St. John Chronicle.

AND COLONIAL CONSERVATIVE.

Volume XVIII. | Saint John, New-Brunswick, Friday, February 17, 1854. | Number 24.

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.

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

Terms—12s. 6d.

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

Mutual Insurance Company.

JOSEPH FAIRWEATHER, Esquire, President.
J. V. LAWRENCE, ZEBEDEE KING, } Directors.
S. L. TILLEY, S. K. FOSTER, }
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.
L. 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 DOCK STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.

DOOLEY'S
Merchant's Exchange Hotel,
Post Office Buildings,
State Street, Boston.
Terms—ONE DOLLAR per day.

We have obtained the Victory.
RANNAY & 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:

Square Front Mahogany Piccolo,	£36	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, tuns legs, and circular bottom,	65	0	0

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

N. B.—All Instruments manufactured by R. & 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 Manner's Brick Building,)
WATER STREET.
HOUSE and SHIP WATER-CLOSETS; Hot Cold, and Shower BATHS; Forcing, Lifting, Common, and Engine PUMPS; SHIPS' SUPPERS, &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.

PATENT AGENCY.
THE undersigned will undertake to procure Letters Patent for "new and useful inventions" for this Province, and will attend to all legal requirements in reference to English and Foreign Patents, before they can become effective in New Brunswick. He has made arrangements with Messrs. Read & Sterling, Architects and Draftsmen of this City, for the execution of such Drawings as may be required.
PETER STUBS,
Barrister, Attorney at Law, and Notary Public.
St. John, N.B., Dec. 2, 1853.

Furniture Warerooms,
PRINCE WM. STREET.
NOW on hand, an assortment of the best FURNITURE, consisting of Walnut and Mahogany COUCHES; Mahogany and Walnut SOFAS; Mahogany and Walnut CHAIRS; Mahogany Sideboards; Pine, Mahogany, and Walnut Dressing Tables; Walnut and Mahogany Centre Tables; Bedsteads; Washstands, &c. &c. &c., all made of the best materials and by the best workmen.
MATTRASSES, and every thing in the Upholstery business made at short notice.
Undertaking attended to, Hearse and Palls furnished.
A few pieces of the best English HAIR CLOTH. For sale by
October 29. ROBERT NISBET.

VULCAN FOUNDRY MANUFACTORIES.—A large assortment of the manufactures of the Vulcan Foundry, consisting of Bay Stoves and patent Union COOKING STOVES, FRANKLINS, Register GRATES, Close Stoves, PLOUGHS, &c. &c., all of the most approved patterns and descriptions. For Sale at the Warehouse of the Subscribers.
The above Goods can be recommended to the attention of the public.
Orders for Castings or Work required at the Foundry will have attention, if left at the Counting Room of JOHN V. THURGAR.
April 22. North Market Wharf.

FALL STYLE!
COCKBURN & CO. have received the Fall Style of SATIN HATS, per *Admiral* and *Middleton*.
A large lot of Summer and Spring GOODS receiving. Fixed prices. 17, King-Street.

BURNING FLUID—For sale, Boston, from Boston, a few barrels superior Burning FLUID.
November 11. S. L. TILLEY.

NEW FALL GOODS.
St. John Clothing Mart,
WATER STREET,
Sign of the ROYAL ARMS.
MARKET SQUARE.
RECEIVED per packet ships "Imperial," "Enfield," and steamer "America," from Liverpool, Eastern City, and Admiral, from Boston, a large and varied assortment of British CLOTHS—consisting of Beaver, Pilot, Kerseys, Whitney and superfine West of England Cloths and Cassimeres, figured and plain.
40 Cases of American SATINETTS, Striped and Fleeced COTTONS, &c. &c.

Ready-made Department.
Made in the Establishment—fashionable shades.
500 Beaver, Whitney, Pilot, Canada, Satinett and Duffaled COATS, from 25s. upwards;
300 Reefing JACKETS, Pilot and Beaver, double lined from 15s. upwards;
200 Shooting COATS—*every shade and texture;*
1500 Vests—Silk, Satin, Velvet, Cashmere, Bareges, Valentia and White Moscelles.
A large assortment of Dress FROCKS, SACKS, and PALETOTS;

Gent's Furnishing Goods.
Men's White SHIRTS, Linen Trimmings Fancy Regatta and heavy Striped ditto—blue, white and red.
Merino and Lambswool Shirts and drawers.
4 cases Gents' Silk and Satin HATS; 6 cases Kosuths and Leghorn Hats; 8 cases Boys' Cloth and Cassimere Caps.

SEAMEN'S OUTFITS—of every description.
Goodyear's Patent Rubber Coats, Leggings, Sou'-Westers, Sporting Bags, &c.; 100 dozen Braces, Silk, India Rubber and Elastic; 20 boxes French Satin and Silk Neck Ties and Stocks, plain and figured, a beautiful article; Silk Pocket Handkerchiefs of every description; Silk, Cotton and Kid-Gloves; Trunks, Valises, travelling Bags, &c.; Silk and Cotton Umbrellas; with every description of goods requisite for a general Outfitting Establishment.

300 Suits of Boy's CLOTHING, in Beaver, Pilot, Satinett, Tweeds, &c. &c.
4 Cases of Fur, Seal Skin, silk velvet, Tweed and Cloth CAPS;
10 Bales of Buffalo Robes and Coats, Seal Skin, and Reversable, ditto;

N. B. Gents. selecting their Cloths can have their Garments cut in the newest style, and executed by the best of workmen and superintended by experienced foreman—fit or fork it.
All Goods marked in plain figures, and no second price.
WATER STREET, SIGN OF THE ROYAL ARMS, FRONTING ON THE MARKET SQUARE.
November 11. F. NEILL.

Old Wines, Brandy, Genevn, &c. &c.
Now landing ex *Miramichi*, from London—In Store, and daily expected per *Curos*, from London—
30 HHDS., 30 qr. casks, & 20 octaves Choice Old PORT; Pale Brown and Golden SHERRY; MADEIRA, LISBON, Marsalla, &c.
6 Puncheons } Old pale and Brown Cognac
30 Hhds. } Brandy; Martells, Henessys &c
20 hhds. finest Schiedium GENEVA;
40 hhds. very Old Jamacia RUM;
4 puns. Old WHISKY,—(Campbelton, &c.)
12 hhds. Prestonpans and Allsa ALE.
Also—a large Stock of the above in bottle—together with Claret, Hock, Moselle, Champagne, &c. &c. &c.
150 casks of the best London Brown Stout, PORTER, and East India ALE, in pints and quarts.
RANNEY, STURDEE & CO.,
Wine Merchants.
May 27. Prince William-street.

HIBERNIAN HOTEL,
REMODELLED.
BOARDERS, BOARDERS, BOARDERS,
THE Subscriber wishes to inform the Public that he is now prepared to receive a number of Permanent or Transient Boarders, on the following terms, viz:

Yearly or Monthly,	£10	0	0	per annum,
Weekly,	0	17	6	
Daily,	0	3	6	
Breakfast,	0	1	3	
Dinner,	0	1	6	
Tea,	0	1	3	

Cold LUNCHEONS at any hour from 10 a. m. till 10 p.m. SOUPS on Mondays and Thursdays; and by good attendance, Clean Rooms and choice Cordials (including a we drop of the Craythur,) he hopes to merit a share of public patronage.
N. B.—Choice Shediac OYSTERS always on hand; also, Cold Roast Fowl supplied to private Families, at the shortest notice.
Sept. 30. JAMES NETHERY.

Wilber's Pure Cod Liver Oil, and Phosphate of Lime.
A CURE for Consumption, Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Influenza, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, and all Scrofulous Humorus.
A supply just received from the manufacturer,—For sale at ONE DOLLAR per Bottle, by
WM. O. SMITH.
July 2. Market Square.

SUGAR.—4 Hhds. and 5 Bbls. good SUGAR, for sale by
October 27. A. A. COUGHLAN.

Halifax Tailoring Establishment.
Now opposite Mr. Sears' Residence, and First Shop from the corner of Princess and Germain Streets.
THE Subscriber begs leave to return thanks to his numerous friends, and the public generally, for the handsome support that has been extended to him, and assures them he will ever be ready to attend any order that may be given him for execution. He further wishes the attention of the public to his unrivalled Stock of CLOTH, CASSIMERES, VESTINGS, &c., &c.
Having carried on business in the West of England, he has had extensive experience in Cutting both Military and Naval uniforms, as well as every other kind of Fashionable Dress. Subsequently he has been employed as Cutter in the first Establishment in Halifax for seven years, where he took the premium for Cutting Coats; and it was admitted by one of the best Cutters in New York that he is the best Cutter of Spring Bottom Pants in North America.
Persons wishing to learn the most scientific mode of measuring and Cutting Coats may obtain information at this Establishment.
Garments Made and Trimmed on the most reasonable terms.
August 19, 1853. C. H. BARTLETT.

MAHOGANY.
10,000 FEET of very superior MAHOGANY, just received, will be sold cheap, in the log, or in boards, to suit purchasers.
Also on hand—large lot of Mahogany VENEERS—branch, plain, and mottled.
JOHN DUNN,
Cabinet and Chair Maker,
June 2. Princess-street.

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.

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

TRUSTEES:
SIR THOMAS BERNARD BIRCH, Bart., M. P.
ADAM HODSON, Esq., S. H. THOMSON, Esqr.
DIRECTORS IN LIVERPOOL:
JOSEPH HORSNAIL, Esquire, *Chairman.*
T. Brocklebank, Esq., } *Deputy Chairmen.*
J. C. Ewart, Esq., }

William Dixon, Esquire,		Harold Littledale, Esq	
William Earle,	"	William Lowe,	"
T. Stewart Gladstone,	"	Alex. McGregor,	"
George Grant,	"	John Murriott,	"
Francis A. Hamilton,	"	William Nichol,	"
Francis Haywood,	"	Charles Saunders,	"
Robert Higgin,	"	H. Stolterfoht,	"
George Holt,	"	John Swainson,	"
Geo. H. Lawrence,	"	Jas. Aspinal Tobin,	"

SWINTON BOULT, Esq., *Secretary.*
EDWARD ALLISON, } AGENTS,
ADAM JACK, } St. John, N. B.
The Agents are prepared on the part of the Company, to offer a very liberal scale of Premiums, and beg to solicit orders from all parts of the Province.
August 20, 1852.

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 £8 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.

JOHN HARRY,
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.

New Brunswick Hotel.
Charlotte street, nearly opposite the Country Market, Saint John, N. B.
THE Proprietor of the above Establishment thankful for past favors, would respectfully inform the travelling Public, that having erected a large addition in rear of the main Building, he is now prepared to furnish ample accommodation to 70 or 80 Boarders. The Proprietor is determined to leave no means untried to merit the patronage of the community.
Travellers arriving late at night will find the House always open and ready to receive them.
The Sleeping Rooms are large and well ventilated, and the improvements and conveniences which have been made render it emphatically the House of the stranger.
It has always been a Temperance House and the Proprietor is determined to adhere strictly to the Total Abstinence principle.
This House is centrally located, and is well supplied with well furnished apartments, clean beds, good fare, the best attention, and reasonable charges, which should render it worthy the support of Travellers.
A Large STABLE has been erected on the premises, capable of accommodating 70 Horses.
Good Hostlers are always in attendance.
July 8, 1853. E. W. FLAGLOR.

REMOVAL,
AND NEW SUPPLY,
THE Subscriber, in thanking the Public for the patronage he has hitherto received, begs to inform them, that he has removed from his late place of business, New Market Piece, to the Store four doors North of the Country Market, on
CHARLOTTE STREET.
Where he will keep on hand his usual STOCK, of
GROCERIES, PROVISIONS,
&c. &c. &c.
and hopes by the usual attention to the wants of his customers, to merit the continuance of their favor.
W. H. SECORD.
St. John, Aug. 28th, 1853.

No. 13 King Street, Drugs, Medicines, &c.
THE Subscriber has received per Ship *Lisbon* from London, an additional supply of DRUGS, MEDICINES, Patent Medicines, Chemicals, Perfumery, SPICES, Fancy Soaps, Tooth, Nail, Paint Hair, and Clothes BRUSHES.
ALSO—14 tons Brandram's No 1, WHITE LEAD and Coloured PAINTS;
2 Cases London Body COPAL VARNISH;
1 Case Gold Leaf; 4 Cases No. 1, STARCH;
2 Casks Bird Seed; 3 Cases Salad Oil;
5 Cases Painter's Colours;
1 Cask Pumice Stone;
1 Case Spanish Liquorice.
November 4. S. L. TILLEY.

Valuable Land For Sale.
THE Subscriber offers for Sale that valuable Lot of LAND, known as No. 9, in the Douglas Valley, close to the Nerepis Road. It contains 250 acres, is well timbered with good wood, and the soil is of the best quality. It will be sold on accommodating terms, on application to
CHRISTOPHER MAILMAN.
Oct. 21, 1853. 3m. *Carleton.*

HOLLOWAYS PILLS AND OINTMENT—Just received and for sale by
October 28. FELLOWS & CO.

PLAGUES.

THE plagues of the middle ages were so destructive a character, that in recent times they have been regarded as approach to the fabulous. It was only when the cholera had become a frequent visitor to our shores, that the attention of scientific men was directed to the subject, and it was then admitted—for it could not be denied—that there were certain unknown ages of mortality, of the most destructive power, which it became an urgent duty to endeavour to counteract and prevent.

The most notorious plague of former times was the "Black Death;" and from all that we can learn as to its symptoms, it bore a considerable resemblance to the modern cholera. The disease was supposed to have commenced in the kingdom of Cathcay, to the north of China, in the year 1333 and spread in a westerly direction across Asia to Constantinople, where it broke out in 1347. In the following year it ravaged France, Spain, and Italy, and it appeared in Great Britain, where it remained for some time. As the habits of the people of all countries were much less cleanly than they are at this day, and as the regulations of towns were still less favourable purification and health, the disease was of an excessively malignant and fatal character. It is computed to have destroyed not less than 25,000,000 people in Europe, or about one forth of its then population. Stowe, the old chronicler, says of it:—"A great pestilence entering the island, which began first in Dorsetshire, then proceeded into Devonshire, Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, and Oxfordshire, and at length came to London, and overspread all England, so wasting the people, that scarce the tenth person of all sorts was left alive; and churchyards were not sufficient to receive the dead, but men were forced to choose out certain fields for burials."

The field used in London for this purpose was the space of ground now used as a play ground and garden by the boys of the Charter House, under whose feet lie buried some 50,000 old London citizens, stricken down by the plagues. But the total number of sufferers from the disease in London alone was about 100,000; so that the Black Death almost depopulated the city. A murrain also seized the cattle throughout the country, and they fell by thousands; the crops lay rotting in the fields for want of labourers to gather them in; great suffering followed the disease, and it was many years before England recovered from the calmities of 1349.

There was one remarkable result of the plague worthy of notice, the evidences of which still survive. Whoever has inquired into the history of the magnificent old Gothic cathedrals still standing throughout England, or considered the immense wealth and labour necessary to rear these splendid piles, can scarcely fail to have been struck with wonder at the depth of feeling and the energetic efforts of the people by no means wealthy, by whom they were erected. But the wonder ceases when we think of the panic, fear, and awe struck into the minds of men by the Great Plague. The universal despair and depression of spirit which it produced, in many cases assumed a religious form; and the wealthy abandoned their treasures, and gave their villages and estates to the churches and monasteries, by way of securing forgiveness for their sins and propitiating the Divine wrath. Hence the origin of these splendid Gothic structures, most of which were commenced in the fourteenth century, shortly after the occurrence of the Black Death, though many were not finished until the succeeding century.

About the same time there sprung up a great zeal for penance, fasting, and self-infliction of punishment, with a view to arrest Heaven's anger. The Brothers of the Cross, or Flagellants, sprang into importance, and soon included nobles, princes, and men belonging to all classes of the people. They marched in public procession through the towns, and scourged themselves with knotted cords, amid the singing of psalms and loud supplications for the arresting of the plague. Amongst the other superstitions and fears of the time, was that entertained respecting the Jews, who were supposed to be the authors of the calmity. The effects of the disease so much resembled those of poison, that the popular idea in most places attributed them to the poisoning of the food and water which they ate and drank. Down even to a recent period this popular notion has been found prevalent, as for instance, in Russia and Poland. But at that remote age the Jews general objects of horror, on account of the religious prejudices excited against them; and they were the first to feel the effects of the popular indignation. Noble and mean bound themselves together in societies for the avowed purpose of extirpating the Jews, who were everywhere pursued, and when captured were slain or burnt. The whole of the Jews in Basle were cooped up in a wooden house, which was then set fire to, and every individual of them perished. At Spinss they themselves assembled in their own habitations, which they set fire to, and thus consumed themselves and their families. At Stratsburg, 2,000 Jews were burnt in their own burial-ground, where a large scaffold had been erected; those who embraced Christianity were spared. Where not burnt, the Jews were banished; but this was even a worse fate, for wandering about the country, they fell into the hands of the infuriated peasants, and were by them tortured, and persecuted with fire and sword.

"The Sweating Sickness" was another virulent plague of former times, whose visits were attended by a fatality almost as great as that which accompanied the "Black Death." The names of both diseases point to an analogy with the cholera—cold sweats and lividity of skin being its prominent symptoms. But the Sweating Sickness is said to have commenced with a violent inflammatory fever, followed by complete prostration, fetid perspiration, and death—not more than one in a hundred of those who were attacked escaping with life. The disease ran through its course in about twenty-four hours. It principally attacked persons who lived well and drank high; and on that account it is said not to have extended across the Border into Scotland. In London, two lord mayors and six aldermen died of the disease in one week; and many merchants and nobles also perished. Henry the Seventh landed his army at Milford Haven while the disease was raging in the country, and it broke out on the banks of the Severn. The Lord Stanely of the day alleged the prevalence of the disease as his excuse for not joining the army of Richard.

The same disease re-appeared in England at various intervals, in a more or less fatal form. In 1517 it raged with extreme virulence, and carried off many distinguished men. Henry the Eighth was so much alarmed that he retired to the country and locked himself up—confessing and taking the sacrament every day. Messages were brought to him, announcing the progress of the disease in the towns and villages, in some of which one-half of the inhabitants had been swept off. Cardinal Wolsey was no more courageous than the king, for he too fled from his sumptuous palace, and for some days, concealed himself from everybody in the country. As soon as the plague had passed, Wolsey re-appeared, and Henry forgot his soul, returned to court, and recalled his mistress. The disease appeared on the last time in England, under the same name of the "Sweating Sickness," in 1551; but we strongly suspect from all we can gather about the nature, of the disease, that it was neither more nor less than what is now called "Asiatic Cholera," the same plague had appeared abroad under various other names. It fell upon the French army before Naples in 1528, and almost completely destroyed them, probably thus changing the destinies of Europe. It is believed that no fewer than 5,000 French nobles, with the commander himself, were destroyed. The mortality reminds one of the destruction of the army of Sennacherib by a similar pestilence.

The Oriental plague had in the meantime paid several visits to England especially in the metropolis. It first broke out in 1349, and subsequently at intervals, until in 1499 it carried off 30,000 of the inhabitants of London.—Fatal epidemics of different kinds became of frequent occurrences, so that Sir William Petty remarked, that "a plague" happeneth in London every twenty years, or thereabouts, and do commonly kill one fifth of the inhabitants. But the most fearful visitation of the Oriental plague ever known, and we belive the last visit was in the year of 1665, known as "The Great Plague," so vividly described in the history of De Foe. The Londoners fled from the city—at least all who could do so—trade was grievously interrupted, and an immense number of persons died. After five month's stay in the country it suddenly disappeared, after a tremendous hurricane. Nearly 70,000 people were carried of during that visitation in London alone.

Since then, the plague in the Oriental form, has not visited us; but from time to time a disease, the description of which closely corresponds to that of cholera, has appeared in England, carrying off many victims. There is reason to believe that Typhus has been almost a constant resident, especially in the filthy and crowded districts of the large towns, as well as in low-lying, ill-drained country places. Indeed its victims have been far more numerous than those of any of the plagues, because of the uncleanliness of its visitations. It has been so long a resident, that we have ceased to be alarmed about it; whereas the Plagues came at long intervals, made one fell sweep, and disappeared again, but again to return.

It is only recently that the causes of these plagues have been submitted to the critical of scientific investigation; and now we may be said to be pretty thoroughly informed as to their causes. We may know nothing of the diseases themselves, or why they assume their peculiar forms; they are however merely the efforts of the system, to rid itself of a poison inhaled in the lungs with the air. The poison arises from an accumulation of corrupt matters—in drains, in gutters, in cesspools, privies, or in dwellings. *Impurity* is the cause of all plagues—impure air, impure food, and foul conditions of all sorts. The action of the morbific agent, what ever it be, is promoted by dampness, which holds the poison in solution, as it were. Thus plagues invariably breaks out first in low-lying dans, situations, and often never spread beyond them. At Paris it has been observed that cholera rarely visits the higher floor of houses though the poor live chiefly there; but carries off its victims; often the wealthy, who lives in the damper, heavier atmospher of the lower floors. It is the low districts on the south of the Thames that cholera holds its ground the most firmly. It is as dirty as Newcastle and Gateshead, lying low down along the river side that cholera first appeared and carried off 2,000 persons in a fortnight.

These facts once known, the means of preservation are obvious. They consist in drainage, cleanliness, a ventilation, in a continuous, not intermittent, water-supply, in the abolition of intra mural burials, in the prevention of over crowding in dwellings, and lodging-houses, in the removal of slaughter houses, and all other abominations, by which the air is contaminated with effluvia. These things are now beginning to be understood, and we trust that before long we shall be induced to observe the means by which cholera and typhus are to be prevented, without being reminded of the duty from time to time, by a heartbeat attack of either plagues.

THE DRINK DOCTOR.

[FROM CURIOSITIES OF LONDON LIFE.]

IN what dark, dim, and mystical region of the metropolis this potent and indispensable ally of the licensed victualler and the gin-king has fixed his habitat we could never yet succeed in discovering; but we have marked well his doings, and have strictly noticed his stealthy but undeviating appearance in the wake of the distiller's cart, and the brewer's dray, in whose track he follows as sure as night succeeds to sunset. Come forth thy man of mystery; present thyself for once to the eye of day; and though the sun never yet shone upon the performance of thy secret labours, yet allow his gladsome rays to reveal to us the lineaments for this once only; show thy grave face to the glare of noon, and attest if thou wilt the truth of our delineation, while we pourtray thee and thy function for the benefit of that public from whose gaze thou modestly retirest, and whom—thyself withdrawn in diffident obscurity—thou art content to poison in the pursuit of thy quiet and unobtrusive profession!

Mr. Quintin Quassia, D. D., as the gin spinners and the beer druggers who require his services gravely address him, is a being of seedy garb, of saturnine aspect, and taciturn disposition. He is a member of no learned profession, and is in possession of no degree, save a very considerable degree of quiet impudence and self-possession. The enjoying the designation of doctor—a title which he doubtless owes to his abundant use of drugs in the practice of his art—he would be, perhaps, better described as a professor of magic multiplication seeing that, without condescending to have recourse to a vulgar arithmetical process he has the power of doubling—aye, and more than doubling, the quantity of potables as delivered per invoice into the cellar of the publican. Under his miraculous management three hogsheads of proof gin from the distillers shall, in the course of a single night, become transformed into seven substantial hogsheads of "Cream of the Valley." He has the assistance of a redoubled necromancer in the person of Father Thames, whom he secretly invokes from his oozy bed at the dead of night. He has also another liquid spirit at his beck—a spirit whose touch is torture, whose function is to burn what fire will not consume—the fiend of sulphuric acid, whose vulgar name is vitriol. In his pouch he carries poison of terrible efficacy, and thirst exciting drugs to consummate his work.

The presence of Quintin Quassia at the publican's is invariably required, as we have intimated above, after the arrival of a consignment of spirits from the distiller, and is always preceded by the advent of a number of goodly cones of loaf sugar, without the admixture of which the gin-drinking legions of London would not tolerate the drop of the diabolical mixture concocted for them. Upon such occasions the doctor may be seen dropping in as though accidentally, at the bar parlour a few moments before the hour of closing; taking a seat as a customer, he sits sipping a glass of grog until the last lingering sot has cleared out—when, presto! he and the landlord stripped to their shirt sleeves, are off to the cellar, and plunged at once into the mysteries of that manufacture upon the success of which the prosperity and reputation of that arena of drunkenness, vice and demoralization mainly depend. The floods of life-destroying liquor sold daily under the names of "Cordial gin," "Cream of the valley," "Old Tom," and a dozen other popular appellations, are all so many specious mixtures, having pure, unsweeted spirits as a basis, made up to suite the unsophisticated taste of the London drunkard. Were the spirit retailed to the public in the same condition in which it is consigned by the distiller to the publican, the latter would soon find his customers reduced to a tythe of their present number. The mild, though potent flavour of unmixed spirits, has not sufficient zest for the dregs of the London population, who are the principle supporters of the gin-shop: the look for the fiery sting that vitriol imparts—which they relish for its fatal warmth, and consider as a proof of the genuineness of the poison they imbibe. Moreover, they require it highly sweetened, and in this they are amply indulged by the doctor, who knows well that their depraved thirst is rather excited than satisfied with sweetened spirits.

The enormous fortunes realized by the proprietors of gin-shops situated in certain favourable localities, are altogether due to the operations of the drink doctor upon the material there so abundantly retailed over the counter, and "drunk on the premises." It is a fact that gin is often ostensibly sold at many of these palaces at a cost scarcely a fraction above that at which it can be furnished by the distillers. We once asked the proprietor of one of these thriving temples of vice how it came to pass that he could sell his "mountain dew" as he called it, at a price which barely covered the original cost of the neat spirits. "You know nothing about it," said he, "and if the cost was double what it is, I should make a spanking profit out of it notwithstanding." Of course he could. We had not then had the pleasure of the doctor's acquaintance, nor obtained any insight into the nature of his nocturnal orgies.

The extravagant and plundering profit realized by the gin-spinner sufficiently accounts for the eagerness with which licences are sought after whenever a pretext can be found or formed for opening a public house or a gin-shop. The growth of these places is gradual, but unfortunately too certain. The plan generally pursued in the metropolis is this: a beer-shop is first started in a carefully-selected locality; every means is used to draw custom to the spot; the liquor sold is good, cheap, and unadulterated; and a reputation is speedily gained for the house among the operative classes, whose great delight, recreation, and luxury is beer. When the trade is pursed up to its highest point, a memorial is got up, addressed to the proper magisterial authorities, and signed by every householder in the neighbourhood whose signature can be by any means obtained. This is forwarded to the magistrates, who at their next district meeting consider the claims of all applicants; and if the petitioner have any influence, or any friend among the magnates of his parish, a license is pretty sure to be granted. In a very short period the humble Tom and Jerry shop is transformed into a gin-palace—the wholesome beer is gradually changed for a loathsome physicky wash, in order that the customers may prefer spirits to beer—the manufacture of vitriol and sugar commences—and the neighbourhood, changed from "Beer street" to "Gin lane," is in due course of being poisoned and demoralised—"secundum artem"—the proprietor confidently contemplating a retirement at no distant period upon a comfortable estate. Any time between ten and twenty years ago, this project was pretty sure to be realised by any one fortunate enough to obtain a license, and (being unencumbered by moral or conscientious scruples) in the possession of moderate industry and perseverance. We knew a young man, who, without a single talent, or capacity enough for a tradesman's craft, in seven years realized a clear ten thousand pounds, and retired upon that capital to the enjoyment of a country life while yet in his 29th year.

The doings of the doctor in the beer department are not of so miraculous a character as those already described; still they are worthy of note. The the contents of a cask of beer cannot be doubled with any probability of finding a thoroughfare through the popular throat, yet they may, with cautious management, be increased some thirty or forty per cent. Quassia, liquorice, coculus Indicus, and certain other cheap ingredients, will carry a profitable quantity of water, and yet impart a flavor to the beer which so far from being repulsive to the palate of the London sot, long trained by the public to the tolerance of such poisons, is rather agreeable than otherwise. But the chief aim of the doctor with regard to beer is to render it provocative of thirst, so that the fatigued workman who comes in for a glass to refresh himself, may find upon drinking it, that a quart more at least is necessary to quench the thirst it has excited. By this means drunkards are manufactured by degrees, and thus men sit the livelong evenings through, drinking eight or ten pints consecutively and wondering the while at their own capacities for inhibition.

It is by the aid of the doctor that the weakest wash of the brewer is transformed at times into treble X. Under his talismanic charm simple porter becomes double stout, and fetches more than double price. He knows the precise taste of all classes of customers, and readily prepares from the common staple supplied by the brewers either the full bodied "lush," in which the swart and brawny coal-heaver luxuriates, or the thin supper beer of the sober tradesman or sedentary clerk. He is called into council invariably when a new house is opened, and pronounces learnedly upon the precise character of the beverage which will suit the neighbourhood, and which, of course, he undertakes to manufacture. His exploits have, however, been much limited of late years, owing to the opening of the vast number of houses belonging to the brewers, who, not cherishing any great opinion of the doctor's skill, prefer that the beer bibing public should have an opportunity of fairly estimating their own, and, who consequently make it a rigid condition with their tenants (who are required to deal exclusively with their landlords,) that the malt liquors they are supplied with shall be retailed to the public in an unsophisticated state. Still, the doctor has his laugh against the brewer; for it is a lamentable fact that his artifices have been so long and so successfully practised, that the public palate is almost universally vitiated and pretty generally revolts against the taste of unadulterated malt liquor. As a consequence the "brewers' houses" are comparatively deserted, or else owe what degree of reputation and encouragement they enjoy, to the success their owner may attain in acting as their own doctors, and counterfeiting those factitious beverages which the drinking public persists in preferring to the honest infusion of malt and hops.

One would imagine that a man whose entire occupation consisted of adulteration in one form or other would be at least so far awake to the consequence of indulgence in such villainous potions as we have described, as to refrain from partaking of them himself. No such thing, however; the doctor is a doomed drunkard, and sooner or later sinks to the lowest abyss of drunken degradation, and dies the drunkard's death. Perhaps it is but justice that such a knave should perish in the pit which it has been the business of his life to prepare for his fellow creatures.

SOUTHERN CHIVALRY AND MRS. STOWE.

Parson Brownlow has been moved to make himself the exponent of Southern chivalry, as the following very gentlemanly, polite and chaste notice of Mrs. H. B. Stowe will shew. This parson has been a rampant whig until the nomination of Scott, when he bolted and supported Pierce.—We think the following effusion will shew that he is too low to be prized as much of an acquisition by any party:

"But, merciful God! she presents to the world the most hideous physiognomy ever gazed upon by the eye of man! She is as ugly as original sin—an abomination in the eyes of civilized people!—A very tall, coarse, vulgar-looking woman—stoop-shouldered, with a long yellow neck, and a long peaked nose, through which she speaks—an abomination in the ears of southern negroes, who instinctively turn up their flat noses at the idea of using the nasal organ to assist the organ of speech. A Daguerreotype of her ladyship, which we have seen, sours the stomach of a southern gentleman; but lay aside art and present the reality, and a big black negro is affected with the utmost horror!—Pigeon-toed, knock-kneed, with a big foot and ankle, added to her long broad nose and that mouth and other personal charms, she may pass through the southern negro kitchens at all times without impressing a rude negro man that he will offer the indignity sometimes offered to white women who travel beyond their proper limits."—*Ohio Tiger.*

WASHING FLANNEL.—Procure new flannel in a bag; put it into a boiler with cold water, boil and boil it. It will never shrink any more after this operation.