

venture to speak truth in the only way in which truth ought to be spoken—boldly—of a public character during his lifetime, the chances are at least an hundred to one that this common property in which you thought you had a clear right of way as if you were skipping on the top of Snowdon, or galloping over Epsom Downs, will have you in the Queen's Bench, or send a slug through your cranium before you have time to recover from the enthusiasm natural to the exercise of your proprietary rights. If public characters be really the property of the public, it is by no means so clear that the public have any right to make use of their own property. Indeed, this sort of property seems to be altogether a pleasant political fiction, and to resemble the statues and pictures that are supposed to belong to the people, but which the people are never permitted to approach too closely.

This article being chiefly of a political character, we cannot find much more that suits our columns.

New Zealand has become an object of much attention lately, as the site of vast arrangements connected with emigration,—the 2nd article in the Monthly Chronicle gives the following account of the discovery of that part of the world.

This island, or double island, was discovered in 1642 by a Dutchman, Captain Abel Jansen Tasman, who was appointed to the command of an expedition for determining the extent of the continent then called Terra Australis, supposed by some people to stretch to the pole. Tasman had not been many days upon his course, after leaving the Mauritius, when he discovered a great quantity of duckweed floating on the sea, which raised his expectations of shortly making land; and, in order to encourage the zeal of his crew, he declared that whoever should first deery a ridge of land, or even a break of shoals, should receive as a reward three reals and a pot of arrack. A month elapsed, however, before the reward was earned, the weeds still fast accumulating upon the path of the ships. At last high mountains were seen; and as the adventurers approached they discerned a variety of trees scattered over the surface, but planted so thinly as to offer no obstruction to a view of the country. Some of Tasman's followers went ashore, but were disappointed to find no inhabitants in this strange region, although there were evident traces of human beings in some ingenious steps cut in the trees, to assist the ascent of people in search of birds' nests. They had no sooner returned on board, however, than they saw the clear outlines of living men moving rapidly between the trees, and the smoke of watch-fires, or encampments, wreathing up from the distant woods. The curiosity of Tasman was strongly excited by these circumstances, and he prosecuted his voyage until he cleared the southernmost point of the land, setting at rest the tradition that it extended to the pole. Soon afterwards he steered to the east, and lost sight of this newly-discovered but unexplored land, which, in honour of the governor-general who had prepared the expedition, he called Van Dieman's Land—the name by which it continues to be known.

"The state and Prospects of Italy" is also of a political character, requiring more than a hurried hour, for the condensation of its information.

The Elegiac Ode appears of that vague and rather obsolete character, which calls on inanimate and animal creation, to sympathise with the mourner, for some loss not very clearly defined, and which is treated so poetically that the reader strongly suspects is not felt to be very burdensome.

In the next article, the late Sultan of the Turkish Empire is thus noticed:

The Sultan received into his hands an authority nearly annihilated. All the provinces of the empire had become feudal sovereignties in the hands of pachas. Ali Pacha ruled in Epirus, and Mehemet Ali had commenced to raise himself in Egypt. Mahinoud himself allowed the terrible subject who had made him Sultan to govern in the divan; but the vengeance of the Janissaries soon relieved him from that control. In the month of June 1826, he executed the daring act which has no equal in history except the destruction of the Templars.

The massacre of the Janissaries lasted two months. The Sultan immediately commenced his reforms, organised a real conscription, and formed regiments after the European fashion. But these projects could only be accomplished with the aid of peace, and the same year in which he had destroyed his own military force, he had to combat the insurrection in Greece. That war was fatal to him, not only because it dismembered his empire, but because it placed him at variance with the powers most naturally summoned to second and protect his plans of reform. Scarcely removed from the disaster of Navarino, he had to make war in 1828 against Russia, and sign at Adrianople the surrender of his northern provinces.

During this period of defeats arose, at the other end of his empire, the powerful vassal, who, in 1832 and 1833, forced the Sultan to place himself at the mercy of his most dangerous enemy, and sign with Russia the famous treaty of Unkiar Skelessi. Death arrested Mahmud at the moment when his passion, more powerful than the injunctions of diplomacy, and excited perhaps by the feeling of his approaching end, was about to cast him into the chances of a war, of which he seemed to cling to the idea. A few days before his death he had beheld his vessels leave the Bosphorus, and saluted them with his last looks. Sultan Mahmud only needed to have been born amidst that civilisation to which he so nobly aspired, to have been a great man. But educated himself in the manners of the seraglio, he never possessed the advantage of that cultivation, which would have elevated his intelligence to the height of his will.

"Illustrations of Antiquity" consists chiefly in translations of Greek scraps, intended as illustrations of antique art, and as one means of reviving a taste for the spirit and models of antiquity. We quote the opening remarks:

We have always thought that antique art would be best illustrated by those poetical fragments of antiquity scattered through the works and remains of various classics which give us, like the ruins of Pompeii, an insight into their familiar and internal life. The materials for this design are not so scanty or insignificant as might be supposed, nor the light which art and poetry reciprocally reflect so unimportant. Our sculptors cannot carve, nor our

painters design in the spirit and taste of Grecian art, without a competent knowledge of its form of thought, and a correct and scholar-like idea of its literature. It will be seen from the inscriptions and fragmentary poems illustrative of classical art and customs which follow immediately, that classicism is not, as it is erroneously deemed to be by shallow critics, a peculiar school or shape of literature, having no intrinsic merits or superiority over what is called the Romantic (including under that denomination all written literatures, European and Oriental); but that it is a form, having its basis in the eternal relations of truth, simplicity, and nature, the harmony of the world of thought with the world of matter, the highest expression of good taste,—taste which is neither relative nor changeable, but arbitrary and eternal as the eternal fitness of things.

"The Cynical Moroseness," the article on Jamaica, and the Review of Literature, do not yield much for our present object. From the latter we get the following notice of one of the popular monthly publications of the present time:

"The Heads of the People," a series of irresistible wit, which has just attained its ninth number, may be described as one of the most original works of the day. The idea was unquestionably an admirable one, and whoever conceived it, must have an extraordinary talent for hitting off the popular weakness. Perhaps there is no country in the world, except England, which could bear to see itself thus drawn in classes, depicted faithfully with a little spice of sarcasm, and exhibited at so much a head to the wondering gaze of the whole world. But in England no man believes that he belongs to the class that happens to come under the lash of Ridicule. He has a saving clause through which he escapes, and which enables him to look on and enjoy the joke against others. It is not so much pride as selfishness that produces this confidence of security, and enables an Englishman to laugh at every one's faults except his own, and to be ready to join in the hue and cry set up against all foibles and follies, under a thorough conviction that he has none himself, or, that if he have, they cannot be detected. Like the ostrich that buries its head in the sand, and believes that nobody can see it, an Englishman muffles himself up in his self-love, and thinks he is safe from assault. The experiment of "the Heads of the People" has succeeded as it ought to do, for it is one of the most complete galleries of portraits—literary and periodical—that England has produced. A high order of talent is engaged upon it, and a very accurate judgment is exercised in assigning to each writer a character upon which his previous habits of thinking may be presumed to give him peculiar advantages. The work is as cheap as it is clever, and has already found its way into some of the languages of the continent.

GARRISON BALL.—The Commandant and Garrison gave a splendid Ball and Supper last evening at the Pavilion Barrack, to a very numerous party. The entrance was by a temporary staircase, covered with flags—the Ball Room was the Messroom of the 8th Regt. which was tastefully decorated with foreign flags, and brilliantly lighted. At the head of the room the Regimental colors of the Fusiliers with the names of many a bloody battle field inscribed upon them, reminded that those who were entertaining their friends had borne themselves bravely among their foes. The Orchestra was also a temporary erection, outside the windows, the benches having been removed. The effect of this arrangement was good, and more space was reserved for the dancers. Refreshments were provided in a room on the ground floor, which, with the stairs leading down to it, had all been covered in and prepared for the occasion. The company began to assemble about 9, and very soon after a brilliant assemblage filled, without crowding, the Ball Room—the Quadrille and Waltz were kept up with much spirit, and Mr Bennett, of the New York Herald, who sometimes prates of the "handsome men and pretty women" to be seen in that city, and has been recently running mad about the yankee girls at Saratoga, had been there, he would have confessed that there were some forms floating in the dance, and eyes sparkling with gaiety and intelligence within the pavilion, that could scarcely have been matched from Maine to Florida. The officers of the squadron were there of course; and the blue and gold uniform of the navy, with the plain garb of the civilians contrasting strongly with the gaudier dress for the military, added to the variety, and presented to the eye something like the ever changing colors and combinations of the Kaleidoscope. About one the supper room was thrown open—or rather supper rooms, for a spacious addition had been made to the western end of the mess room, so that the entire company could sit down at once. The effect of this arrangement was somewhat spoiled by the rain, which in some places dripped through the bunting roof—but the accommodation was so ample, and the viands and wines in such abundance, that but little inconvenience was experienced. Colonel Smeit, the Commandant, presided; and after the Queen's health and that of the General had been given in bumpers, and received with the usual plaudits, the Colonel gave the Admiral and squadron, and afterwards the health of Captain Pring and the officers of the Inconstant, accompanied by appropriate and complimentary expressions of regret at the departure of that fine vessel from the station. Captain Pring returned thanks with much feeling and humour,—spoke of the pleasure enjoyed here, and the regret himself and his brother officers felt at leaving a station which had so many attractions, and gave the health of the Colonel and officers of the garrison. That of the Stewards followed, and deserved the warm reception it met,—for a vast deal of labour and pains must have been required to get up an entertainment for so large a company in such capital style. The dance was resumed after supper, and kept up till a very late hour. The numbers had thinned off a little, but were not sensibly diminished even at 3 o'clock; and the papas and mamas were sadly put to it to withdraw the young and fair from the fascinations of the scene.

Extract of a letter from St. John, N. B. After some allusions to the late calamitous fire, the writer says:

"The cry is now, 'Look out or Halifax' will outstrip us with her steamboats, and we shall be left in the shade.' But it is easy discerning, that at no distant period St. John will be the greatest commercial City in Her Majesty's North American Dominions. Already with that salient energy which distinguishes our merchants, it is contemplated [by the assistance of the Legislature] to establish a line of steamers from St. John to London or Liverpool. Thus you see if this project is carried into effect, we shall eclipse Halifax even in this particular completely, as your steamboats are, I understand, to stop only a few hours at your port, making Boston their final destination; and in this Province we shall have a great influx of emigrants, passing through to Canada, and St. John will form the depot and rendezvous for the embarkation of troops to and from England."

The Gentleman whose advertisement appears in this day's impression, has requested that we notice the singular circumstance of his having written to Mr. Leonard McCormick (at whose house he boarded while at Digby) from Bridgetown the morning after he missed his pocket book, requesting him to see after, and forward it by the next mail to Halifax, with a note on the letter, to the post master at Digby, requesting him to convey it immediately to Mr. M.C.'s hands (postage paid,) without his receiving any answer relative thereto, after waiting the arrival of two mails from that place. As his name was not on the Bill, any attempt to negotiate it, must be accompanied by a Forgery.—Com.

MARRIED.

On the 6th inst. at Coldraze, Manse, Gay's River, by the Rev. R. Blackwood, Mr. John Sears, Merchant, of St. John, N.B. to Miss Ann Blackwood, eldest daughter of the above.

At Guysboro' on the 3d Sept. by the Rev. Charles J. Shreeve, Rector, Mr. John Aitkins, to Catharine, daughter of the late Murdoch Campbell, Esq.

DIED.

Suddenly, on Monday last in the 29th year of his age, Mr. Samuel Henry, a native of Yarmouth, N. S., and late Master of the Mailboat Velocity.

On Friday last, Mr. Abraham Chalk, aged 80 years.

AUCTIONS.

Cloths, Hosiery, &c.

BY DEBLOIS & MERKEL,

On MONDAY next, at 12 o'clock, at their Room,
20 pieces Superfine

Blue, Black and Invisible Green
BROAD CLOTHS,

Pilot Cloths and Kerseys, Cambric and Cotton DRESSES, Plain and Twilled; Slops, Osanburgh, Merino, Homespins, a variety of HOSIERY, Red, White, and Yellow FLANNELS, Black Silk Handkerchiefs, and Steel Side Combs.

Also, at Private Sale, a few Caska sup. VINEGAR.

2 German TIME PIECES.

Sept. 13.

BY JAMES COGSWELL,

At the Stores of Messrs. McNAB, COCHRAN & CO, Commercial Wharf, To-morrow Saturday, at 12 o'clock: to close sundry Consignments, viz:

5 HOGSHEADS BRANDY.

5 do GIN,

3 do superior SHERRY WINE,

24 bbls. Irish Mess Pork,

100 barrels GUNPOWDER,

800 lbs. SEWING TWINE,

18 pieces OSNABURGH,

17 do DUCK,

5 do BROWN HOLLAND,

5 do Coloured Do

18 boxes WINDOW GLASS 7 by 9 to 10 by 14.

September 13.

Information Wanted.

ANY INFORMATION relative to a Draft on New York for \$701 dated, "Barbados, July 10, 1839," which was contained in a RUSSIA LEATHER POCKET BOOK, supposed to have been left at Digby, or lost on the way from that place to Annapolis; will be thankfully received, and suitably rewarded, by

BENJAMIN F. F. GOODRIDGE

Apply opposite the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Halifax, Sept. 13, 1839.

Caution.

THE SUBSCRIBER hereby Cautions any person or persons trusting any of the Crew of the Barque "MARY" of London, as I will not be answerable for any debts so contracted.

Halifax, Sept. 13, 1839.

WM. PLAXTON, Master.

To the Public.

MR. PRESTON begs leave most respectfully to inform the Ladies Gentlemen and the Public in general of Halifax and its vicinity, that the THEATRE will open under his management for a very limited number of nights, during which period it will be his most anxious wish to conduct the arrangements of the Theatre in such a manner as to ensure him their patronage, by conducting to their amusement and satisfaction. For which end he has selected a company of talents and respectability, and whose conduct in public and in private life has gained them, he is proud to add, the universal kind suffrages of the St. John public,—in addition to which Mrs. Gibbs, late Miss Graddon, Prima Donna of the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden and Drury Lane; Madame La Truse of the Station Opera House, and Mr. Freer, Tragedian from the principal Theatres, London, are also engaged, and will successively make their appearances in the most Sterling Plays of our best Dramatists, and also in the popular Novelists of the day, all of which will be selected with the greatest care and judgment on his part. Under such circumstances Mr. Preston once more solicits that support and patronage, he will be proud to acknowledge with feelings of gratitude and respect.

September 6.

WINES, TEAS, SUGARS, &c.

THE SUBSCRIBER offers for sale at his Store in Market square, nearly opposite Messrs. W. A. Black & Son's Hardware Store, a general assortment of Wines and Groceries suitable for the Town and Country, which he will dispose of by wholesale or retail.

Goods sent to any part of the Town free of expense.

August 30.

3m

R. TREMAIN, Junr.

Just published, in one volume, and for sale at the several book-stores in Halifax, price 6s. 3d. in boards, with a portrait:

A MEMOIR

OF THE LATE

REV. WILLIAM BLACK,

WESLEYAN MINISTER, HALIFAX NOVA SCOTIA.

Including an account of the rise and progress of Methodism in Nova Scotia,—characteristic notices of several individuals, with copious extracts from the correspondence of the Rev. John Wesley, Rev. Dr. Coke, Rev. Freeborn Garrettson, &c.

BY MATTHEW RICHEY, M. A.

Principal of Upper Canada Academy.

SODA, MILK, WINE, AND SUGAR CRACKERS.

JUST RECEIVED by schooner Pique from New York, a large assortment of the above and other descriptions of Crackers and Biscuits—fresh from the manufactory—for sale at low prices by the barrel.

August 30.

3m

R. TREMAIN, Junr.