



"JUSTUM, ET TENACEM PROPOSITI VIRUM, NON CIVIUM ARDOR PRAVA JUBENTIUM, NON VULTUS INSTANTIS TYRANNI MENTE QUATIT SOLIDA."

VOLUME III.

PICTOU, N. S. WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 6, 1837.

NUMBER III.

THE BEE

IS PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING,
BY JAMES DAWSON,

And delivered in Town at the low price of 12s. 6d. per annum, if paid in advance, but 15s. if paid at the end of the year; - payments made within three months after receiving the first Paper considered in advance, whenever Papers have to be transmitted through the Post Office, 2s. 6d. additional will be charged for postage.

ADVERTISING.

For the first insertion of half a square, and under, 3s. 6d., each continuation 1s.; for a square and under, 5s., each continuation 1s.—All above a square, charged in proportion to the last mentioned rate.

For Advertising by the Year, if not exceeding a square, 35s. to Subscribers, 45s. to Non-Subscribers,—if more space than a square be occupied, the surplus will be charged in proportion.

CARD.

Mr JAMES FOGO, Attorney at Law, has opened office in Mr Robert Dawson's new stone building, opposite the establishment of Messrs Ross & Primrose, where he will be prepared to transact business in the various branches of his profession.

Entrance to the office, by the Western end of the Building.
May 31st.

JUST PUBLISHED,

And for sale by the Subscriber,
A GUIDE TO TOWN OFFICERS,
Showing their Appointment, Duties, Liabilities, and Privileges;

BY DANIEL HICKSON.

May 31. JAMES DAWSON.

THE Subscriber has just received a few handsome

CHINESE SHAWLS,

Fifty dozen Palm-leaf HATS, and Rowland's Mill Saws.

R. DAWSON.

May 24. if

EX "MARION," FROM BOSTON.

CORN MEAL in barrels,
CORN in 2 bushel bags,

AND

A FEW BARRELS PITCH AND TAR,

For sale by

ROSS & PRIMROSE.

May 24.

SEEDS.

AMERICAN RED CLOVER, FLAX,
TURNIP, CABBAGE, PEAS, BEANS;
with a extensive assortment of
GARDEN SEEDS,

For Sale by JAMES DAWSON.

A few thousand **HEDGE THORNS**
may be had as above, on early application.

ENGLISH SEED OATS!

240 Bushels, primo quality, just received by the brig "Eleanor," from Hull.

ALSO:

EIGHT THOUSAND BRICKS,

For Sale by

ROSS & PRIMROSE.

From "The White Man's Grave, or a Visit to Sierra Leone in 1834."

SLAVE SHIPS AT SIERRA LEONE.

THE Gulf of Guinea is studded with fleets of prison-ships, that steal into every river, and forcibly convey to the New World from the Old the population of Kingdoms. The old and new Calabar, the Bonny, Whidat, and the Gallians, contribute an inexhaustible supply for the French Islands of the West Indies, Rio Janeiro, Havannah, and the Brazils; where, notwithstanding every opposition and hindrance from the British Cruisers, one hundred thousand are supposed to arrive in safety annually, five times that number having been lost by capture or death. Death thins the cargoes in various modes; suicide destroys many, and many are thrown overboard at the close of the voyage, for, as a duty of ten dollars is set by the Brazilian government upon each slave upon landing, such as seem unlikely to survive, or to bring a price sufficiently high to cover this Custom-house tax, are purposely drowned before entering port. Those only escape these wholesale murders who will probably recover health and flesh when removed to the fattening pens of the slave farmer, a man who contracts to feed up the skeletonous to a marketable appearance.

The Kroos are the only people of the coast who abhor the otherwise universal practice of their country. With this exception, the whole continent of Africa approves the system. Long before the white men came to create an export trade, an internal slave commerce was carried on in full vigor; and at this instant it prevails as extensively as ever. Whilst the English are endeavoring to check the sea-borne merchandise, the inland paths are crowded with multitudes destined to a distant sale; and should the name of slave-ship be forgotten, of which there is as yet no probability, matters would but return to their former state. The New World merely offered a new market; and though it should prove but a temporary one, Egypt, Nubia, Abyssinia, and Constantinople will continue steady in the consumption of an article prohibited by the Christian. As yet, however, this evil trade, like a religious sect, has but increased under persecution; and at no time has it torn away from country and home more men than since it has been pursued in defiance of Great Britain. The mode is altered, not the system destroyed. Attempts, however, at suppression, must not be permitted to slacken: if unsuccessful—and their success is problematical—they will prove strong disapprobation: not to oppose would imply tacit sanction. Total destruction of this nefarious commerce will end only when a profitable market ceases to be open. Whilst the Brazils, the Havannah and other portions of America legalise the importation and purchase of Africans, the profits rise in proportion to the risk, hardy captains and adventurous seamen will always be found to work the quick slave-clippers, and brave the British squadron."

The slaves who are thus carried off, lose their liberty from various causes. War, or rather a process of incessant skirmishing of tribe against tribe, for the sake of catching prisoners, is a principal cause. The second source of slavery is crime, such as offences against religion, including sorcery and witchcraft, murder, robbery, theft, and impertinence or evil

speaking; also, debt, the person owing money or goods being liable to be seized by his creditor. In short, there appears to be little or no conception among the black nations, that slavery is unjust in its nature, or cruel in its practical operation; and the following account shows how easily the exportation of natives may be carried on, in spite of British interference:—

On the morning after my arrival at Sierra Leone, I was indulged in the first view of the waters of the estuary, glittering in the hot sun, and endeavoring to distinguish from the many vessels at anchor the barque which had brought me from England.

Close in shore lay a large schooner, so remarkable from the low, sharp cut of her black hull, and the excessive rake of her masts, that she seemed among the other craft as a swallow seems among birds. Her deck was crowded with naked blacks, whose woolly heads studded the rail. She was a slaver with a large cargo. In the autumn of 1833, this schooner, apparently a Brazilian, and named with the liberty stirring appellation of 'Doña Maria da Gloria,' had left Loando on the slave coast, with a few bales of merchandise, to comply with the formalities required by the authorities from vessels engaged in legal traffic; for the slave trade, under the Brazilian flag, is now piracy. No sooner was she out of port than the real object of her voyage declared itself. She hastily received on board four hundred and thirty negroes, who had been mustered in readiness, and sailed for Rio Janeiro. Off the mouth of that harbor, she arrived in November, and was captured as a slaver by his Majesty's brig Snako. The case was brought in December before the court established there; and the court decided that, as her Brazilian character had not been fully made out, it was incompetent to the final decision of the case. It was necessary to apply to the court of mixed commission at Sierra Leone, for the purpose of adjudication. A second time, therefore, the unfortunate dungeon-ship put to sea with her luckless cargo, and again crossed the Atlantic amid the horrors of a two months' voyage. The brig having returned to Africa, cast anchor at Freetown in the middle of February 1834, and on arrival found the number reduced by death to from four hundred and thirty to three hundred and thirty five.

Continuance of misery for several months in a cramped posture, in a pestilential atmosphere, had not only destroyed many, but had spread disease among the survivors. Dropsy, eruptions, abscesses, and dysentery, were making ravages, and ophthalmia was general. Until formally adjudicated by the court, the wretched slaves could not be landed, nor even relieved from their sickening situation. With the green hills and valleys of the colony close to them, they must not leave their prison. I saw them in April they had been in the harbor two months, and no release had been offered them. But the most painful circumstance was the final decision of the court. The slaver was proved to have been sailing under Portuguese colours, not Brazilian; and the treaty with the Portuguese prohibits slave traffic to the north of a certain line only, whereas the Donna Maria had been captured a few degrees to the south. No alternative remained. Her capture was decided to have been illegal. She was formally delivered up to her slave-captain; and he received from the British authorities