St. John Chronicle.

AND COLONIAL CONSERVATIVE.

Volume XIX. Saint John, New-Brunswick, Friday, October 20, 1854. Number 7.

THE ST. JOHN CHRONICLE,

Is published every FRIDAY afternoon, by WILLIAM DURANT, at his Office in the Brick Building of Messrs. L. H. Deveber & Son, west side Prince William Street.

Visiting and Business Cards, (plain and ornamental) Handbills, Blanks, and Printing generally neatly executed.

No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid up, except at the discretion of the publisher.

☞ Terms—12s. 6d., if paid within the year, 15s. if not paid until after expiration of the year.

All Letters, Orders, Communications, &c., must be post-paid, and addressed to

WILLIAM DURANT,
Chronicle Office, Saint John, N. B.

☞ The *Chronicle* is filed, and may be seen free of charge at Professor Holloway's Establishment, 244 Strand, London.

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Mutual Insurance Company.

JOSEPH FAIRWEATHER, Esquire, *President.*
J. W. LAWRENCE, ZEBEDEE RING, S. L. TILLEY, S. K. FOSTER, } *Directors.*
J. M. ROBINSON, Esquire, *Solicitor.*
ISAAC WOODWARD, Esquire, *Secretary.*

Applications for Insurance against Fire to be made at the Office of the Secretary North Market Wharf.

Provincial Insurance Company,
TORONTO, CANADA WEST.
For Marine and Fire Risks.
ST. JOHN N. B. AGENCY:
LOCAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
CHARLES MCLAUCHLAN, GEORGE THOMAS, THOMAS BEER, R. N. } Esquires.
I. WOODWARD, *Agent.*
Office—Wiggins' Brick Building, Princess-street, over the Telegraph Office. Aug. 19.

CHARLES W. WELDON,
Attorney at Law & Notary Public
OFFICE—Over Messrs. Ranney, Sturdee & Co Prince William-street, St. John, N. B.
May 28, 1852.

SOAP & CANDLE MANUFACTORY.
GEORGE WOODS,
West side Water Street, between the Ferry Landing and Fish Market,
ST. JOHN, N. B.
August 29.

WM. SLEETH,
MANUFACTURER OF MONUMENTS, TABLETS AND
Architectural Ornaments,
IN MARBLE, FREESTONE AND GRANITE,
may 1 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

DOOLEY'S
MERCHANT'S EXCHANGE HOTEL,
Post Office Building, State Street, Boston.
Terms—ONE DOLLAR per day.

We have obtained the Victory.
KENNAY & SCRIBNER,
PIANOFORTE MANUFACTURERS
South side King Square, St. John, N. B.

HAVING taken the First and Second Prizes, and the Diploma for their instruments, at the Provincial Exhibition, beg leave to inform the public that they can supply Pianofortes at the following prices:

	£	s.	d.
Square Front Mahogany Piccolo,	30	0	0
Rosewood O. G. Piccolo,	35	0	0
Do. Elegant do.	40	0	0
Cottage,	42	0	0
Semi-Cabinet,	45	10	0
Full Cabinet,	50	0	0
Elegant, with French front, tuss legs, and circular bottom,	65	0	0

The whole of the above Instruments are 6 4-3 Octavo to A above.

N. B.—All Instruments manufactured by K. & S. will be warranted for three years.

Every description of English and American PianoFortes tuned and repaired. March 18th.

THOMAS GOW,
Plumber and Gass Fitter,
NEXT ADJOINING MERITT'S BRICK BUILDING,
WATER STREET.

HOUSE and SHIP WATER-CLOSETS; Hot Cold, and Shower BATHS; Forcing, Lifting, Common, and Engine PUMPS; SHIPS' SCUPPERS, &c. &c.—on the most approved principles LEAD PIPE of all sizes, and SHEET LEAD constantly on hand.

☞ LEAD BENDS made to order.
July 2, 1852. THOMAS GOW.

SEEDS! SEEDS! SEEDS!
1854.

Per steamer "Arabia" the Subscriber has received from London a supply of the following SEEDS warranted fresh and true to their kinds:
BEET—Long Blood and early Turnip;
CARROT—Long Orange, Early Horn, White and Yellow Belgian, Long Surrey Altringham;
CABBAGE—Early York, Drumhead, Large Battersea, Green Globe Savoy, Morning Star, King of Cabbages;
CELERY—White Solid;
CUCUMBER—Early Frame, Long Prickley;
CRESS—Double Curled;
LETTUCE—Drumhead, Victoria Cabbage, White Cabbage, Cos;
NASTURTIUM—Red, Crimson and Yellow;
RADISH—Long Salmon, Short Top, Turnip;
TURNIP—Swedish, Laing's Swede, White Flat Yellow Aberdeen, Early Stubble, White Globe;
THYME, Marjoram, Sage, Summer Savory; together with an assortment of FLOWER SEEDS.
May 12, 1854. W. O. SMITH.

MOLASSES! MOLASSES.—Just Received per "Rio Grande from Cienfuegos
10 Hhds, 20 Tierces, 10 Barls } Muscovado Molasses very superior
March 4, 1853. ROBT. ARMSTRONG

PURE COD-LIVER OIL & LIME.—A further supply of this Valuable Medicine received by Steamer from Boston. W. O. SMITH.

Almonds, Raisins, and Onions.
Just received ex Schr. Pearl from Boston:
3 BAGS Soft Shell ALMONDS;
50 Boxes, 51 Half Boxes, } Finest Muscatel RAISINS;
ROBERT ARMSTRONG.

German Toys.
On Consignment.
THE Subscriber has just received 3 Cases of GERMAN TOYS, which he will Sell by the Case at a very small advance.
Ladies' Frizzettes, Braids, Ringletts, &c. &c.
August 4. (Courier) WM. MAJOR.

REMOVAL.

THE Subscriber has removed his STONE CUTTING Establishment from Dock Street, to the Premises formerly occupied by the Hon. R. L. Hazen, Union street, and immediately opposite the residence of Messrs. Lawton, about twenty rods from his former place of business, and desires of his friends and the public to take notice that he has on hand, in addition to his former Stock, a lot of

MONUMENTS,

varying in price from £3 to £60, suitable for the New Cemetery, or other places of burial in town or country; which he will certainly dispose of at a cheaper rate than any other establishment in the city to parties disposed to make the most of their ready money.
M. FITZGERALD.
St. John, April 29, 1853.

N. B.—All kinds of STONE CUTTING for building and other purposes executed to order at the cheapest possible rates.

May, 1854.
NORTH AMERICAN CLOTHING STORE.
SEARS' BRICK BUILDING, NORTH SIDE OF KING STRT.
R. HUNTER,

HAVING Removed his place of Business from the South side of King-street, to his present Stand, and having received per late arrivals from Great Britain and the United States his Spring and Summer Goods, now offers for sale to *Wholesale* and *Retail Purchasers,* the largest, cheapest, and most varied assortment of Goods ever previously exposed for sale by any Clothing Establishment in this market.

The stock in part consist of—
BROADCLOTHS, Cassimeres, Doeskins, Russel Cords, Alapacas, Moleskins, Homespuns, Tweeds, Cassinets, &c. &c.
VESTINGS—A rich and splendid assortment, in various materials.
The clothing Department comprises
COATS, VESTS, PANTS, in every description of material in use, and of all qualities and prises, Cut in the most fashionable styles, and made up on the premises by the best Workmen the city can supply.
OVERALLS, Oil Clothing.
☞ To the FURNISHING Department particular attention is invited, as it comprises a very general assortment of Shirts, Collars, Shirt Fronts, Neck Ties, Hosiery, Gloves, Braces, Gents' and Ladies' Carpet Bags, Trunks, Umbrellas, Hats, Caps, &c
☞ Gents who would prefer selecting the Cloth and leaving their orders, can have their garments made in the most fashionable style, by the best of workmen, and the shortest notice.
No second price—all Goods marked in plain figures.
☞ Please observe that it is the *Brick Building* you go into.
May 12, 1854. R. HUNTER.

NEW GOODS.
Just received per Ship "Aquatic," and now in course of opening—
LADIES superior Black Cloth BOOTS;
Ladies Spring Instep Merino Walking Boots
Ladies White and Black Satin Slippers;
Ladies Bronze Kid Slippers;
Ladies Black and Bronze "Schottishe" SHOES;
Ladies Enamelled Exhibition Slippers;
Misses Bronze and Black Kid Slippers;
Misses Enamelled Exhibition Slippers;
Misses white and black Satin Slippers;
Misses Cashmere and Prunnella Boots;
Ladies Bronze Kid Polka Boots;
Children's Bronze Kid Shoes;
Children's Boots and Shoes, in great variety;
Gentlemen's Patent Dancing Boots;
Youths' Patent Dancing Pumps;
Boys' Patent Dancing Pumps;
Boys and Youth's Patent Elastic Side Boots.

DOMESTIC WORKS.
The Subscriber would call especial attention to his Gentlemen's Dress BOOTS, City make; also to his Men's Boys' and Youths' BOOTTEES, of every sort required for Town or Country wear Women's and Girl's House SLIPPERS; Children's Boots and Shoes, of various styles.
For sale wholesale and retail.
February, 1854. S. K. FOSTER.

JOHN BARRY,
Silver Smith, Jeweller & Engraver,
North side of King Street, St. John, N. B., a few doors below the *Waverley House.*

MANUFACTURER of all kinds Silver Plate viz: Tea, Table, and Dessert Spoons; Forks, Ladles, Fish and Butter Knives, &c. &c.; also, Silver Cups of different patterns, which he will furnish *Cheaper* than any other House in the City. The above work is warranted to be made of Sterling Silver, and for neatness of style and superiority of finish challenges competition.
JEWELLERY made to order and repaired.
—All Kinds of ENGRAVING neatly executed.
Traders, Pedlers, and others furnished with plain Gold Finger RINGS *cheaper* than can be imported. In all cases punctuality may be relied on. Cash and the highest price given for Old Silver.

Elegance and Economy.
PERSONS furnishing house are respectfully invited to examine the Stock of New Styles for this season now opening at HORSFALL & SHERATON'S, "COMMERCE HOUSE," King street.
H. & S. have this season imported very largely of the newest styles of GOODS, suitable for every class of dwellings.
Rich French DAMASKS, Silk and Wool, direct from the looms of Lyons, with Fashionable Trimmings, manufactured expressly to match.
MOREENS and DAMASKS, every colour and style, with suitable Trimmings; Rich gilt Poles and Cornices, warranted to stand the colour, and wear better than anything made here.
Two Setts Rich Satin Drawing Room Chair COVERS.
Utrecht Velvets, for fitting up Steamboat Carriages, &c
Velvet Pile, Tapestry, Brushes, three-ply, Kidderminster, and Scotch CARPETINGS; Hearth Rugs, and door Mats; Floor Oil Cloths, in all the useful widths;
Stair CARPETS and Druggets;
Table Covers and Table Linens;
Sheetings, Towellings, and Osnaburgs
Table Napkins and Doylies;
Curtain Nets and MUSLINS.
May 12, 1854.

NOTICE.
THE Subscriber having taken out a License as an AUCTIONEER for KING'S COUNTY, takes this method to inform the Public that anything intrusted to his care will receive the best attention, with moderate Terms. J. D. MABEE.
Hampton Village, K. C., Sept. 29, 1854.

South Bay Boom Company.
NOTICE is hereby given that a further Assessment of Ten Shillings per Share on the Capital Stock of the SOUTH BAY BOOM COMPANY is required to be paid in at the Office of the Company at Indian Town within thirty days.
By order, THOS. McMACKIN, *Treasurer.*
September 22, 1854.

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON
Fire and Life Insurance Company,
Instituted in 1836.
Incorporated by Special Acts of Parliament.
Capital, Two Millions Sterling.
Unlimited liability of the Stockholders of the Company.
Subscribed Capital, £1,500,000.

	£	s.	d.
Instalments called in,	197,197	10	0
Accumulated funds,	346,972	4	9
	544,169	14	9

THE 18th annual General Meeting of this company was held at Liverpool on the 16th Feb'ry last, when the following Report of the business of the Company during the past year was submitted:—

"The increase in the Fire Insurance Business must be satisfactory to the Proprietors, as shewing the rapid and safe progress which the Company is making. The receipts for the first year have increased considerably over those of 1852, while the losses have materialy diminished.

	1852.	1853.
Receipts,	£98,654	£113,612
Losses,	59,091	42,846
Profits,	£39,563	£70,766

These results show, notwithstanding the very numerous and destructive fires that have occurred both in this country and especially in America, that great caution has been exercised in taking risks, on the part of those on whose judgement the Directors must necessarily in a great measure rely. The reserved fund now amounts to £143,712.

The Officers for the current year at Liverpool are:
TRUSTEES:
SIR THOMAS BERNARD BIRCH, Bart., M. P.
ADAM HODSON, Esq., S. H. THOMPSON, Esqr.
DIRECTORS IN LIVERPOOL:
T. Brocklebank, Esquire, *Chairman.*
Francis Haywood, Esq., Joseph C. Ewart, Esq., } *Deputy Chairmen.*

Thomas Booth, Esq.,	Harold Littledale, Esq
Francis C. Braun, Esq.,	William Lowe, "
William Earle, Esq.,	Alex. McGregor, "
George Grant, Esq.,	John Marriott, "
Francis A. Hamilton, Esq.	Thomas Sellar, "
Thomas Haigh, Esq.,	Charles Saunders, "
Robert Higgin, Esq.,	John Swainson, "
Jas. Aspinal Tobin, Esq.,	George Holt, "
Geo. H. Lawrence, Esq.,	Hugh Hornby, "

SWINTON BOULT, Esq., *Secretary.*

The Agents at St. John, N. B., begs the attention of parties desirous of effecting Insurance against Fire on their property, to the position of the Company, as shewn from the foregoing extract from the annual report, and to the important fact that every Shareholder of the Company is liable to the extent of his means for claims on the Company.
EDWARD ALLISON, ADAM JACK, } AGENTS, St. John, N. B.
August 18, 1854.

S. K. Foster's
HOME MANUFACTURES,
For Spring and Summer Trade.
GENTLEMEN'S best Walking BOOTS—English Leather;
Boys' Calf and Kip BOOTS;
Youths' Calf, Kip, and Grain BOOTS;
Gentlemen's Patent Wellington Dress BOOTS
Gentlemen's Elastic Side Walking Boots;
Gentleman's Patent Calf Elastic Side Dress BOOTS;
Boys' and Youths' Patent Elastic Side Boots;
Boys and Youths' Calf, Kip, Patent and Grain BOOTTEES;
Gentlemen's Calf, Patent, Kip and Grain *Bottees*;
Misses' and Children's Patent and Fancy Boots and Shoes;
Women's and Girls' Strong BUSKINS;
Women's Cheap House SLIPPERS.
Wholesale and Retail.
April 7. S. K. FOSTER

Dedicated by Special Authority to the Queen of England.
In Parts at 1s. 3d., and Divisions, handsomely bound in Morocco cloth, gilt, 9 4-2
The British Colonies,
THEIR HISTORY, EXTENT, CONDITION, AND RESOURCES:
Illustrated with Maps of each possession, and Portraits of the most celebrated Promoters and Defenders of the Colonial Empire of Great Britain.

Adapted for the use of Statesmen, Merchants, Manufacturers, and intending Emigrants, containing the best authenticated statements relating to the geography, geology, climate, animal and vegetable kingdoms, character, customs and social state; religion, education and crime; agriculture, manufactures, mines, and fisheries; the most recent official details concerning the population, government, taxation, and expenditure, imports and exports customs' duties shipping, defences, staple products, live stock, cultivated and waste lands, banks, coins, paper money, weights and measures, wages, &c., with a copious Colonial Gazetteer, and every description of useful and interesting information.
BY R. MONTGOMERY MARTIN, ESQ., Editor of "The Illustrated Atlas, and Modern History of the World."
It has been deemed that full and correct information concerning the Extent, Condition, and Resources of the British Colonies would be acceptable to all classes of the community, and strengthen the natural ties arrising from Kindred Common Origin, and Language.
Published by JOHN TALLIS 160 London. Office in St. John over Kemp & Adams's Market Square.
ROGER HUNTER, AGENT.
Saint John, April 21, 1854.

Geneva, Ale, Barley, &c.
Landing from the ships "Barbara" and 'Lisbon' from London:—
20 HHDS. fine Pale GENEVA;
50 Brls. Stout PORTER, "I. W. Bridges & Son;"
50 brls. East India Pale ALE, "Herberts;"
2 cases best Bengal Indigo; 4 cases No. 1 Starch;
30 kegs F. and S. F. MUSTARD;
20 do. best Ground Ginger;
4 cases Servants, Friend; 1 cask Nutmegs;
2 cases Liquorice JUICE;
5 casks Pickles, 2 do. Sauces, } "Crosse & Blacks.
Ex "Selecia from Glasgow:
2 Puns. Cambelton WHISKY;
10 hhds. 10 qr. casks } Fine Pale GENEVA;
20 matts Wine Bottles; 10 bales bottle Corks;
25 barrels fine Pot BARLEY;
5 bales Wrapping PAPER;
75 boxes Tobbacco Pipes, 25 do. Woodstock, do } very superior;
10 casks Washing Soda; 2 do. Blue Vitriol;
1 cask Copperas; 2 brls. Cream Tartar.
For sale by ROBERT ARMSTRONG,
July 7. No. 7, Dock-street.

NEW PAPER HANGINGS.—Four THOUSAND PIECES, by the "Admiral," from Boston. And on Sale by
March 10. JOHN KINNEAR.

LEECHES.—1 Case superior LEECHES.—
May 12. S. L. TILLEY.

Poetry.

A MOUND IS IN THE GRAVE YARD.

A mound is in the Grave Yard,
A short and narrow bed;
No grass is growing on it,
And no marble at its head;
Ye may go and weep beside it,
Ye may kneel and kiss the sod,
But ye'll find no balm for sorrow,
In the cold and silent clod.

There is anguish in the household,
It is desolate and lone,
For a fond and cherished nurseling,
From the parent nest has flown:
A little form is missing,
A heart has ceased to beat;
And the chain of love lies shattered
At the desolator's feet.

Remove the empty cradle,
His clothing put away;
And all his little play-things,
With your choicest treasures lay;
Strive not to check the tear drops,
That fall like summer rain.
For the sun of hope shines through them!—
Ye shall see his face again!

Oh! think where rests your darling!
Not in his cradle bed;
Not in the distant grave-yard,
With the still and mouldering dead,
But in a heavenly mansion,
Upon his Saviour's breast,—
With his "brother's" arms around him,
He takes his sainted rest.

He has put on robes of glory,
For the little robes ye wrought;
And he fingers golden harp strings,
For the toys his mother bought;
Oh! weep; but with rejoicing;
A heart-gem have ye given,
And behold its glorious setting,—
In the diadem of heaven.

A PRETTY IRISH MELODY.

Where I but his own wife to guard and guide him,
'Tis little of sorrow should fall on my dear:
I'd chant my low love verses stealing beside him,
So faint and so tender his heart would but hear;
I'd pull the wide blossoms from valley and highland,
And there at his feet I would lay them all down;
I'd sing him the songs of our poor, stricken Island,
Till his heart was on fire with a love like my own.

There's a rose by his dwelling—I'd tend the low treasure,
That he might have flowers when the summer would come;
There's a harp in his hall—I would wake its sweet measure,
For he must have music to brighten his home.
Were I but his own wife to guide and to guard him;
'Tis little of sorrow should fall on my dear;
I of every kind glance my whole life would award him—
In sickness I'd soothe and in sadness I'd cheer.

My heart is a fount swelling upward forever—
When I think of my true love by night or by day,
That heart keeps its faith like a fast flowing river
Which gushes forever and sings on its way.
I have thoughts full of peace for his soul to repose in,
Were I but his own wife to win and to woo—
Oh! sweet if the night of misfortune were closing,
To rise like the morning star, darling, like you.

TIMOTHY MC.GRIN'S LETTERS

To Father O'Latherwell, P. P. of Drumshielin.

NUMBER 1.

St. John, N. B., Oct. 1854.

Dear Father,—You say you want to know how I am gettin' along in the wilds of Amerikey. Be the powers! but its thrue for ye to call this a wild counthry. Jist fancy to yerself how quare a counthry all covered with woods must seem to a broth av a boy who has trotted barefoot through the bog of Allen, an' smelt powdher (divil a more or less) among the turf of Cloonakilty, where the counthry is all clear by nathur, an' divil a three's to be seen good or bad, exceptin' the bog oaks that were anathematized, they say, by Saint Kolumbkill. They were too proud to bow their heads at the elevation of the host, an' so he cursed them an' decreed that they should lie buried a thousand years beneath the bog. O for the day when our holy church can once more put forth her hand and punish all heretics in like manner. Och! these wor the pleasent days, when you used to call me "Tim the Grinner," an' I called you "Phil the sinner," —when we used to file aff to the Bog of Allen to spend our Sathurdays.—I to study composishun an' rhetoric, an' you to study dog-Latin. How cozily an' comfortably we sthretched ourselves on the green rushes, with 'Den's theology' an' the 'Life of Loyola' serving us for pillows, while we discussed their respective merits. Don't you recollect how I always took part wid the founder of the Jesuits, and advocated caution while *creeping,* and boldness only when we are prepared to spring, an' how you contended for the bolder policy of avowin' our raal docthrines an' pretinshuns, an' daring the heretics to say what business it was to them at all at all. Arrah! you must surely perceive, now, how our holy religion has flourished in this counthry by pursuing the Jesuit's policy, an' how you have roused the dozin' Sassenachs, an' lost ground by followin' the conthrary coorse. But it is of no use to discuss the subject now, an' I only wish we could *dhrop* it—I mane no pun—as we were wont to close our discushuns in the Bog—by discushin' the quart bottle of good potheen that Jerry O'Cob the distiller's son used to stale from his father an' sell us at half price. Oh, cushla machree! wasn't that a delicious cool, damp spot for sleepin' aff the effects of the potheen'—wid no fear av bein' bitten by sarpints or murthered by naguss.—So much for reminiscence; an' now for my own adventures.

Afther poor Smith's scrape in the Cabbage Garden (an' bedad, where could ye find a cabbage fit to hide a man except in Ould Ireland!), thinkin' the counthry too hot for me, an' hearin' the bloody Sassenachs wanted me—bad luck to them! it was all a ruse to get rid av me widout the trouble an' expinse av thrial an' transportashun—I set sail for the "land of liberty"—you know we always call it so to plague the English, but between you an' I its all fudge. Well, I landed in New York, where I found the clargy well supplied wid Celtic writers to advocate the thruths av our holy religion; an' so I directed my steps to this city.

On my arrival in St. John I soon found that the Orangemen had everything their own way. They had two or three presses goin', while the sons av the Thrue Church hadn't one!—they had made several attempts, an' met wid as many disgraceful failures. In makin' their last attempt they hired a renegade Protestant to write for them, an' it was not long before the scamp tried to sell the printin' materials; so they sold him.

Well, to work I went, an' soon made meself acquainted wid a number av the boys. I had wid me several letthers av recommindashun, but they wor nothin' to the fact that I had sarved undher that *haro* General Smith O'Brien, at the famous battle av Cloonakilty. As soon as they knew that they all came forward and voluntheered their ade an' assisthance—as far as *sympathy* could go; but, poor fellows, they had very little money to spare.

I next waited on the Bishop, but faith, I found him a quiet old man, wid not a bit av the Celt in his composishun! He had lived so many years in this counthry that he'd almost forgotten ould Ireland, an' had quite forgotten his inauguration oath, which bound him to persecute all heretics. Why he actually tould me that he did not perceive the necessity av quarrellin' wid the Protestants!

I had heerd that the public men—especially the members av the House av Assembly—a contimptible affair, got up in imitashun av the House av Commons—were well disposed towards our church (which signifies that here, as in the United States there are many heretics mane enough to do whatever our clargy tell them, if they can only get our votes). So I waited on some of them, an' found them very courteous,—hoped I'd succeed—would subscribe, &c., but very little would they do to set me going.

You will say this was rather discouraging, an' thruly for a few days it did appear as though I was non-plussed. But a Jesuit, you know, is fertile in expedients, an' bedad, I was'nt long gettin' out av me difficulty. It so happened that I fell in wid some gentlemen (so they called themselves) who hate the Orangemen most cordially, on account av their loyalty—*gentlemen* whose hearts are turned to gall, because they imagine themselves betther qualified to fill certain offices av honor an' emolument than the present incumbents, the misfortin' bein'—*the people don't think so!* Wid them it is the old story over again. Because they can't rule they threaten to hand over their counthry to the enemy, an' wish, therefore, to annex this Province to the United States. You may easily imagine that, hatin' as I do both branches av the Sassenach family, it is little I care about robbing one to enrich the other. But I kept this sentiment to meself, raved against Orangemen an' Tories, an' so won upon the hearts av the discontented fools that they loosened their purse-strings, bought me a fine printin' establishment, an' enabled me to start a newspaper. Only imagine how I chuckled to find meself set up an' paid by one pack av heretical ninies to destroy another, while my aim an' determinashun was to undermine an' overthrow the whole! Congratulate me, Father, on this my first success, an' considher it in earnest av what you will some day hear from yer ould schoolfellow,

TIMOTHY M'GRIN, Esquire.

THE HELMSMAN'S LAST FRIEND ON EARTH.

BY MISS PARDOE.

We were on our return from Hungary, in the autumn of 1840, and had approached sufficiently near home to find ourselves in the last steamboat on the Rhine—I forget its name, nor is it essential to my story—I remember only that it was the one which was to bear us into the Scheld, and to deposit us in the amphibious city of Rotterdam. The summer had been unusually sultry, and the consequent evaporation which had taken place in the "abounding river," as it is the fashion for tourists, who are not travellers, to call it, had lost all its claim to that overflowing adjective. The body of water had, in fact, so unequivocally decreased, that the shallows elicited all the nautical skill of the local pilots; and the monotonous progress which we made over this—may I use a woman's privilege, and say, *threadbare*?—stream, which has been said, sung, and sketched, until its very name is likely to become a nauseous, grow to be so wearisome, that we were glad to make amusement out of the most unpromising materials.

I suppose it must have been this fact which led me to form an acquaintance with a dog that was on board: a most untoward-looking cur, which I do not believe that Buffon himself could have classed to the satisfaction of his own conscience. The poor little brute was the colour of scorched flannel; and all the hair, which had refused to grow in different patches upon its body, appeared by tacit consent to have sprouted at the extremity of its long straight tail, whence it depended after the fashion of an overwrung mop. Its ears had been cropped one-third of their natural dimensions; it had a gash across the upper lip, that laid bare two of its teeth; and, in short, had it not been for the soft expression of its large round eyes, an expression more marked and *human* than I ever before observed in an animal, it would have been irreclaimably hideous.

Such as it was, however, I was delighted to introduce myself to this new fellow-traveller, in order to relieve the tedium of our almost imperceptible onward progress. A portable library is soon exhausted, and our's had long been as bethumbed as the volumes in a school-boy's satchel; we had conversed with the strangers among whom we were thrown, until we had literally exhausted our common-place; we had whispered to each other of home, and the dear ones there, until, after our long absence, we were afraid to trust our feelings further with the subject; and, finally, no resource remained to individuals, who, like ourselves, knew the banks, between which we were passing, as familiarly as a monk knows his breviary, say eating and drinking—an amusement which, despite the opinion of many older and wiser heads than my own, I cannot help considering as very questionable, when there is neither thirst nor hunger to lend them a zest!

Under these circumstances, the companionship even of this modern "Snarley-yow," unpromising as it at first appeared, was welcome; and I forthwith commenced operations towards my canine monstrosity, as human beings occasionally do not disdain to do towards each other—I felt him. I can see at this moment the gracious and encouraging expression of eye with which he met my advances. I was lying upon a mattress on the deck, with a heap of pillows snugly propped up behind me, by the raised platform of the tiller, discussing some dainties with which one of our warm-hearted Viennese friends had stored a little travelling basket, which had hitherto been preserved intact, and which, in the very luxury of idleness, I had now summoned from the cabin, in order to discover whether I could then and thence educe a momentary occupation. I imagine that a grateful odour must have exhaled from the first neat little white paper parcel that I unfoulded, for I had scarcely deposited its contents in my lap, when the lean, lank, ungainly dog walked slowly towards me, and demurely seated itself upon its haunches, about two yards from the basket, its long tail lying stiffly along the deck, and looking precisely (only not quite so good a colour!) like one of the brooms erewhile hawked about the streets of London, by the short-petticoated Bavarian girls.

There was a tranquil, if not altogether graceful, at-home-ness about the animal which made us friends in a moment; and I handed a sugar-biscuit to my self-constituted guest, without a single misgiving that I should lose the first joint of my finger in return for the courtesy. Nor was my confidence misplaced, for the creature received it as quietly as it was offered; and when the delicate morsel was discussed, the dog continued to lick its lips calmly at intervals, as if to imply that the quality of the cake had been duly appreciated; and ultimately with much gravity, put forth its fore-legs straight before it, in a second unbroken line, which matched exactly with that described by its tail; and there it lay, with its head slightly inclined on one side, and its intelligent eyes fixed upon me, like a thing of stone, save indeed that I do not believe any sculptor would have selected such a subject on which to exercise his art.

By degrees I became interested in the patient and unobtrusive little animal, which seemed as if thoroughly aware that it was there on sufferance, and did not venture any gesture of entreaty or irritation; the aforesaid licking of the lips, however, being to me intended as palpably "to remind," as any duplicate card to an entertainment that I ever received so inscribed from a party-giving acquaintance.

I had just renewed my civility to my new acquaintance, when I was suddenly startled by a gruff "*Vous etes bien bonne, Madame,*" uttered close beside me, and raising my eyes, I saw the short, thickset, weather-beaten, and usually taciturn helmsman who was at the wheel, standing hat in hand, looking down with a sort of complacent astonishment upon myself and the dog. Of course I comprehended the thing at once. The ill-favoured cur was his property, and he was putting into words the gratitude which the soft and speaking eyes of his canine favourite had already expressed much more unequivocally; "Bijou" (what a Bijou! thought I) "it is not used to so much kindness from a stranger," pursued the man, as if in reply to my look; "travellers who come abroad to see sights kick him aside when he crosses them on the deck, for they have no time to discover his good qualities."

"But I am convinced that he *has* good qualities," said I, in my turn; "I can read them in his soft and beautiful eyes."

The helmsman bowed gratefully, as though I had paid him a personal compliment. "Nevertheless," I added, a moment after, "the dog is certainly not handsome."

The sailor gently shook his head; "Were he to you, Madame, what he is to me," he said sadly, "wife, and child, and friend, you would think him a beauty."

"And does Bijou indeed hold so high a ticket in the lottery of your life, my good friend?" I asked, as I passed my hand carelessly over the head of the animal, which had gradually crouched down closer beside me, and now glanced upwards towards its master, as though perfectly conscious that it had become the subject of discourse.—"Surely, if you cared to try, you might find a prettier wife, more graceful and endearing children, and more sympathising friend; for, after all—"

"Madame has said the very words," interposed the man with melancholy energy; "*after all*—yes, it is indeed after all is gone that I once loved so fondly, I learn the real value of the last living thing on earth that cares for me!"

The tone in which the words were uttered, excited my interest at once; and it appeared to produce its effect also upon the dog, for the creature turned its head towards its master, and the long straight tail moved slightly, more as it seemed in sympathy than in pleasure. After some time, I elicited the story of the helmsman's life, and it was truly one of suffering and of sorrow. He had lost his wife and three fair children in the brief period of two days—"all (his) little ones at one fell swoop"—by an epidemic disease which raged in Rotterdam some years previously. They all lay dead together in the same narrow room, and as his last light went out, as the expiring mother turned her glazed and failing eye from the face of her husband to the bed on which he had placed their cold and stiffening infants in one motionless and ghastly line,—for the poor have no luxuries of curtained couches to shroud from the gaze of agony the amount of its wretchedness—the bereaved man would have been alone, utterly alone, with that four-fold death, had not the dumb playmate of his lost little ones still borne him company; but as he sank down, exhausted by watching and despair upon the body of his wife, the faithful dog held its place beside those of the innocent beings, by whose joyous voices he was never again to be summoned to sport—by whose fond hands he was never again to be fed or fondled. It was a sad picture,—the utter desolation of that widowed man, even simply and hurriedly as he sketched its outline; and his thick tones became thicker, and his thin lips quivered as he reverted to his time of trial.

"After that, all was soon over," he pursued, after the close of a momentary pause, which I had not found courage to break, "the grave follows fast upon the death groan; and all that I had loved best on earth was taken from me, and shut from my sight for ever. *He* followed with me to see them laid in the earth," and as he spoke he looked towards the dog, which had never once removed its eyes from its master since he commenced his narrative, "and we stood by together to see the graves filled in, and the cold sods flung up the fair young faces which had so often been pressed by the fond lips of their dead mother—upon the loving heart of that mother herself, which to its last beat had been full of love, both for them and for me. We did not move away until the four mounds were filled in, and heaped up, and the crosses planted at their head. There were other lookers-on, Madame, though I heeded them not then; but many stood by, and pitied the stricken victims of that fell disease, for it was a dreary sight even to the lightest hearted to look upon those three little fresh made graves with the mother in the midst; they should have pitied me—they should have wept over the desolate spirit of the one left!

"When all was over, I turned homeward, or rather I made my miserable way back to the empty — but which had so lately been my home, and where I had been a husband and a father; but neither smile nor voice greeted me now. It was only when I closed the door behind me, and that my eyes, as they wandered over the empty beds and the silent floor, until they at length rested upon that dog, it was only then, as I fancied, that he had understood all, and that my sorrow was his sorrow, that I felt all the bitterness of my affliction, and the value of even his companionship. And we have clung together ever since;" he added, rallying into an accent of greater cheerfulness; "Baptiste gruff Flamand, and his dog Bijou, are never seen apart further than the length of the deck, or the turn of a corner, either on board or ashore. He is my friend, my messmate, and my comrade. He cares no more for the company of other dogs, than I do for that of other men. I often think that neither of us will ever lose the memory of that dark room, and those three little graves; and so we go on together, and so (by the help of the Virgin) we shall always do, till one of us follows after those we have lost; and woe be to that one who lasts longest!"

Surely this was eloquence, simply as the words were strung together. I can only say that at the moment I *felt* it to be such; and thenceforward the maimed and ill-conditioned dog became to me an object of real interest.

I have already alluded to the prevalence of the drought during the preceding summer, and the consequent effect upon the river. As we advanced the difficulty became greater; and at length, some doubt having been expressed of the practicability of our passing between the shore and a shoal near the centre of a stream, a steam boat belonging to the same company as that in which we were embarked, but which had discharged her cargo, and was lying at anchor, was directed to attempt the passage, as, in the event of her grounding, the inconvenience would be comparatively trivial in her case, as we could at once be transferred into some of the flat bottomed boats which ply in the harbor in order to prevent farther loss of time. This was accordingly done, and having passed the shoal, she lay-to beside it, as a further protection to us; but as it subsequently proved, with better intention than judgment, for, owing to the limited space thus afforded to our own boat, the pilot perceived an instant too late, that in order to keep us c[illegible]