



AND CONCEPTION BAY JOURNAL.

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Notices

CONCEPTION BAY PACKETS

NORA CREINA

Packet-Boat between *Carbonear* and *Portugal-Cove*.

JAMES DOYLE, in returning his best thanks to the Public for the patronage and support he has uniformly received, begs to solicit a continuance of the same favours in future, having purchased the above new and commodious Packet-Boat to ply between *Carbonear* and *Portugal-Cove*, and, at considerable expense, fitting up her Cabin in superior style, with Four Sleeping-berths, &c.

The *NORA CREINA* will, until further notice start, from *Carbonear* on the mornings of MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY, positively at 9 o'clock; and the Packet-Man will leave *St. John's* on the Mornings of TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY, at 8 o'clock in order that the Boat may sail from the Cove at 12 o'clock on each of those days. —Terms as usual.

April 10

THE ST. PATRICK

EDMOND PHELAN, begs most respectfully to acquaint the Public, that he has purchased a new and commodious Boat, which, at a considerable expence, he has fitted out, to ply between *CARBONEAR* and *PORTUGAL COVE*, as a PACKET, BOAT; having two Cabins, (part of the after one adapted for Ladies, with two sleeping-berths separated from the rest). The fore-cabin is conveniently fitted up for Gentlemen, with sleeping-berths, which will he trusts, give every satisfaction. He now begs to solicit the patronage of this respectable community; and he assures them it shall be his utmost endeavour to give them every gratification possible.

The *ST. PATRICK* will leave *CARBONEAR* for the Cove, *Tuesdays*, *Thursdays*, and *Saturdays*, at 9 o'clock in the Morning and the Cove at 12 o'clock, on *Mondays*, *Wednesdays*, and *Fridays*, the Packet Man leaving *St. John's* at 8 o'clock on those Mornings.

TERMS

After Cabin Passengers, 10s. each.
Fore ditto ditto, 5s.
Letters, Single or Double, 1s.
Parcels in proportion to their size or weight.

The owner will not be accountable for any Specie.

N.B.—Letters for *St. John's*, &c., will be received at his House, in *Carbonear*, and in *St. John's*, for *Carbonear*, &c. at Mr Patrick Kieley's (*Newfoundland Tavern*) and at Mr John Crute's.

Carbonear, June 4, 1834.

St. John's and Harbor Grace Packet

THE EXPRESS Packet, being now completed, having undergone such alterations and improvements in her accommodations, and otherwise, as the safety, comfort, and convenience of Passengers can possibly require or experience suggest, a careful and experienced Master having also been engaged, will forthwith resume her usual Trips across the BAY, leaving *Harbour Grace* on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY Mornings at 8 o'clock, and *Portugal Cove* at Noon, on the following days.

FARES.

Ordinary Passengers 7s. 6d.
Servants & Children 5s.
Single Letters 6d.
Double Do. 1s.
And Packages in proportion.

All Letters and Packages will be carefully attended to; but no accounts can be kept for Postages or Passages, nor will the Proprietors be responsible for any Specie or other Monies sent by this conveyance.

ANDREW DRYSDALE,
Agent, HARBOUR GRACE.
PERCHARD & BOAG,
Agents, ST. JOHN'S.

Harbour Grace,
May 4, 1835.

DR. FRANCIA, DICTATOR OF PARAGUAY.

Some curious information, in regard to the character and government of this most remarkable of modern despots, is furnished by a small volume, recently published by Messrs. Menger and Longchamps, two Swiss naturalists, who, in an unlucky hour, entered his dominions. From the year 1819 to 1821, they were permitted to pursue their researches without molestation; at that time, the detection of a conspiracy induced the Dictator to prohibit all intercourse with other states, and the foreigners in Paraguay prohibited from leaving it; but in 1825, they received their passports, with instructions to take their departure in two hours; a command which they had no desire to disobey.

The population of Paraguay is variously stated; these gentlemen estimate it at five hundred thousand, a larger number than has been supposed; and these are the only occupants of a territory quite as large as that of England, abounding in vast rivers, forests and morasses, and for the most part wild and desolate. The complete isolation from foreign intercourse in which the Dictator has placed it, has however much improved the character of its agriculture, and its manufactures have been also rapidly advancing; though the peculiar and degrading despotism of the government affords but little proof of enterprise or spirit in the people.

Dr. Francia is a native of Paraguay, and was educated as a lawyer, in which capacity, and subsequently in that of a judge, he is said to have exhibited much firmness and integrity. When the revolution was effected by which his country renounced the government of Spain, his ability in the management of civil affairs was very conspicuous; and, having obtained an unbounded influence over the troops, he caused himself to be proclaimed Dictator for three years. At the expiration of that period, which was in 1817, when had reached the age of fifty-six, he was proclaimed Dictator for life. He then proceeded to establish his authority on the firmest practicable basis. The power of the clergy were entirely broken, and all monastic establishments suppressed; all the curates were appointed and removed by himself at pleasure, and unlimited toleration was declared for every creed, but that of Atheism. All municipal bodies were deprived of their power, and the appointment of all civil officers assumed exclusively by himself. The revenues of the State were received and appropriated by his own hand with so much secrecy, that no one can even conjecture their amount, and with so much care, that no payment whatever can be made, and no article of the smallest value be delivered from the public stores, without the express warrant of the Dictator. The army, which consists of thousand militia, is under the command of officers of his appointment, all of whom are taken from the ranks; and wealthy and educated men are carefully excluded from the number. These supporters of his power are treated, when not on duty, with great indulgence, and are rarely even reprimanded for any outrage committed on the citizens. The prisons, in which offenders against the government are confined, are crowded with inmates, who languish until death, in darkness, solitude and chains.—The post office has been suppressed; but a tax is imposed on all letters carried by private conveyance, which are so regularly opened by the officers of government, that it is considered quite superfluous to seal them.

The ruling passion of this singular individual is the love of power for its own sake. He takes no pains to display, or even to perpetuate it. Neither ostentation nor the love of fame appear to have the slightest influence upon his mind. He lived in a state of the most retired and haughty seclusion, without one confidant or counsellor. His sister, the only being for whom he ever appeared to entertain regard, was dismissed from his house, because she caused a slave to be chastised. He was never married, but has several nephews, in whom he takes no farther interest, than to punish them with great severity for all delinquencies. One of them was confined for four years, in irons, for striking another person at a public ball.

Some curious details are given respecting the personal habits of the Dictator, which show, that his greatness is not without inconvenience. When he rises in the morning, which is usually at a very early hour, one of his slaves brings him a chafing-dish, a kettle and some water. The water is heated in his presence; and he proceeds to prepare his tea with his own hand. Having taken this, he walks upon a balcony that overlooks the court, smoking a cigar, which he first carefully unrolls, to see that there is nothing dangerous in it, though it is manufactured by his sister. At six o'clock his barber arrives—a ragged mulatto with whom he converses with great freedom. He then puts on his dressing gown, and walks about, receiving those who are admitted to an audience.—From seven till nine, he receives in his closet the report of various civil functionaries, and communicates to them his orders. At eleven he transacts business with his secretary until noon, the hour appointed for his frugal dinner, which is always selected by himself: the cook brings provisions from the market and places them at the door of the Dictator's closet, who comes out and directs what portion shall be cooked. After dinner he takes his *siesta* and smokes his cigar, with the same precaution as before.—He again attends to his business until five, when an escort arrives to attend him abroad. During his excursions on horseback, he visits the barracks and public works, and at nightfall returns home, where he studies until nine. He then partakes of a frugal supper, and at ten retires to rest, fastening all the doors of the house himself. The same jealous care is exhibited at his audiences.—The persons admitted must not approach the Dictator nearer than six paces, unless requested to advance: his arms must be close to his body, and his hands must be open.—No officer can enter his presence with a sword by his side.

The person of the Dictator is thus described.—He is of middle stature, with regular features, and piercing black eyes. When the Swiss gentlemen were presented to him, he wore the official costume, consisting of a blue laced coat, waistcoat, white silk stockings, and shoes with gold buckles. At the commencement of a conversation, his manner is fierce and haughty, but he soon softens and converses with great affability, exhibiting much talent and extensive information. Napoleon appears to be the object of his devoted admiration, and he may in fact be said to be the imitator of the emperor.—He exhibited to these gentlemen a German caricature of Napoleon, which he supposed to be a faithful likeness, and on which was a huge and absurd decoration, which the Dictator had copied in his own habiliments.—His library appeared to contain the works of the best French and Spanish authors.

It is said, by way of explaining some of his peculiarities, that, notwithstanding his apparent talent and sagacity, he is subject to attacks of hypochondria, which occasionally exasperated into madness. When one of these fits come on, he commonly shuts himself up for several days; but if he chances to omit this laudable precaution, his conduct is of the most brutal character: arrests, and even sentences of death, are distributed without regard to the conduct or condition of their victims.—One one occasion, he ordered the sentinel at his door to fire upon any person, who should dare to fix his eyes upon the front of his house: 'If you miss him, this (handing him a loaded musket) is for a second shot; and if you miss again, I shall take care not to miss you.' In about a fortnight, an Indian who knew nothing of the order, was fixed upon by the sentinel: the report brought out the Dictator, who revoked the order, alleging that he did not remember that it had been given.

It is impossible that Paraguay can remain much longer subject to the dominion of this extraordinary man, who has nearly reached the age of seventy-five years, whose ascendancy is the result of those personal qualities, which can hardly fail soon to impair, and whose career must before many years,

in the course of nature, be closed by death. The danger is that so severe a despotism will be followed by the most revolting form of anarchy.

A FEMALE BRAZILIAN SOLDIER.

In the Journal of a Voyage to Brazil, written a few years ago by Maria Graham, we are presented with a similar instance of female heroism, in the notice which is taken of a young woman, who for patriotic motives voluntarily took up arms and assumed the military garb and occupation.—To-day (says the authoress) I received a visit from Donna Maria de Jesus, the young woman who has lately distinguished herself in the war of the Reconcave. Her dress is that of a soldier of one of the Emperor's battalions with the addition of a Tartan kilt, which she told me she had adopted from a picture representing a Highlander, as the most feminine military dress. What would the Gordans and Mac Donalds say to this? The garb of auld gaul chosen as womanish attire? Her father is a Portuguese, named Gonsalvez de Almeida, and possesses a farm for cattle.—Her mother also was a Portuguese. Donna Maria told me several particulars concerning the country, and more concerning her own adventures. It appears that early in the late war of the Reconcave, emissaries had traversed the country in all directions to raise patriot recruits; that one of these had arrived at her father's house one day about dinner time; that her father had invited him in, and after their meal he began to talk on the subject of his visit. He represented the riches and greatness of Brazil, and the happiness to which it might attain if independent. He set forth the oppressive tyranny of Portugal, and the meanness of submitting to be ruled by so poor and degraded a country. He talked long and eloquently of the services Don Pedro had rendered to Brazil; of his virtues and those of the Empress; so that at last, said the girl, 'I felt my heart burning in my breast.' Her father, however, had none of her enthusiasm of character. He was old, and said he neither could join the army himself, nor had he a son to send thither; and as to giving a slave for the ranks, what interest had a slave to fight for the independence of Brazil? He should wait with patience the result of the war, and be a peaceable subject to the winner. Donna Maria stole from home to the house of her own sister, who was married, and lived at a little distance. She recapitulated the whole of the stranger's discourse, and said she wished she was a man, she should join the patriots, 'Nay,' said the sister, 'if I had not a husband and children, for one half you say, I would join the ranks of the Emperor.' This was enough. Maria received some clothes belonging to her sister's husband to equip her; and as her father was then about to go to Cacheira to dispose of some cottons, she resolved to take the opportunity of riding after him, near enough for protection in case of accident on the road, and far enough off to escape detection. At length, being in sight of Cacheira, she stopped; and going off the road, equipped herself in male attire, and entered the town. This was on Friday. By Sunday she had managed matters so, that she had entered the regiment of artillery, and had mounted guard. She was too slight, however, for that service, and exchanged into the infantry, where she now is. She was sent hither, I believe, with despatches, and to be presented to the Emperor, who has given her an ensign's commission and the order of the cross, the decoration of which he himself placed on her jacket. She is illiterate, but clever. Her understanding is quick, and her perception keen. I think, with education, she might have been a remarkable person. She is not particularly masculine in her appearance, and her manners are gentle and cheerful. She has not contracted anything coarse or vulgar in her camp life, and I believe that no imputation has ever been substantiated against her modesty. One thing is certain, that her sex never was known until her father applied to her commanding officer to seek her. There is nothing very peculiar in her manners at table, excepting that she eats