

**The Visitor.**

HALIFAX, N. S.  
SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1842.

**THE VISITOR.**

The variety and nature of the contents of the present number, form some ground of confidence, that the first regular number of the Monthly Visitor, will commend itself to the kindness of the public generally. Articles of amusement, and instruction, and of strong moral tendency, are blended in its pages, and its price will place it within reach of the young and the mature of all classes. A large circulation is essential under such circumstances, and with this many improvements would be speedily adopted. Better materials would be procured for its mechanical execution, and more time be devoted to supervision and preparation in the Editorial department.

If persons think the attempt worthy of support, and the work calculated to do good,—let them put forward a finger in support, by aiding its circulation among their acquaintances.

Subscriptions received by the Publisher, Mr. E. Nugent, Novascotian Office, Halifax, and by the Agents in the country.

**MONTHLY RECORD.**

Under the above title we intended to give a summary of the more interesting events or intelligence of the month. The length of other matter, which came to hand at rather a late period, encroaches, in the present number, on the space which we would wish to appropriate to the Record.

Lord Ashburton, who had been appointed commissioner respecting pending American questions, by the British Government, had arrived at Washington. Many expectations are formed concerning his Lordship's mission. The matter in controversy between the countries may be amicably settled, if the disposition to do so really exists,—but allowed to remain open, subject to exciting incidents, they may cause a state of things which should be deprecated by every good man on both sides. A slight flesh wound may be healed in a short time, by judicious treatment, without any symptoms of danger and but little inconvenience;—the same, exposed to irritation, extraneous matter, and general ill usage, may inflame and fester and destroy the system.—The N. E. Boundary, the search on the coast of Africa, the Oregon Boundary, the Caroline and Creole affairs, have all formed so many trains by which a mine may be sprung. How wise to remove these out of the way, before a match be applied, and the explosion occur. Prevention often saves a vast quantity of sickness and cure.

Two children strayed into the woods about four miles from Halifax, on April 11th. They were found dead on the sixth subsequent day. Articles in another page of the present number, render further remark here unnecessary.

Very disastrous news from India was received by the steamship Britannia. A British force was stationed at Afghanistan, for the purpose of supporting a sovereign of the country, in opposition to a strong party of his subjects. The post was about 150 miles in advance of the outskirts

of the Anglo-Indian empire. It was attacked, the British army and native troops in British pay were besieged, they were reduced to extremities by want of food and ammunition, they treated with the enemy, marched out, and when in an intricate part of the line of retreat were treacherously attacked, and an army of 6000 men was entirely routed, and the most of it destroyed. The intelligence caused much excitement in England, and reinforcements were promptly organized and forwarded.

**SUPREME COURT.**

On Tuesday, April 12th, a private of the 76th was put on his trial, for shooting with intent to kill, Sergeant George Gingall of the same Regiment.—The facts were, briefly, as follows: Sergeant Gingall, as orderly Sergeant, visited the Barrack room to which Hitchcock belonged, on the 12th of February, and stated some complaints to the Sergeant of the room, against the prisoner. The charges were denied. He returned in about half an hour, and was fired at, when in the door way, by the prisoner, and was severely wounded. The prisoner, on being arrested, exhibited great recklessness of expression.—The defence consisted of an argument that there was no intent to kill, that, by a late statute, a verdict for the lesser offence should be found, and that the prisoner, previous to the dreadful act with which he was charged, was of good conduct. The verdict was guilty, with a recommendation to mercy.

Happily such occurrences as that above mentioned, are very rare in the British Army. The man of true bravery, is as far from recklessness as from cowardice; and the good soldier feels as keenly, the respect which is due to the laws, and to the safety of his comrades and himself, as any other of his fellow citizens. Moral bearing, the distinguishing trait of British Soldiery, is reasoning and temperate,—and is as superior to the characteristic of the bravo, as true dignity is above empty affectation. The morals and manners of the British Soldier have much improved of late years, and seem steadily improving; such warnings as that afforded by the late trial are extremely few,—and cleanliness, temperance and good order, mark military conduct in and out of barracks, and add vastly to the comforts of a life which so particularly demand these virtues.

The prisoner is young; he pleaded not guilty when first arraigned; he may, during the punishment which will result, endeavour to expiate his offence, to cultivate dispositions more becoming a rational creature, and to prepare the way for a respectable return to Society.

Bandy alias Lewis, (a coloured man, or lad) was convicted of an attempt to commit a highway robbery near the three mile House, by assaulting and endeavouring to force a £5 note from a sailor lad, with whom he was travelling in company.—*Novascotian*.

At the Mayor's Court, April 11th, a man was fined £5 for drunkenness and disorderly conduct,—and another 30s. for breaking windows in Barrack Street. Several outrages, of the latter description, perpetrated at night, have recently occurred; Halifax, generally, is free from such disgraces. Some of the facts connected with the crimes alluded to, seem of a class which combines more of the spirit of folly, mischief, and cowardice, than could be supposed inherent in anything called man. It is difficult to express in words, the feelings which are caused by such acts.—*Id.*