shall by the said Justice or Justices be heard and determined in a summary way; and if the person or persons so summoned shall make default in appearance to the said summons, or after appearance and a due hearing of the said complaint, or information, the said Justice or Justices shall convict the defendant or defendants,---the said Justice or Justices shall make order for the confiscation and sale of the said gunpowder, and the constable or constables who seized the same shall sell it by public auction; and after payment of such reasonable costs as the said Justice or Justices shall award to be paid out of the proceeds of the said sale, one moiety of the nett residue of the said proceeds shall be paid to the informer, and the other moiety to His Majesty, his heirs and successors, to be applied towards defraying the expenses of the Fire Companies of the said town of Harbor Grace. Provided always, that the Constable or Constables or other person or persons so making the seizure of gunpowder as aforesaid, shall be deemed and be admitted competent witnesses to prove the facts incident to any such seizure upon the trial or hearing of any such information or complaint as aforesaid.

IV.—And be it further enacted, that if any person or persons shall after the expiration of thirty days next ensuing the passing of this Act, have or keep any larger or greater quantity of gunpowder than twenty-five lbs. at any one time in any house, storehouse, warehouse shop, cellar, yard, wharf, or other place within the said town of Harbor Grace, or within half a mile of the same, (except as hereinbefore excepted) or shall have or keep any larger or greater quantity of gunpowder than twenty-five pounds at any one time, in any one ship, boat, or other vessel, as aforesaid, he or they shall be deemed and be admitted competent witnesses to prove the facts incident to any such seizure upon the trial or hearing of any such information or complaint as aforesaid.

V.—And be it further enacted, that if any person or persons shall after the expiration of thirty days next ensuing the passing of this Act, have or keep any larger or greater quantity of gunpowder than twenty-five lbs. at any one time in any house, storehouse, warehouse shop, cellar, yard, wharf, or other place within the said town of Harbor Grace, or within half a mile of the same, (except as hereinbefore excepted) or shall have or keep any larger or greater quantity of gunpowder than twenty-five pounds at any one time, in any one ship, boat, or other vessel, as aforesaid, he or they shall be deemed and be admitted competent witnesses to prove the facts incident to any such seizure upon the trial or hearing of any such information or complaint as aforesaid.

half of the monies so recovered to be paid to the person who shall inform and sue for the same, and the other half to his Majesty his heirs and successors, to be paid to the fire wardens of the said town of Harbor Grace for the benefit and support of the Fire Companies of the said town: Provided always, that such action, plaint, bill or information shall be commenced, sued and prosecuted within twelve months next after such forfeiture or penalty shall have been incurred.

V.—And be it further enacted, that on the erection of a sufficient and safe magazine for the storing of gunpowder in a convenient situation near Harbor Grace aforesaid, whether the same shall be built and erected by shareholders or otherwise, it shall and may be lawful for the Owners or Proprietors thereof to charge the following rates or prices for all gunpowder stored or placed in the said magazine, and taken out of the same within one year, there shall be paid for every barrel, three shillings and sixpence; for every half barrel, two shillings and two-pence, and for every quarter barrel, one shilling and one penny of lawful money of Great Britain. And if such gunpowder shall be stored in the said Magazine for any greater time than one year, then there shall be paid for every hundred pounds weight of the same at and after the rate of two shillings and sixpence, lawful money of Great Britain per annum.

VI.—Provided always, and be it further enacted, that the owners or proprietors of such magazines so to be built and erected as aforesaid, shall be, and they are hereby required to admit and receive into it, all such quantities of gunpowder as shall be offered to be stored therein so far as such magazine shall be capable of containing the same.

VII.—And be it further enacted, that all gunpowder which, in the pursuance of the provisions of this Act, shall be carried to or removed from any magazine or magazines which may hereafter be built or provided under the provisions of this Act, shall at all times be conveyed and carried by water so far forth as the same can be water-borne.

VIII.—And be it further enacted, that the said town of Harbor Grace, for the purposes of this Act, shall extend from Bear's Cove to Ship's Head inclusive; and one half of a mile from high water mark, within the limits aforesaid.

A DERBYSHIRE TALE.

About twenty or thirty years since, a gentleman named Webster, who lived in the woodlands, a wild uncultivated barren range of hills in Derbyshire, bordering upon the confines of Yorkshire, had occasion to go from home. The family besides himself, consisted of the servant man, a young girl, and the housekeeper. At his departure he gave his man a strict charge to remain in the house, along with the females, and not on any account to absent himself at night, until his return. This the man promised to do; and Mr Webster proceeded on his journey. At night however, the man went out, notwithstanding the remonstrances, and entreaties of the housekeeper to the contrary, and not coming in, she and the servant girl went to bed at the usual time. Some time in the night, they were awakened by a loud knocking at the door. The housekeeper got up, went down stairs, and inquired who was there, and what was their business; she was informed that a friend of Mr Webster being benighted, and the night wet and stormy, requested a night's lodging. She forthwith gave him admittance, roused up the fire, led his horse into the stable, and then returned to provide something to eat for her guest, of which he partook; and was then shown to his chamber. On returning to the kitchen, she took up his great coat in order to dry it, when perceiving it to be as she thought, very heavy, curiously prompted her to examine the pockets, in which she found a brace of ided pistols, and their own large carving knife! thunderstruck by this discovery, she immediately perceived what sort of a guest she had to deal with, and his intentions.--- However summoning up all her courage and resolution, she proceeded softly up stairs, and with a rope, fastened as well as she could, the door of the room in which the villain was; then went down, and in great perturbation of mind awaited the event.--- Shortly after, a man came to the window, "I in a low, but distinct tone of voice, said are you ready?" She grasped one of the stols with a desperate resolution---presently it to his face---and fired! The report of the pistol alarmed the villain above, who attempted to get out of the room, but was stayed in his purpose by her saying, "villain if you open the door you are a dead man." She then sent the servant girl for assistance, while she remained with the other pistol in her hand, guarding the chamber door.--- When help arrived, the villain was taken into custody; and on searching without, they found the servant man shot dead.--- Another villain who was taken shortly after, met with his deserts; and the housekeeper who had acted with such fidelity and such unparalleled intrepidity, was soon after united to Mr Webster.

A QUALIFICATION.—A merchant lately advertising for a clerk "who could bear confinement," received an answer from one who had been seven years in a goal!

MAN'S LIFE.—There are two lives in each of us---gliding on at the same time, closely connected with each other---the life of our actions---the life of our minds---the external and the inward history; the movements of the frame---the deep and ever restless workings of the heart. They who have loved, know the affections we might keep for years, without having occasion even to touch upon the exterior station of life our busy occupations---the mechanical progress of our existence; yet, by the last we are judged; the first is never known, history reveals man's deeds, mens outward character, but not themselves. There is a secret self that has its own life "bound by a dream," unpenetrated and unguessed.---*Bulwer's Pilgrim of the Rhine.*

An Alderman in London once requested an author to write a speech for him to speak at Guildhall. "I must first dine with you," replied he, "and see how you open your mouth, that I may know what sort of words will fit it."

A Venetian who died not long since, made a profusion of torches for his funeral, artificially loaded with crackers, anticipating to a confidential friend, the hubbub that would result from the explosion, which he had calculated must take place in the most convenient spot. The posthumous joke verified the most sanguine expectations of its projector.

CONSCIENCES.—Judge Jeffries taking a dislike to a witness who had a long beard, told him that if his conscience was as long as his beard, he had a swinging one. To which the countryman replied, "My Lord, if you measure consciences by beards, your worship has none at all."

The great pyramid of Egypt cost the labor of one hundred thousand men for twenty years, exclusive of those who prepared and collected the materials. The steam engines of England, worked by 36 thousand men, would raise the same quantity of materials in eighteen hours.

GENERAL WOLFE.—The minds of some men are so elevated above the common understanding of their fellow creatures, that they are by many charged with enthusiasm, and even with madness. When George II., was once expressing his admiration of Wolfe some one observed that the General was mad; "oh, he is mad is he," said the King, with great quickness, "then I wish he would bite some other of my generals."

There is a drummer in Falkirk, Scotland, worth £85,000; a grave-digger who wears a gold watch; and a baker who keeps a pack of hounds.

A lottery vender, in New York, closes his advertisement with the following:—"To those who are desirous of a remedy, in case of loss, he simply states that Cooper the gunsmith lives just above."

LONGEVITY.—The oldest man of modern times we believe, was Jenkins a Yorkshireman, who died at the age of 160 in 1690.--- Two years since, a man died in Russia, at the supposed age of 165; Surrington, a Norwegian, lived to be 160; Parr, the Englishman 152; and several other Europeans, within half a century from, from 140, to 150. The oldest man who has died in England, within our knowledge, is Henry Francisco, who died at 139, not a great while since, in Vermont. There is said to be a woman at this time in New York alms-house, aged 133.

PRODIGALITY.—A gentleman in Ireland, whose laborers recently discovered a hoard of 1800 guineas in an old house, and handed it over to him, rewarded those honest fellows by a donation of one shilling to each man of the party.

FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES.—The gross amount of duty on insurance from fire, paid by 28 offices, in London, for the year 1832, amounted to £137,730, which shows that property to the amount of not less than five hundred millions is insured by them.

A singularly curious work, being an account of the British Island prior to the invasion of Julius Cæsar, has lately been discovered in the possession of the Brahmins of Benares. In this valuable treasure of antiquity, Britain is called by a name, which signifies the *Holy Land*; the Thames, the Isis, and other rivers, are called by names similar to the present ones; and Stonehenge is described as a *grand Hindoo Temple*! the Asiatic Society of Calcutta are said to be preparing a translation of this interesting manuscript.

ENGLISH BEER.—About thirty million bushels of barley are annually converted into malt in Great Britain, and more than eight million barrels of beer are brewed. The extent of the manufacture in London may be inferred from an account we have of a vat in the brewery of one firm (Meux and Co.) which measured over 90 feet in circumference, and 22 in height, and contained 3559 barrels or 128,016 gallons! Entertainments have been given by this great brewers to distinguished persons in vats of this description.

A provincial journal giving an account of the Carlisle races, says, "the horses ran with an honesty of purpose that excited the utmost interest." We believe no one ever dreamt of suspecting the honesty of the horses.