



AND

Conception Bay Journal.

HEARTS RESOLVED AND HANDS PREPARED, THE BLESSINGS THEY ENJOY TO GUARD.—SMOLLET.

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HARBOUR GRACE, Conception Bay, Newfoundland:—Printed and Published by JOHN THOMAS BURTON, at his Office, opposite the MARKET PLACE

Extract of a Letter from an officer of H.M.S. Blenheim dated Simons' Bay Cape of Good Hope, 12th May 1840.—We arrived here on the 1st May, after a tedious voyage of Seventy-four days, from England, Rear-Admiral Elliott, in the Melville, accompanied by the Blonde and Pylades, had only sailed the previous day from this Bay for China. The Blonde and Pylades arrived here on the 20th April. A few days after our arrival, the Fantome, Captain Butterfield, the Nimrod, Captain Barlow, and the fair Rosamond, Lieut. Oliver, arrived in Simons Bay. The Columbine we found laying here; the Fair Rosamond being defective, is about to proceed to England; the Blenheim accompanied by the Nimrod and Columbine, sailed to day to join the Admiral in China. The latest news here from China deser be the state of affairs as still undecided. We understand, from good authority, that ten thousand troops have been ordered from Calcutta and Madras to co-operate with our squadron in settling the Chinese question. The Cape colony is at present in a very deplorable state from that fatal epidemic, the small pox, making such ravage, particularly among the coloured population but the whites have not been exempt from the disease; the Malays alone have buried ten thousand of their people. They have been particularly averse to vaccination; hence the fearful spreading of the disease; I understand that on one day as many as 56 burials took place, and 30 per day has been a common average of deaths. The disease, it appears, was introduced by the landing of a cargo of slaves from the Mozambique, captured by one of our cruisers. Government has been taking active steps to subdue the disease, by enforcing, if possible, vaccination, &c., and where the parties do not submit to that operation they are placed in quarantine. The Mandarin, convict ship, Dr. Mc Keehine, superintending surgeon, having the famous or infamous, chartis's, Frost, Williams, and Jones on board, bound to Van Dieman's Land, put in here some days ago, to complete water, supplies, &c. Provisions of almost all kinds are excessive'y dear in this colony at present.

The Lady Swindler, Mrs. Menzies.—This female, whose extensive and extraordinary depredations have been published by us under the head of "Hatton-garden," pleaded guilty at the present Old Bailey Session, and on the impulse of the moment she made the following remarkable defence.

"My Lord,—The criminal position in which I am placed calls

upon me to declare that my embarrassment originated in my lending myself, without my husband's knowledge, to assist others who were involved in difficulty, and in whose affairs I took an interest. To effect this, I was obliged to take up money at an enormous interest; a measure that has led me step by step to my present unhappy situation, for as my difficulties increased, so did my anxiety to conceal them from my husband, who has been long in a delicate state of health from a painful disease, increase also, and his anxiety hurried me forward into my present degrading situation, and my mind has for a long period been in a most unhappy state, on account of this concealment; and I now make this public declaration, not only to exonerate my too confiding husband, whom my wretched career has involved in misery and ruin, but to hold up my awful situation as a beacon to others who may be tempted to forget the sacred duties of a wife, or to violate the dictates of the moral and religious lessons inculcated in their youth.—That I never intended to defraud, will be shown by my hitherto having paid every one to whom I was indebted as promptly as I could; and there are persons who can prove that when this prosecution commenced I was negotiating to raise a sum upon a reversionary interest I have, in order to satisfy every demand on me and it was this consideration that induced me to prostrate myself in such humble and earnest supplication to Mr. Ives, when I besought him by the sacred names of father and of husband to have compassion on my poor husband's sufferings, and to have mercy on me and I would pay him all. That my intentions have been frustrated by the present prosecution is deplored by me, because it shuts out a hope of my being able to render unto all what is justly due. My deep remorse and repentance for my crime can only end with my life; and while I humbly presume to hope that my punishment may in some measure be proportioned to my age and infirmities, I shall endeavour, with the aid of the Almighty, to bend, with respectful submission, to the sentence your lordship shall think proper to pass upon me."

After this appeal the jury strongly recommended her to mercy' in which the prosecutors joined.

The *Temeraire* man-of-war, 104 guns, was broken up in 1838. The wood has fetched large prices and a great portion of it has been converted into chairs, tables, snuff boxes, cigar-cases, ladies' work boxes, and other articles. The family of the gallant Admiral Harvey, who in command of that ship

took a distinguished part in the great naval victory of Trafalgar, have had numerous pieces of ornamental furniture manufactured out of the oak of the *Temeraire*. An oaken case was made out of one of her ribs to contain the valuable piece of plate lately presented to the Rev Mr Brick, the rector of Rotherhithe, and the large arm chair, elaborately carved, in which he was seated when he received this testimonial of his parishioners, was presented by Mr. Beatson, and made by that gentleman from a piece of the old man-of-war. Admirals, Captains, and other naval officers, have eagerly sought relics of the *Temeraire*, and some thousands of snuff boxes have been made out of her remains.

The *Curacoa*, Captain Jones captured a Portuguese schooner off Cape Trio, for being engaged in the slave trade. She was taken to Barbadoes by the mate (Mr. Curtis) and two boys only. The crew had mutinied, broke the chronometer, and loaded and secreted the arms with the intention of taking possession of the vessel; but fortunately they got drunk and fell asleep, and when they awoke they found themselves in irons. They were transferred to the *Seringapatam*, waiting orders from the admiral.

The evening papers of yesterday announced the demise of General the Hon. Sir Edward Paget, G. C. B., the Governor of Chelsea College. This statement was erroneous, it being the gallant general's brother, the Hon. Sir A. Paget, whose death we have to record. The Right Hon. Sir A. Paget died on Sunday last, at his residence in Grosvenor-street. He had been seriously indisposed some weeks before. He was the second son of the first Earl of Uxbridge, and brother of the Marquis of Anglesey, and was born January 15, 1771, and married Lady Augusta Jane, daughter of the Earl of Westmoreland, and sister of the Countess of Jersey and Viscount Burghersh, whose marriage with the late Earl of Morley was dissolved by act of parliament in 1809, by whom he had a family of nine children, six of whom survive him. Upwards of thirty families are placed in mourning by his death. By the Demise of this gentleman an insignia of a knight grand cross of the Bath becomes vacant, and a pension of £1,200. per annum, which Sir Arthur received for his diplomatic services, reverts to the civil list.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Charles Barry, the architect of the new houses, has had several interviews with Vicount Duncan and the Hon. Mr. Commissioner Charles Gore, on the subject of laying the foundation stone of the buildings for the Lords and Commons, and it has, we understand, been definitively arranged that the ceremony is to be postponed until early in the ensuing year, when it will probably be laid by her Majesty. Mr. Barry stated to the

Commissioners that the houses will be completed by the commencement of the session 1844. The workmen, of whom there are nearly 500, are still employed under the contractors (Peto and Grissell) in constructing the speaker's house, other of the black rods, and parliamentary offices, which by the end of the present year will, in the opinion of the architect, be 20 or 30 feet from the basement.

The session of parliament is expected to close about the 13th or 14th inst. The Commons are busily occupied in sending up bills to the Lords. These bills are hurried through with a surprising rapidity, and almost without a word of comment, in striking contrast with the snail-like movements and obstructive contests of the early part of the session. The opposition have ceased hostile operations, and the members, have dispersed to their several homes, scarcely a sufficient number being left in town to form a house. This is a state of things arising out of the protracted party struggle and unprofitable discussions which have been prolonged almost to the end of the session, to the great injury of public business. There can be no remedy for this disorder until men shall be found to prefer the interests of their country to those of their party, and to apply their understandings to measures of practical utility, instead of wasting their time in the vain oratorical display and gladiatorial combats of faction. In the Lords, opposition still lingers. Doubtless many of the bills now speeding through the Commons will find their tomb in that house.

CURIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE.

During the morning of Wednesday a large flag-stone, weighing several stones, near the Post office, New-road, Driflet, attracted attention by being observed to have risen about three inches from its bed, without any visible cause. On being lifted up by Mr. William Clark, bricklayer, to ascertain the cause, he discovered two large species of fungi, or gnomes mushroom, growing under the flag. The mushrooms, were two and a half inches high, but much flattened with the pressure, weighing one pound and a quarter, and the largest measured six inches in diameter. The power must have been very great to move the flag, since it was fastly bedded and wedged in between those adjoining. Similar circumstances have also lately occurred in other parts of the town, which may be attributed to the present very wet season.—*Hull Observer.*

Prospects of the Session.—It appears from the orders of the House of Commons for the present week, that there at present 13 bills before it waiting for a second reading, 17 waiting to be committed, 19 waiting a report, and 5 waiting for a third reading. This is independent of the Appropriation bill, not yet introduced into the Commons, and the Regency bill, now in the House of Lords.—There is, therefore, a grand total of 56 bills still to undergo consideration in the House of Commons. Out of this number, not more than three have come down to the Commons from the House of Lords.

On Wednesday se'night, some men were repairing a well at Bislely. About half past 2 o'clock one of them, named Thomas Cox, descended, and when within a few feet of the bottom the whole of the walling of the well fell in upon him. Immediate efforts were made to extricate him, but without the slightest hope of getting him out alive, the well being 60 feet deep, and entirely closed up. When the rubbish had been removed to within