The Weekly Observer.

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1847.

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The Observer,

Published on Tuesday, by Donald A. Cameron, at his Office, corner of Prince William and Church Streets, over the Store of Messrs. Jardine & Co.—Terms: 15s. per annum, half in advance.

☞ The postage on all Letters (except those containing money, or from Agents,) must be pre-paid, or they will not be attended to.

Furs! Furs!

THE Undersigned having conducted an extensive Trade in FURS, both Skins and Manufactured, in London and at the Leipsic Fair, during a lengthy period, as well for home consumption as the American Colonies, is desirous of extending his connexions in the latter, and has adopted this mode of soliciting Orders.

Mr. N. S. DeMill may be referred to for the respectability of F. E. BLATSPIEL,
Warwick Court, Holborn, London.
April 6, 1847.

April 20, 1847.

NEW GOODS.

PER Ships *California* and *Chester*, from Liverpool: —viz:—

6 Packages Sundry Materials for DRESSES,
16 " Fancy Printed COTTONS,
13 " Grey Cottons,
10 " White do,
10 " Cotton Warps,
2 " BRUSSELS CARPETING,
2 " Assorted Druggetts,
2 " Hemp and Cotton CARPETING,
2 " Checks, Stripes and Homespuns,
2 " Red and White FLANNELS,
3 " Fancy Trouserings,
2 " Linens, Lawns and Damasks,
2 " Jaconet and Checked Muslins,
1 " White Counterpanes,
4 " Plain and Twill'd Linings,
3 " Moleskins,
2 " Moreens, Damask Fringes and Bindings,
19 Pieces Painted Elook Cloths, say 3-4, 4-4, 5-4, 6-4, 7-4, 8-4, 9-4, 10-4, 11-4, & 12-4 widths. Also,

Per "Great Britain," from Greenock:

2 Packages FANCY DRESSES,
2 " Cloth CAPS,
1 " Printed Cotton Handkerchiefs,
1 " Fancy Ginghams,
1 " Hollands and Sheetings,
2 " Canvas and Osnaburgs.

W. G. LAWTON.

MORRISON & CO.

Have received per ships California from Liverpool, and Great Britain from Clyde, part of their

NEW SPRING and SUMMER GOODS,

consisting of—

PLAIN and Silk Striped Lustres, Cobourgs & Orleans;
Printed Orleans, Cobourgs, DeLaines & Saxonies;
Fancy Cambric, Muslin & Organdie DRESSES,
Paramatto, Crapes and Crape Trimmings,
CLOTHS, Cassimeres, Doeskins & Tweeds,
Cashmerets, Cassinetts, Gambroons & Mogadores,
VESTINGS—in rich French Figured Velvets & Satins;
Do. in Plain & Printed Cashmeres & Quiltings,
An elegant stock of Gents' Silk and Satin Scarfs, Handkerchiefs, De Joinville, &c.
Gents' & Youths' White & Coloured Silk Pocket Handkerchiefs;
A large assortment of CRAPE CHECKS, &c. for *Children's Dresses*;
DAMASKS & MOREENS, with *Fringes* and Trimmings to match;
Marseilles & Toilet QUILTS & COVERS,
White and Coloured COUNTERPANES,
Muslins, Hosiery, Gloves, Parasols,
Plain and Twilled Silesias,
Linings & Lining Muslins,
Grey, White and Printed COTTONS;
8-4, 9-4 & 10-4 Plain and Twilled Cotton & Linen SHEETINGS;
Plain & Twilled REGATTA SHIRTINGS,
Moleskins, Cantoons, Drills & Ticks,
Red & White FLANNELS; Baizes.

Also, per Queen Pomare, from Clyde:

An extensive assortment of

SHAWLS AND SCARFS,

in Newest Designs of Satins, Silk, Crape, Cashmeres, Indiana, Barage, Thread, Shetland, Maude, and Plaid Wool;

An immense variety of

Fancy HANDKERCHIEFS, TIES, &c.
Black & White Lace VEILS & FALLS,
Sewed Muslin *Collars*, Habit Shirts, Robes, &c.
Rouches, Lappets, Rolios, Puffering,
Gents' Gingham & Muslin Cravats & Hdkfs. &c.
Linen Drills, Duck, Canvas & Osnaburg,
Linens, Lawns, Diaper, & Damasks, in 6-4, 7-4, [& 8-4;
Woollen Yarn, Worsted, Threads,
White & Coloured Knitting & Darning Cotton,
Silks, Twists, Buttons, Small Wares, &c. &c.
Youths' & Men's Tweed, Cloth & Glazed CAPS, and Cap Covers.

—ALSO—

Daily expected, per Maranham, from London, a large supply of BONNETS, RIBBONS, Laces, &c. &c. all of which will be sold at the lowest cash prices. April 27.

S. K. FOSTER'S
Fashionable Shoe Stores,

Corner of King and Germain Streets, St. John, N. B.

Spring and Summer Supply of New BOOTS and SHOES.

THE Subscriber has just received per ships *Chester, California,* and *Queen Pomare,* part of his Spring and Summer Supply of *Ladies', Gentlemen's, Girl's, Boys', and Children' BOOTS and SHOES,* of all the varieties usually imported, together with all the newest designs lately introduced to the "Fashionable Circles." To the inspection of which the Ladies of the City, and Province generally, are most respectfully invited. Orders promptly attended to from any part of the Province, and Nova Scotia. S. K. FOSTER.
April 27.

12th January, 1847.

The Subscriber has received per "Duke of Wellington," and other recent arrivals, the following GOODS:—

50 CHESTS Fine Congo TEA;
2 Hhds. LOAF SUGAR;
2 Hhds. Crushed SUGAR,
5 Tons Pot and Pearl BARLEY.

All of which will be sold cheap, for approved payments. ARCHD. HEGAN.

COATS!

JUST finished and ready for inspection, a lot of well got up Spring or Medium Cloth COATS, adapted for the present and coming season. Sold at *one half* the price of an ordinary Cloth Coat, for Cash. GARRETT & SKILLEN.
Pantechnoethea, April 13th, 1847.

NEW SPRING GOODS.

JAMES SMELLIE

Has received per Ships California and Queen Pomare, part of his new Spring Stock, which he will offer at very low prices for Cash:

CACHMERE, Barege, Lama, Indiana, Satin Crape and Net SHAWLS and HANDKFS
Mous de Laine, Cachmere, Orleans and Barege DRESSES;
Cobourgh, Orleans, Indiana, and Paramatta Cloths,
Printed MUSLINS, and Muslin Ginghams,
Sewed Muslin Robes, Collars, Habits, Chemizettes, Sleeves and Cuffs, Trimmings and Insertions;
Jaconet, Check, Book and Mull MUSLINS,
Grey, White and Striped SHIRTINGS,
Yorkshire and West of England Broad Cloths and CASSIMERES,
Scotch Tweeds; VESTINGS,
Carpetings, Druggets, and Hearth Rugs,
HOSIERY and GLOVES,
Gossamer and Beaver HATS,
LINENS, LAWNS, Damasks, DIAPERS and SHEETINGS.

Prince William Street, April 27, 1847.

SPRING IMPORTATIONS.

Per Ship "California from Liverpool:—

PLAIN and Figured Orleans; Printed do. Fancy Dresses, Printed Muslins, Ginghams, Grey & White Cottons, Printed do. & Furnitures, Linens, Lawns, Diapers, Fringes, and Gimps, Doeskins, Tweeds, Gambroons, Drills, CARPETINGS, Counterpanes, Rugs, TICKS, MOLESKINS, Cotton WARP, &c.

Per *Queen Pomare,*—

Rich Shawls and Hdkfs., Organdies, Balzarines, Fancy Muslins and Lawns, GINGHAMS, Cottons, Plaids and Vestings, Regattas, Reels, Osnaburgs, Canvas, Duck, Carpeting, &c.

Per *Britannia* from London—

Silks & Satins, Ribbons, Laces, Gloves, Hosiery, Umbrellas, Parasols, BROAD CLOTHS, Buckskins, Cassimeres, &c.
SMALL WARES, &c. &c. &c.

J. & H. FOTHERBY.
North side Market Square, April 27, 1847.

SPRING IMPORTATIONS.

GILCHRIST & INCHES

Have received per ships California, Great Britain, and Queen Pomare,—a well assorted Stock, consisting of—

CLOTHS, Cassimeres, Doeskins, and Tweeds
VESTINGS, Gambroons, Cashmeres,
ORLEANS, DELAINES, *PRINTS,*
Grey and White COTTONS, HOSIERY,
GLOVES, LACES, SILKS, LINENS,
RIBBONS, SHAWLS & HANDK'FS, CAPS,
Superfine and 3-ply CARPETING,—

Which will be sold Wholesale and Retail at low prices for *Cash.*

☞ *Remainder of their Stock daily expected per Maranham, from London.*

Market Square, April 27, 1847.

Groceries! Groceries!

Landing ex ship *Thomas* from Liverpool:—

5 HHDS. Crushed SUGAR;
15 boxes Poland STARCH;
16 hampers Cheshire and Chedder CHEESE;
3 carroteels *CURRANTS;*
5 barrels Bath BRICKS;
1 do. Ground Rotten Stone;
1 case Black LEAD;
1 tierce *TABLE SALT;*
2 bales soft shell ALMONDS;
40 half-drums Turkey FIGS—*choice selected;*
2 cases eighth-boxes PLUMS, do.

Remainder of *Spring Stock* daily expected per 'Helen' from London, and 'Orbit' from Clyde.

Lately received from New York:—

30 catty boxes Oolong Souchong *TEA;*
10 chests fine Congo *TEA;*
12 tierces RICE—*superior article;*
25 boxes *TOBACCO;*
10 boxes Dried APPLES.

For sale cheap by J. MACFARLANE,
May 18, 1847. *Market Square.*

LONDON GOODS!

Landing ex *Maranham* from London—

203 CHESTS Congo and Hyson TEA,
20 boxes Sperm CANDLES,
5 casks *Lazenby's* Pickles and Sauces,
10 kegs Superfine MUSTARD,
12 hhds. Loaf and Crushed SUGAR,
20 casks *Day & Martin's* BLACKING,
50 kegs *Brandram's* WHITE LEAD,
10 casks WHITE WINE VINEGAR,
Casks Tapioca, Nutmegs, Isinglass, Vermicelli, Liquorice, Maccaroni, Salad Oil, &c.

May 4. For sale by JARDINE & CO.

GOUROCK CANVAS.

EX "*California,*" from Liverpool:—100 Bolts best Bleached Gourock CANVAS, assorted, Nos. 1 to 6. For sale by
April 13. JOHN KERR & CO.

Agricultural Seeds, Guano, &c.

GUANO, in lots to suit purchasers,
Turnip, Carrot, Beet, Hemp, Mangel Wurtzel and Clover Seeds,
SEED WHEAT and OATS. For sale by
April 27. JARDINE & CO.

13th April, 1847.

Per Ship "California," from Liverpool,—

2 HHDS. LOAF SUGAR;
2 Do. Crushed SUGAR;
1 Hhd. GOLDEN SYRUP.

ARCHD. HEGAN.

☞ NOTICE. ☜

ALL Persons having any legal demands against the Estate of SEYMOUR PICKETT, Esq., late of Golden Vale, Kingston, King's County, Cloth Manufacturer, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, to the subscriber, (at Mr. James Agnew's, King street,) within Six Months from the date hereof; and all persons in debted to said Estate, are requested to call and make immediate settlement.

L. F. PICKETT,
Administratrix.

St. John, N. B., April 3, 1847.

☞ NOTICE.

ALL Persons having any legal demands against the Estate of WILLIAM RENSHAW, late of the Parish of Hampton, King's County, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, within Three Months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to the said Estate, are desired to make immediate payment to

CHARLES W. STOCKTON,
Sole Administrator.

Sands' Arcade, St. John, N. B., April 6th, 1847.

The Garland,

Lines Written at the Grave of a Wife.

BY WILLIAM B. WOOD, M. D.

I.

Mary, we've laid thy body down,
Beneath this cold, damp sod—
For oh! thy spirit it has flown
In bliss to meet its God!
And yet we sigh to leave thee here—
A part'ner of the dead—
We give thee up with many a tear
In heart-felt anguish shed.

II.

Mary, we cannot see thee now—
Thy voice we cannot hear—
The dew of death was on thy brow,
And, love, we laid thee here!
We'll never hear thee speak again
To bless us as of yore—
No! hushed is now thy music strain,
It ne'er can reach us more.

III.

Mary, the sun's declining beams
Are rising in the west—
Spreading their soft and melting gleams
Above thy place of rest!
And now we leave thee—for we know
That angels from above,
Will look from Heaven to earth below,
And guard thy sleep, my love.

IV.

Mary, farewell!—the sun hath fled—
Hath gone to rest like thee—
We leave thy body with the dead,
Yet shrine thy memory!
In after time we'll come again—
For oh! there is a spell
That links our hearts as with a chain—
Mary, my love, farewell!

Miscellaneous.

DREADFUL SHIPWRECK.

The packet ship Adam Carr, in a passage of 16 days from Glasgow, arrived at New York on the 22d inst. The following account of a dreadful shipwreck on the shores of Islay, is the principal intelligence.

[From the Glasgow Herald, May 3.]

We announce with extreme pain, that during the storm of last week, a lamentable shipwreck has occurred on the shores of Islay, being accompanied with the most extensive loss of life which has taken place on the west coast of Scotland within our remembrance. The intelligence was brought to Glasgow on Saturday afternoon last, by three seamen, being the only survivors of the crew, and passengers of the brig Exmouth of Newcastle, who had been forwarded from Islay in the Modern Athens steamer, by Mr. Chiene, the factor for Mr. Campbell, of Islay. According to their statement, the Exmouth, of 320 tons, of which Isaac Booth of Sunderland was master, sailed from Londonderry for Quebec between three and four o'clock on the morning of Sunday the 25th ult., with a light south-west breeze. She had a crew of eleven men, (inclusive of the captain,) and about 240 emigrants, consisting principally of small farmers and tradesmen with their families, who had turned their little all into money for the purpose of escaping the famine and earning for themselves a home in the western world. Many were females and children going out to join their fathers and protectors, who had already settled in Canada, and who had beckoned those who were dear to them across the Atlantic. There were also three cabin passengers, young unmarried ladies of the middle classes, two of them being sisters, on their way to join their relatives at St. John, New-Brunswick. The vessel was registered for 165½ passengers, but as two children count as one adult, and as a very large proportion were under age—there being only about 60 men amongst the passengers—the survivors of the wreck, who are our informants, think that the total number of these ill-fated emigrants must have amounted to the total stated, viz., two hundred and forty.

The ship lost sight of the loom of the land about four o'clock, on Sunday afternoon. The breeze, which had been light in the morning, increased to a gale during the day, and about 11 P. M. it came in terrific squalls, accompanied by heavy torrents of rain. They then furled the fore and main sails. The wind which had been westward at first, veered northerly, and the storm increased in violence, which blew the two top-sails from the bolt ropes. The crew then set the foresail and spanker, and commenced to bend two other top-sails, which they furled; but about three in the morning they were blown from the gaskets. Previous to this the jib had been stowed, the larboard tacks on board, and the ship was now driving to the southward and eastward. The reason of the master not standing to the westward, when the wind became northerly, and where he would have had ample sea room—was for the purpose of attaining some harbor of refuge where he might repair damages, and replace the sails.

Shortly after this, on Monday forenoon, the long boat was unshipped from the shocks by the force of the seas, which successively broke over the vessel, and in the course of the same forenoon the bulwarks were stove in, and the life boat washed away. The gale continued with the same violence during the whole of Monday night and Tuesday; and an indication of the force of the hurricane may be learned from the fact that on the latter day the mainsail, after being furled, was torn from the gaskets by the storm blast. While the crew were setting the foresail, it was blown from the bolt ropes, and the trysail mast was unshipped, and main gaff carried away, which rendered them unable to carry the spanker. During this dreary time, the vessel pitched dreadfully—now on the crest of a mountain wave, and in two seconds afterwards reeling in the trough of the sea; the passengers were all below under hatches; many of them insensible to external danger from the pains of sea-sickness, but all were not so. Some of them had a fearful presentiment of disaster, and it would be difficult to say whether the parents suffered the greater agony from the cries of their children pent up in the dark and noisome hold, or from the innocent prattle which betrayed no fear or consciousness of the unhappy fate which was so soon to overtake them. Cooking, of course, was out of the question; but the grown-up people had no heart to be hungry, and moreover the cooked provisions brought from Londonderry were not yet entirely exhausted.

About 11 o'clock on Tuesday night, land and a light were seen on the starboard quarter, which Capt. Booth at first took to be the light on the Island of Tory, off the north-west coast of Ireland, and in the belief that he thus had ample sea room in the course he was steering, he bore along. As he drifted near the land, however, and observed that the light was a flashing, instead of a stationary one, he became conscious of his error and dangerous position, and made every effort to repair it by bringing the ship farther to the northward and westward; and with the view of "clawing" her off the land, the maintopsail and the foretopmast staysail were set, and the jib half hoisted. The effort, however, was an ineffectual one; the ship soon got amongst the broken water, and at half-past 12 on Wednesday morning was dashed amongst the rocks. If the above be a correct version of the impression on the Captain's mind as to his position—and it is distinctly spoken to by the two survivors we have seen—the result shows that he must have been fully a hundred miles out of his reckoning; but perhaps it could not well be otherwise. The sun was obscured during all the time of this brief and disastrous voyage, by black, driving clouds which distilled perpetual rains; the moon was only seen through a heavy haze at fitful intervals, and from these causes, it was impossible that any observation could be taken.—The light seen was in reality that of Oransa or Oversay, on the point of the Rhinns or Runs of Islay, to the northwest of the entrance of Lochindaul; and the land seen, and on which the brig eventually struck, was the western part of the iron-bound coast of the island. She went ashore with all the sails already mentioned fully distended; and after striking once was dashed broadside on the rocks which rose to the height of the mast-head. She struck violently against the rocks three times, and at the fourth stroke the mainmast went by the board and fell into a chasm of the rock. An hour and a half previously, when Captain Booth observed his dangerous proximity to the shore, he took his station in the maintop, that he might personally keep a look-out and see how the land bore, and from this place he occasionally gave his orders to the crew. As soon as the brig struck, John Cheat, the mate, and all the seamen, eight in number, joined the captain in the maintop, leaving the captain's son, a youth of about 15 years of age, asleep in his cot below. After remaining in the maintop about three minutes, five of the crew went down for the purpose of ascending the foretop, thinking that they would have a better chance of gaining the shore from that part of the ship. At the same time, one of the crew, named John Scott, went out upon the mainyard with a life-buoy on his person—thus leaving in the maintop, the captain and three seamen, whose names are John Stevens, Wm. Coulthard, and Geo. Lightford, all belonging to South Shields. We have said that the maintop, along with the wreck of the mast, was thrown into a rift or chasm of the rock, and immediately afterwards Coulthard, then Lightford, and finally Stevens scrambled up the topmast rigging, and obtained a footing on the crags. As it was pitch dark at this time, the captain asked the men their names, and when they had informed him, he said it was their duty to assist each other in such a terrible crisis. He was about to follow the men, when a wild wave dashed over their heads as they clung to the rock, but they were enabled to maintain their position; and when they looked round, after the sea had retired, they found that the captain and all was gone. The mainmast had been broken into splinters by the fourth collision with the rocks, and this recoiling wave had not only dragged the ship, but the fragments of the mast which adhered to her by the rigging, further into the sea, and thus cut off from the dense mass of human beings on board every chance to escape. Had the wreck remained in the chasm where it was originally thrown, and from which the three survivors escaped, it might have been used as a bridge by the others; but unhappily, this last possibility of relief was taken away. The same wave which effected this fearful havoc must also have prevented the five seamen from reaching the foretop, from which they might have had a chance of escaping. A quarter of an hour elapsed from the time of the brig first striking until the three survivors got upon the rock. At the moment she struck, and a little previous to it, about half a dozen of the male passengers were standing on the deck, occasionally asking the mate if there was in reality any danger; but as the latter well knew the perils of their position from the broken water seen around, he answered them not. Of the three young ladies who were cabin passengers, one of the sisters had been confined to bed by sea sickness from the moment of leaving Derry; but at 10 on Tuesday night the other two took their position in the companion-way, and anxiously gazed on sea and sky till their agonising doubts were realised by the fearful catastrophe, at half-past 12. They were seen there when the survivors last gazed on the deck. The ship was ground and crunched so frightfully amongst the rocks that she must have broken up almost instantaneously. There was no cry of despairing agony from the multitude of God's creatures cooped up within the hull of the ill-fated brig; or at least it was unheard; for the commotion of the elements was so furious that the men on the top could scarcely hear each other at the top of their voices. The great mass of the emigrants, therefore, must have perished in their berths, as the rocks rapidly thumped the bottom out of the vessel; and though there might be one "universal shriek," within a very few minutes "all was hushed, save the wild wind, and the remorseless dash of billows."

The three men who had escaped to the rock, so soon as the ship entirely disappeared, searched anxiously for some outlet by which they might reach the mainland; but none such could be found, and they finally took shelter in a crevice, which, however, did not shield them from the rain, which fell heavily all night, and here they remained till grey daylight. They then discovered an opening, through which they scrambled to the summit, and having travelled about a mile they saw some cattle on a waste or muir, near which they lay down in the hope that some person would soon come to look after them and take them away. No one came, however, and after day had fairly broken, the men got up from the grass, and ascended an elevation near at hand, from which they observed a farm house about half a mile distant. Thither they proceeded, and were most hospitably nourished, and put to bed. They were thoroughly worn out by exhaustion, not one of the crew having been in bed from the moment the ship left Derry. They were at the same time nearly naked, from having divested themselves of their heavy clothing when the Exmouth struck, and lost part of that which remained when scrambling on the rigging and amongst the rocks. The hospitable farmer—whose name we have not learned—and others who had been apprised by him, went to the scene of the catastrophe, but of course too late to help, and only to gaze on the desolation. Mr. Chiene, Islay's factor, soon heard of the event, and kindly furnished the men with a passage to Glasgow by the Modern Athens steamer, where, as already stated, they arrived on Saturday last. Here they were consigned to the care of Mr. Fildes, of the Naval Rendezvous, and assistant to Lieut. Forrest, agent for the Shipwrecked Mariner's Society, and by him they have been clothed and comfortably boarded in the meantime. They will be franked to Newcastle in the course of to-day or to-morrow.

On Thursday afternoon, the latest date of our advices from Islay, about twenty of the bodies had come ashore. They were principally females, with one little boy amongst them; and as many of them were in their night clothes, the probability is that they were those who had rushed upon deck at the first alarm caused by the striking of the ship. They were fearfully mangled by being dashed amongst the rocks, and being jammed within the crevices, alongst with pieces of the wreck, few of which were above two feet in length. Other bodies were seen floating in the surf, but the sea was still too high to permit any boat venturing out to bring them in. The belief is, however, that the great mass of the poor emigrants went down with the "between decks" of the ship, and that their bodies will not be recovered till this part of the vessel breaks up.

The Exmouth had nothing on board but ballast, and the provisions and little stocks of goods of the emigrants: She is the property of Mr. John Eden, of South Shields, and though old, is stated, by the survivors, to have been well found in every respect. All the crew and passengers were perfectly sober during this fearful time, and the three seamen state that they never saw drink on board at all. The Captain was in the prime of life, and has left a widow and family. All the rest of the seamen were unmarried with the exception of a man named George Ross, who is amongst those who perished. According to the above estimate, the number who have been thus suddenly called to their account amounts to 218; but even leaving room for misinformation, or exaggeration, the loss has unquestionably been frightful. Whether or not this fearful shipwreck may have been partly caused by negligence, or incompetence, or unseaworthiness, we cannot say. We have no reason to state that it is so; but still the public voice will demand a searching inquiry.

We have only to add that the above narrative has been principally made up from the statements of the survivors, Stevens and Lightford, whom we have seen separately, and their accounts of this most lamentable affair are entirely similar.

In addition to the above, we have learned that a brig from New Orleans put into Bowmore, Islay, during the week in distress, with loss of two men and bulwarks; and a schooner with the loss of one man. On the Island of Jura, a bark, a brig, and a schooner are on shore.

How they Manage things in the Model Republic.—In the Senate things still go on in the old way. There, when a member has once caught the Speaker's eye, his fortune is made for the day—perhaps for the week. Accordingly, he takes things easy from the very first—kicks his spittoon to a convenient angle, offers a libation of cold water to his parched entrails, and begins. When he leaves off, is another matter altogether—but not generally till he has gone through the round of human knowledge—explored the past, touched lightly upon the present, and cast a piercing glance into the darkness of the future. Soon after three, the Senate adjourns for dinner, and the orator of the day goes to his pudding with the rest, happy in the reflection that he has done his duty by his country, and will do it again on the morrow. We have somewhere read of a paradise of fools. Undoubtedly, Congress is that place. There they enjoy a perfect impunity, and revel in the full gratification of their instincts. Nobody thinks of coughing them down, or swamping them with ironical cheers. There—

"Dulness, with transport, eyes each lively dance,
Remembering she herself was Pertness once,
And mad'ning over robes of varying hues,
With self-applause her wild creation views.
Sees momentary monsters rise and fall,
And with her own fool's colours gilds them all."

Indeed, all the arrangements of Congress favour the influence of the sable goddess. In the first place, the members are paid by the day—eight dollars each. Permit us to observe, Jonathan, that you scarcely display your usual "smartness" here. It would be much better to contract with them by the *scraps*. As for instance—To involving the country in a war with Mexico, so much—To ditto with Great Britain, so much more. One year you might lay down a lumping sum for a protective tariff, with an understanding that it was to be repealed the next at a moderate advance. You would thus ensure the greatest possible variety of political catastrophes, with the least possible friction and expense. Again, the furniture of the Capitol is altogether too luxurious. Each member is provided with a private desk, stationery *ad lib.*, a stuffed arm-chair, and a particular spittoon. No wonder, then, that your Simmuses and Chapmans are listened to with complacency. It's all in the day's work—it's considered in the wages. While these worthies hold forth for the benefit of distant Missouri and Michigan, their colleagues write their letters, read the newspapers, chew tobacco, as little boys do toffy in England, and expectorate at leisure. No one cheers, no one groans, no one cries Oh! Oh!—all the noise that is made is on private account, and not at all personal to the gentleman on his legs. Yet such is the deceitfulness of the human heart, that the Americans are much given to boast of the dignity and decorum of their Legislature, and to thank God that it is not a beargarden like another place of the kind that they wot of. We must have been asked at least six times a-day during our visit at Washington, "How Congress compared with the British Parliament?" To which we used to reply, "That they did not compare at all," an answer which fully met the truth of the case, without in the least wounding the self-love of the querist.—*Blackwood's Mag.*

Lord Sidmouth's Last Days.—Old age came on him at last, but with singular gentleness. Some of his maxims exhibit the mild philosophy of his temperament. "In youth," said he, the absence of pleasure is pain; in age the absence of pain is pleasure." He characteristically observed, "At my age, it strikes me very much, what little proportion there is between man's ambition, and the shortness of his life." Of the wars during his time he said, "I used to think all the sufferings of war lost in its glory; I now consider all its glory lost in its sufferings." In allusion to the desponding tone of some public men, he said, "I have always fought under the standard of hope, and I shall never desert it." At another time, he expressed the truth, which only the good man feels—"It is a very important part of wisdom to know what to overlook." He repeated a fine expression of George III., of which he acknowledged the full value,—"Give me the man who judges *one* human being with severity, and every other with indulgence." His religious feelings were such as might be expected from his well-spent life,—pure, benevolent, and high-toned. Speaking to his family, in his last illness, he said, "Kind, dutiful, affectionate children, all have been to me; and if I am permitted to attain to that happy state to which I aspire, and am permitted to look down, how often shall I be with you, my children!" On the third of February, 1844, he was seized with an attack of influenza, which, on the 10th, became hopeless; and on the 15th he calmly died, in his 87th year. —*Blackwood.*

The Rural Population of China.—The farms are small, each consisting of from one to four or five acres; indeed, every cottager has his own little tea garden, the produce of which supplies the wants of his family, and the surplus brings him in a few dollars, which are spent on the other necessaries of life. The same system is practised in everything relating to Chinese agriculture. The cotton, silk, and rice farms, are generally all small, and managed upon the same plan. There are few sights more pleasing than a Chinese family in the interior engaged in gathering the tea-leaves, or, indeed, in any of their other agricultural pursuits. There is the old man, it may be the grandfather, or even the great-grandfather, patriarch-like, directing his descendants, many of whom are in their youth and prime, while others are in their childhood, in the labours of the field. He stands in the midst of them, bowed down with age; but to the honour of the Chinese as a nation, he is always looked up to by all with pride and affection, and his old age and grey hairs are honoured, revered, and loved. When, after the labours of the day are over, they return to their humble and happy homes, their fare consists chiefly of rice, fish, and vegetables, which they enjoy with great zest, and are happy and contented. I really believe that there is no country in the world where the agricultural population are better off than they are in the north of China. Labour with them is pleasure, for its fruits are eaten by themselves, and the rod of the oppressor is unfelt and unknown.—*Fortune's Three Years' Wanderings in China.*

Cleanings of Towns.—Liverpool has sixty-five scavengers; its chief streets are swept once a week; the cost of scavengering is £4,820; the amount obtained per annum for refuse is £1,150. Manchester has seventy-eight scavengers; its streets are also swept weekly, the annual coast is £5,600; the ammount obtained per annum for refuse is £800. Edinburgh has 114 scavengers; its streets are swept every day; the annual cost is £12,000; the amount obtained for refuse is £10,000. Glasgow has sixty-four scavengers; the principal streets only are swept daily, the others less frequently, the annual cost is £2,759; the amount obtained for refuse is £1,100. Aberdeen has 51 scavengers. Saving of this branch of civic economy is far from wise. In the preservation of streets and roads, frequent scavengering proves a positive and direct economy of public money, and in the prevention of disease, an evident, though no less certain, saving of public burdens.—*Dr. Lyon Playfair's Report to the Health of Towns Commission.*

The Witchery of the Voice.—A voice which, though sowewhat low, was of that organ that at once arrests attention; a voice that comes alike from the brain and from the heart, and seems made to convey both profound thought and deep emotion. There is no index of character so sure as the voice. There are tones, tones brilliant and gushing, which impart a quick and pathetic sensibility; there are others that, deep, and yet calm, seem the just interpreters of a serene and exalted intellect. But the rarest and most precious of all voices is that which combines passion and repose; and those rich and restrained tones exercise, perhaps, on the human frame, a stronger spell than even the fascination of the eye, or that bewitching influence of the hand, which is the privilege of the higher races of Asia.—*D'Israeli's Tancred.*

Bad Agricultural System of the West Indies.—It is universally admitted (says Mr. Innes) that nothing can be more imperfect than the prevailing system of agriculture except the process of manufacture, in which there has been no perceptible improvement since the settlement of the colonies, if the few estates on which the boiling *in vacuo* has been adopted be excluded. In some of the colonies, the yielding from plant-canes in favourable seasons, does not average a ton of sugar per acre, although with proper cultivation the return ought to be more than double that quantity; and that too, from the imperfect process of manufacture, is reduced from ten to twenty per cent. before it is landed in this country, and even after it is landed there is a still further reduction from drainage. How little do we find thorough drainage of the land, either temporary or permanent, regarded! It is only in the colony of British Guiana, where the subject is absolutely forced on the planter's notice, that we find any mention made of it. How partial also has been the introduction of agricultural implements, notwithstanding the care bestowed by the Messrs. Ransome, of Ipswich, on the construction of durable ones, suited to the wants and circumstances of these colonies! On most estates we see fields on fields still worked entirely by the hoe; and yet the planters complain of the want of labour. To put this evil in a striking point of view:—It takes about twenty days' labour to hole an acre of cane land with the hoe, and three days to band it with the plough. Here is a saving of seventeen days' labour per acre. Thus there are many thousand days' labour unnecessarily expended on the lighter soils!—*Simmonds's Colonial Magazine.*

Match-making Extraordinary.—The *Courier Francais* gives a humorous account of the result attending one of the Marshal Bugeaud's attempts at military colonization. About a year ago he founded the village of Fouka, settling in it 60 soldiers; they were all bachelors, and, to provide them with wives, he sent them by steamer, in a body, to Toulon, where they found 60 virgins, all warranted of good character. The ladies had dowries, furnished by the state, of sums ranging from £24 to £48, and distributed in an inverse ratio to natural charms. Three interviews were allowed between the matrimonial band; one a distant and synoptical view; the second, still silent, an allotment of the brides and bridegrooms by name—the gentlemen, apparently, being allowed some choice. The third, the wedding. There were 59 marriages, one soldier being quite unable to reconcile himself to the remaining maid. The heroes returned with their brides, and the bachelor, to Algiers; and the double column was reviewed by the marshal, each husband behind his spouse. The sixtieth stood solitary and trembling in the rear of his line of comrades. The poor fellow quaked when the marshal put to him the awful question, "Where is your wife?" "Monsieur le Marechal," replied the soldier, "all the others have wives." "Allons!" returned the Marshal, "you are not such a fool as I thought you were." He was pardoned for his celibacy. Alas, how fared these military marriages? A year had scarcely elapsed when most of those ladies fled from Fouka shamelessly betraying husbands, homes, and drums, without even regretting the 10 hectares of land. Marshal Bugeaud had forgotten to include conjugal fidelity among his orders of the day.

Amongst the Esquimaux, according to Sir John Ross, the crime of murder very rarely occurs. When it does, the murderer's punishment consists in being banished to perpetual solitude, or to be shunned by every individual of his tribe; insomuch, that even the sight of him is avoided by all who inadvertently meet him. One being asked why his life is not taken in return, it was replied, "that this would be to make themselves equally bad; that the loss of his life would not restore the other; and that he who should commit such an act would be equally guilty."

Messrs. Jennens and Bettridge, of Birmingham, have just completed a splendid suit of *papier mach* boudoir furniture for the young Queen of Spain. The suit consists of eighteen reclining chairs, a sofa, the largest ever made in this material, sofa table, light ornamented tables, conversation chairs, and ottomans. The shape of each article is exceedingly elegant, and their several uses are not sacrificed to, but enhanced by the beauties of form. The ornaments are chiefly of burnished gold and mother of pearl, in the ornate style of Louis the Fourteenth. Groups of birds, fountains, and festoons, are disposed with excellent effect; and the light and delicate tracery of gold forms an elegant fringe to the gorgeous pictures, one of which is a view of Windsor Castle.

Cons.—Why is a dandy like a haunch of venison? Because he is a bit of a buck.—Why is the remedy of sulphuric ether like Mendelsshon or Rossini? Because it is one of the greatest *composers* of modern times.

Sweetmeats, of all kinds, are now made by machines, which are said to perform as much work as nine men.