

armed, while the magistrate and I were totally unprovided with the means of defence.

Hostilities commenced by one of the men striking me a violent blow upon the fleshy part of the left shoulder, that sent me staggering to the other side of the room. Two of the ruffians simultaneously faced the police officer, as if to attack him; he received the blow of the nearest, upon his mace or staff of office, and before the fellow had time to lift his guard, returned him a smashing rap upon the fingers of his right hand, compelling him to drop his cudgel, and run howling into the corner of the room. The officer then turned his attention to the fellow who had assaulted me, and who was flourishing his stick with the intent of repeating the blow—but receiving a severe crack across his shins from the officer's mace, he was unable to keep his legs, and dropped upon the floor. I immediately wrested the bludgeon from his grasp, and left him 'hors de combat.' The officer while assisting me received a knock down blow from the fellow who had hesitated in the first attack, but, cat-like, had been watching his opportunity for a pounce. I gave him in return a violent thump upon his head, and drove his hat over his eyes—then rushing in upon him, I pinioned his arms, and held him till the officer rose and assisted me to secure him. While placing the hand-cuffs upon him, I was favoured with a succession of kicks from the gentleman with the crippled hand.

L., having drawn a pistol from his pocket, advanced to Nares, and desired him deliver up the keys; the ruffian answered him by striking a heavy blow on L.'s ear that immediately produced blood. The officer exhibiting the utmost self-possession under these irritating circumstances, did not fire the pistol at his adversary, but dashed the weapon into his face, and inflicted a painful wound. Nares was a man of bull-dog courage. He seized the pistol, and struggled fearfully for its possession. His gigantic frame and strength overpowered his antagonist, the pistol was discharged in the scuffle, luckily without wounding any one—and the ruffian holding the conquered L.—upon the ground, was twisting his cravat for the purpose of choking him, when, having satisfactorily arranged our men we arrived to the rescue, and prevented the scoundrel from executing his villainous intention.

But Nares, although defeated by numbers, evinced a determination to die game—it was with the utmost difficulty that we were enabled to secure his arms, and while slipping the handcuffs over his wrists, he continued to leave the marks of his teeth upon the fingers of the policeman.

While this furious melee was going on, the magistrate had been unceremoniously collared by the master of the house, and thrust forth into that part of the hall which adjoined the iron screen. But his worship did not reverence this ungentlemanly proceeding, and turned valiantly upon his assailant. Both of them were unprovided with weapons, and a furious bout of fisty cuffs ensued, wherein his worship was considerably worsted. Mills and the porter, who had been fastened by the policeman to the railing of the screen, encouraged Farrel by their cheers. The magistrate was severely punished, and roared for help, Farrel, deadening cohesion with the conquerors of his party, left his man and started off, through the open door of the grating; he ran down the lane with a speed that defied pursuit. The driver and the magistrate both endeavoured to overtake him, but they soon lost sight of the manly rogue, and returned discomfited to the house.

During the scuffle, the two men, who, with Mr Wilson, were shut out by the promptitude of L., clamoured loudly at the door for re-admission. The attorney, as he afterwards confessed, was much alarmed at the position in which he found himself—cut off from all communication with his friends, and left at the mercy of two ill-looking scoundrels, in a strange place, and surrounded by a range of grated prisons, while a number of cadaverous maniac looking faces glared at him from between the bars.

Upon mustering our party we were all more or less wounded. The magistrate was outrageous in his denunciations of vengeance upon all the parties concerned; his discoloured eye and torn apparel, besides the bruises about his person, had enflamed his temper, and he declared that it was his firm determination to offer a large reward for the apprehension of the chief ruffian, Farrell. L., was much hurt, and for some time was unable to stand alone—his ear bled profusely, and relieved his head, which had been seriously affected by Nares's attempt at strangulation. The other officer had received a severe thumping, and his bitten hand gave him much pain. My left arm was almost useless, and many bloody marks exhibited the effects of the fellow's kicks upon my shins. Nevertheless, we had fought a good fight, and achieved a glorious victory.

The magistrate threw up the window sash, and addressed the men in the yard from between the iron

gratings. 'Harkee, you sirs, we have thrashed your fellows, and have them here in custody. If you attempt resistance, we shall serve you exactly in the same manner. But if either of you feel inclined to assist us in the discharge of our duty, and will truly answer every question, and render all the help in his power, you shall not only be forgiven for any part you may have taken in scenes of past violence, short of murder, but shall be rewarded into the bargain.'

One of the men, and I must say he was the most ill-looking of the whole lot, immediately stepped forward, and offered to turn 'king's evidence,' if the magistrate would swear to keep his promise. The other fellow growled his contempt of 'the sneak what would snitch,' and darted rapidly down the yard. As we never saw him again, it is supposed that he got into the garden, and found some means of escaping over the walls.

The yard-door was opened, and the lawyer and the informer were admitted. The latter personage told us that his wife was the matron of the establishment, and, with her sister would be found upstairs. The keys were taken from Nares, and we began our search. Mr Wilson desired the man to conduct us to Mary Lobenstein's room, but he positively denied the knowledge of any such person. His wife, a coarse, pock-marked, snub-nose woman, with a loud masculine voice, also declared that no female answering to that name, had ever been within the house. L.—remarked that no credit was to be attached to their assertions, and ordered them to lead the way to the search.

It would occupy too much space to describe minutely the nature of persons and events that we encountered in our rounds. Suffice it to say, we soon discovered that the suspicions of the police officer and the magistrate barely reached the truth. Farrell's establishment had no connexion with any religious house, nor could we discover either monk, friar, nun, or novice in any of the cells. But the name was a good cloak for the villainous usages practised in the house, as it disarmed suspicion, and prevented the interference of the police. The house, in reality, was a private mad-house, but subject to the foulest abuses, wives who were tired of their husbands, and vice versa—reprobate sons, wishing to dispose of fathers—or villains who wanted to remove their rivals, either in love or wealth, could secure safe lodgings for the obnoxious personage in Farrell's Farm, as it was termed by the knowing few. Farrel could always obtain a certificate of the lunacy of the person to be removed; Nares had been tried to the pestle and the mortar; and as the act then stood, an apothecary's signature was sufficient authority for immuring a suspected person. Incurables? of the worst description, were received by Farrel, and boarded at the lowest rate. He generally contracted for a sum down, guaranteeing that their friends should never again be troubled by them—and, as the informer said, 'He gave them little enough to eat, and if they did not die, it was't his fault.'

It was also appropriated to other purposes of secrecy and crime. Ladies in a delicate situation were accommodated with private rooms for their accouchment, and the children effectually provided for. Fugitives from justice were sure of concealment, if they could obtain admission to the farm. In short Farrell's doors, although closed to the world and the eye of the law, were open to all who could afford to pay or be paid for—from the titled seducer and his victim whose ruin was effected in an elegant suit of rooms fronting the lane—to the outcast bedlamite, the refuse of the poor house, and the asylum, who was condemned to a slow, but certain death in the secret cells of this horrible abode.

It would fill a volume to recount the history of the sufferers whom we released from their almost hopeless imprisonment—a volume of crime, of suffering and of sorrow. (To be Continued)

APPRENTICES.

THE Overseers of Poor for this Town, have at present, 2 BOYS and 1 GIRL, to be bound out on the terms prescribed by Law. One boy is seven years of age, the other, and the girl, are five years each.

F BEATTIE, } Overseers
J MAXWELL, } of Poor.

Pictou, April 11, 1838.

ALL persons having any just demands against the estate of the late

JAMES FRASER,

Pictou, deceased, are requested to render their accounts duly attested within eighteen calendar months from this date; and those indebted to the said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

LEVINA FRASER, Ex'x.
RODERICK FRASER, } Ex'rs.
JAMES D. FRASER, }

Pictou, 9th April, 1838.

FAMILY ECONOMY

ARCHIBALD HART,
SILK, COTTON, AND WOOLEN DYER,
James Street, Pictou,

RETURNS his most sincere thanks to his friends and the public, for the encouragement he has already received. He takes the liberty of informing them that he has now, in addition to his old, received A FRESH STOCK OF DYE STUFFS, by which he will be enabled to give the most brilliant colours, to all kinds of Silks and Wearing Apparel of every description.

Also, having a superior method of renovating, taking out spots, and removing all kinds of filth from gentlemen's coats, vests, and trowsers, without the least injury to the cloth, making the old appear little inferior to new,—attention to this would be economy!

A. H. begs to intimate that he has been solicited to remain here during the season, with which he has complied, in hopes that he will be more successful and better supported than he was last year; if not, he will positively leave this place in June 1839.

April 11.

R. FRASER,

DRAPER AND TAILOR,

HAVING returned from Philadelphia, respectfully announces to his friends and the public in general, that he has located himself in the store lately occupied by Mr John Crerar, where every article in his line of business will be executed in the most fashionable and workmanlike manner. He will constantly

KEEP ON HAND

A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF BROAD CLOTHS,

Cassimeres, Vesting, and Pilot Cloths;

Together with every other article usually kept in a Tailoring Establishment.

He will also make up in the neatest manner, Ladies' Cloth Cloaks and Riding Habits; also, Gentlemen's Spanish and Circular Cloaks, Boston Wrappers, and New Market and Hunting Coats, &c.

R. F. would also remark, that having made arrangements with Reporters of Fashions both in New York and Philadelphia, he will be able to supply his customers in due season with the latest approved fashions.

April 11.

TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION,

On Tuesday the eighth day of May next, in small Lots, according to a plan to be seen at the Office of M. J. Wilkins, Esq.:

All that valuable piece of

LAND,

consisting of 22 Acres, commonly called the "Battery Hill," fronting on the Harbour of Pictou.

As the Town of Pictou has a natural tendency to extend itself in the direction of this PROPERTY, the Subscriber has been induced to lay it off in a neat and convenient Town Plot, in which the Streets are so laid out as to correspond with the Streets of the Town of Pictou, in such a manner that no inconvenience will occur in extending the present Streets; and those who are desirous of purchasing the Lots above offered, will have the advantage of broad and regular Streets, the want of which constitutes so great an objection to the erection of buildings in the present town. The front of this property possesses every advantage to those about engaging in Commercial Business, or desirous of erecting wharves and Stores, as the channel of the harbour passes very close to the land at this place, and a very trifling expenditure of labour in cutting down the bank, would make an easy inclined plane, almost to the channel's edge. This Property is in fact the natural site of a town, and probably would have been at this time covered with buildings, had it not been for the state of the title, which is now however undisputed. Persons therefore desirous of laying out money to advantage, cannot make a better investment than in the purchase of these Lots.

At the same time, the Subscriber will offer NINE LOTS,

Of five Acres each, in the rear of the property in possession of M. J. Wilkins, Esq.

These Lots are of an excellent quality; and though they have never been cultivated, they have been in pasture a great many years and are nearly fit for the plough.

TERMS OF SALE:—10 per cent deposit, 20 per cent in 6 months, 20 per cent in 12 months, and the remaining 50 per cent 3 years from the date.

To commence at 11 o'clock, A. M.

STEPHEN BINNEY.

April 4th, 1838.