The Weekly Observer.

Established in 1816, Under the title of "The Star." { Whole No. 1691.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1850.

VOL. XXIII.—NO. 27.

The Observer.

Published on TUESDAY, by DONALD A. CAMERON, at his Office, corner of Prince William and Church Streets, over the Store of Messrs. Flewwelling & Reading.—TERMS: 15s. per annum, half in advance.

MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THIS Company is prepared to receive applications for Insurance against FIRE upon Buildings and other Property, at the Office of the subscriber. I. WOODWARD.

St. John, Nov. 11, 1846. *Secretary.*

NOTICE

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of The Honorable HUGH JOHNSTON, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested; and all those indebted to the same Estate, are required to make immediate payment to JOHN M. ROBINSON, one of the undersigned.

HARRIET M. JOHNSTON, *Executrix.*
HUGH B. JOHNSTON, } *Executors.*
JOHN M. ROBINSON, }

St. John, May 7, 1850.

Farmers's Company,

For Insurance against Loss or Damage by Fire and Lightning.

"Nearly six years in successful operation."

The Largest Mutual Insurance Company in the World!

GUARANTEE CAPITAL over ONE MILLION of Dollars—Charter renewed for Thirty Years.

Monthly Report of business transacted by the Washington County Mutual Insurance Company of Granville, New York, from 3d to 31st August inclusive,—

Whole number of Policies issued	3102
Do. of Applications received,	3264
Do. of do. rejected,	162

This Company has Agents throughout the United States, the Canadas and the Lower Provinces. In the Province of New Brunswick, (through the St. John agency,) the facilities afforded, and the moderate rates charged by this Company, have led to a large business, which it is designed to increase by the extension of Agencies throughout the several Counties.

Parties applying for resident or travelling Agencies will meet with good encouragement.

The standing of this Company is undoubted, as can be shown by its annual financial statements, audited by Commissioners appointed by the State of New York.

All applications for Agencies or Insurance, must be made, post paid, to CHAS. L. STREET.

Sept. 24.—3i. *General Insurance Agent.*

GAS FITTINGS.

C. & W. H. ADAMS

Have just received and now opened a good assortment of low priced Bronzed and Relieved GAS FITTINGS, for Dwelling Houses and Shops, viz:

TWO and Three-light LAMPS; Harp HALL LAMPS, to slide, plain and ornamental;
One, two and three-joint BRACKETS;
Union jet GAS BURNERS, every size;
One light PENDANTS, stationary and sliding.

PIANO and ORGAN.

MR. [illegible] Forte, Organ, and SINGING, would notify his friends and the Public, that he has REMOVED from his former residence to the house of Mr. John Armstrong, Charlotte-street, four doors north of King's Square.

Mr. C.'s terms for instruction are 30s. per quarter; and he pledges himself to give satisfaction, or no charge will be made. January 1st.

London Groceries, &c.

Now landing ex ship "Lisbon," from London—

100 CHESTS Congo TEA;
10 Hhds. Crushed LOAF SUGAR;
5 Casks Day & Martin's BLACKING;
20 Boxes BLUE STARCH; 10 kegs MUSTARD;
1 Case CANDIED PEEL; 2 cases SALAD OIL;
1 Case Old Brown WINDSOR SOAP;
1 Barrel E. I. GINGER; 10 cases ground GINGER
1 Case NUTMEGS; 2 carooteis CURRANTS;
10 Bags Black PEPPER;
29 boxes Valentia RAISINS; 1 Chest INDIGO;
1 Case MACCARONI;
1 case MACE and ISINGLASS; 1 cask Pearl SAGO

Ex Charles from Halifax:

50 Hhds. Bright Porto Rico SUGAR;
4 Cases Preserved GINGER.

For sale by JARDINE & CO.

St. John, Oct. 1, 1850.

FLOUR, &c.

Landing ex "Juverna," from New York—

100 BRLS. Superfine FLOUR,
15 kegs No. 1 TOBACCO,
10 tierces RICE.

A large assortment of CHURNS, CHEESE PRESSES, PLOUGHS, Grindstone Rollers, and AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—For Sale by [Sept. 3.] JARDINE & CO.

Pale Geneva, Tobacco Pipes.

Now landing for the Subscriber:

20 HHDS. Pale Hollands GENEVA,
80 boxes Tobacco Pipes, well assorted for this market—in boxes of each 5 and 10 gross.

For sale low by JOHN V. THURGAR.

Nov. 5. North Market Wharf.

Pressed Nails, Carpets, &c.

From Liverpool—for Sale.

40 KEGS 7d. 8d. 10d. and 14d. Pressed NAILS;
2 Bales Fine and Superfine CARPETS;
57 Slabs SPELTER.

—ALSO—

By the Venture, from Boston:

25 assorted sizes Cook STOVES;
8 dozen assorted CHAIRS;

And from New York—

[illegible]00 Pieces PAPER HANGINGS.

JOHN KINNEAR.

August 27, 1850. Prince Wm.-street.

S. K. FOSTER'S
Ladies' Fashionable SHOE Store,
GERMAIN STREET,

Next door but one to FOSTER'S *Corner.*

NEW FALL GOOD.

Just Received per Ships Estile and Thetis—

A Splendid Variety of New and Fashionable

BOOTS and SHOES,

COMPRISING

LADIES' *Jenny Lind* SHOES—for Fall;
Do. Victoria, Coronation, Hungarian, and all the Newest Styles of WALKING SHOES;
Do. White and Black Satin SLIPPERS;
Do. Black Satin BOOTS;
Do. Patent SLIPPERS, of every quality;
Do. French SHOES—assorted;
Gentlemen's French Calf and Morocco BOOTTEES;
Do. Black and Drab CLOTH BOOTS;
Ladies', Misses', and Children's CLOTH BOOTS.

☞ Further Supplies Daily expected.

S. K. FOSTER.

Oct. 1, 1850. *Germain Street.*

CORPORATION LAWS.

A LAW to regulate the FISHERIES within the City of Saint John.

Passed 4th December, 1850.
Confirmed 7th December, 1850.

I. BE *it Ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Saint John, in Common Council convened,* That if any person shall, at any time, set any Net for the purpose of catching Salmon at or below the point of the Beach or Lower Ferry at Sand Point, on the Western side of the Harbour of the said City, or on the Reef or Bar extending from the said Point, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of Ten Pounds.

II. *And be it Ordained,* That if any person shall set any Net, for the purpose of catching Salmon, between the Carleton Shore and Navy Island, on either side, which shall extend nearer to the middle of the channel than ten fathoms, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of Five Pounds.

III. *And be it Ordained,* That there shall, from time to time, be appointed by the Common Council of the said City, one or more fit person or persons on each side of the Harbour, being Freemen and Inhabitants of the said City and not employed as Fishermen, to be Directors of the Fishery within the limits of the said City, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty, and shall, at some convenient time, before the commencement of the herring fishery, point out and assign the most proper places for the hauling of Seines, within the limits of the said City, and shall determine upon the number of Seines which shall be hauled at each place so pointed out and assigned, in such manner that all persons who are owners of, and prepared to fish with Seines may be accommodated with places whereat to haul the same, and that the choice of the said places for hauling Seines, shall be drawn by the Freemen of the said City, being inhabitants, in the manner that has been heretofore accustomed, upon fourteen days' public notice being given by the said Directors, of the time and place of drawing therefor; and that those who shall choose to haul in one and the same place, shall haul in succession if present during the season, according to the priority of the numbers which they shall respectively draw; and that if any person or persons shall haul any Seine or Seines contrary to, and so as to interfere with the rules and regulations prescribed in and by this Law for hauling the same, each and every person so offending shall, for each and every offence, forfeit and pay the sum of Five Pounds.

IV. *And be it Ordained,* That the choice of places for setting Nets for the catching of Salmon on and surrounding Navy Island, shall be determined by Lot, annually, in the manner heretofore accustomed, and that the choice of places for setting such Nets, on each side of the Harbour respectfully, shall be drawn for annually by the Freemen of the said City, being Inhabitants, and by the widows of Freemen, being Inhabitants, in the manner heretofore accustomed, at some convenient time before the commencement of the Salmon Fishery, to be appointed by the Common Council, and the Directors shall give fourteen days' public notice, by advertisement, in one of the City Newspapers, of the times and places appointed for receiving the names, and for holding the drafts, and the said Directors [illegible] the said drafts, deposit the respective Books or Records thereof in the Office of the Common Clerk, and that the places for setting the said Nets respectively, agreeably to such Drafts, shall, at some convenient time before the commencement of the said Salmon Fishery, be laid out by the said Directors, and measured off with a chain, and staked, and that every person so drawing, or his assigns, shall have the sole right of setting a Net or Nets during the season in the place he shall choose by virtue of such draft, and which shall be so laid out by the Directors agreeably to such choice; and the person so choosing shall pay to the Directors the sum of One Shilling and Six Pence for each and every lot so laid out by them; and all disputes between parties claiming or interested in such lots, relative to the use and occupation thereof, shall be referred to and settled by the said Directors, or a majority of them, subject to an appeal by petition to the Common Council; and if any person shall set any Net or Nets contrary to, or so as to interfere with, the regulations of this Law for setting the same, he shall, for each and every offence, forfeit and pay the sum of Twenty Shillings.

V. *And be it Ordained,* That no person shall make use of any stone or stones for the purpose of fastening any Net below low water mark, unless the same shall be inclosed and secured in a wooden kellog, under the penalty of Twenty Shillings for each and every offence.

VI. *And be it Ordained,* That at the expiration of the Fishing Season, annually, the Directors of the Fisheries shall order the stakes, stones, and kellogs to which the said Fishing Nets shall have been affixed, to be removed and taken away to some place above high water mark, by the respective owners or persons fishing with such nets, and if any person or persons who shall have fished with such nets respectively, shall neglect and refuse to remove and take away as aforesaid, such stakes, stones, and kellogs, when so ordered, every person so offending, shall, for each and every offence, forfeit and pay the sum of Five Pounds.

VII. *And be it Ordained,* Provided that nothing in this Law shall extend or be construed to extend, to prevent fishing with nets at a stake or post set up and fixed near the said Beach, or lower or Sand Point Ferry Point, and to the Westward and Southward of a line running from the said stake to the Westernmost point of Partridge Island, agreeably to the limitations in the Charter of the said City, so that no such net shall extend to the Eastward of such line.

VIII. *And be it Ordained,* That if any Director shall refuse, neglect, or omit to insert in any Draft of the Fishery the name of any person entitled to a draft, if such person shall require the same, either personally or in writing, or by any agent, on any day within the time limited for that purpose in the notice of the Directors and at the place therein specified, between the hours of ten in the morning and four in the afternoon, provided such person so demanding the same, do pay or tender to the Director on whom such demand shall be made, One Shilling for inserting such name, the Director so refusing, neglecting, or omitting to comply therewith, shall, for each and every offence, forfeit and pay a fine of Forty Shillings, which sum, after the recovery thereof, shall be paid by the Chamberlain to the person whose names shall have been so omitted.

IX. *And be it Ordained,* That all monies received by the Directors for inserting the names in the said Fishery Draft, as aforesaid, shall be paid into the hands of the Chamberlain, to be by him paid and applied as the Common Council shall from time to time order and direct; and that the Directors shall receive for their services in addition to the fees allowed them for laying off Lots, such sum as the Common Council shall direct.

X. *And be it Ordained,* That it shall be the duty of the Directors, immediately after the closing of the Books on the last day of receiving the names, to hand the said Books to the Mayor, or Recorder, who, with any two or more of the Aldermen or Councillors of the said City, shall examine the same, and strike out all such names as have no right to a draft, and if any Director shall suffer the name of any person not being entitled thereto, to be inserted in any Fishery Draft after such examination, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of Five Pounds for each and every offence.

XI. *And be it Ordained,* That in case any name or names shall be inserted in any Draft, which ought not to be so inserted, the Draft shall not be made over again; but the name or names improperly admitted, shall be struck out by order of the Mayor, Recorder, and any two Aldermen or Councillors, as aforesaid, and the number drawn by any such person whose name shall be improperly admitted, shall fall to the person drawing the next inferior number, and his to the next, and so on in succession.

XII. *And be it Ordained,* That if any person not being a Freeman and Inhabitant of the said City, shall Fish the Fisheries within the limits of the said City, or shall use, occupy or employ any Net, Seine, or other implement, in taking fish within the said City, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of Five Pounds.

XIII. *And be it Ordained,* That no Drift Net shall be used after the tenth day of June in any year, for the purpose of catching fish, in any part of the Harbour of Saint John, on the Westerly side of Partridge Island, nor within or to the Northward of straight lines to be drawn, the one from a point, commonly called Black Point, on the Western side of the said Harbour, to the most Westerly point on the said Island, and the other from the most Easterly point on the same Island to a point called Lower Battery Point, on the Eastern side of the said Harbour, under the penalty of Ten Pounds for each and every offence,

XIV. *And be it Ordained,* That all fines, penalties and forfeitures imposed in and by this Law, shall and may be prosecuted and recovered by and in the name of the Chamberlain of the said City for the time being, upon conviction of the offender, before the Mayor, or Recorder, or any one of the Aldermen of the said City, upon the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, the confession of the party offending, or the view of the said Mayor, Recorder, or Alderman before whom such conviction shall be had, or by action of debt in any Court of competent jurisdiction to be prosecuted, or in any other lawful method to be obtained, in the manner and for the uses directed in and by the Charter of the said City, to be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of the said Mayor, Recorder, or Alderman, as aforesaid, and for want of sufficient distress, the offender shall be committed to the Common Gaol, there to be imprisoned for twenty days.

A LAW to prevent Persons DOING BUSINESS within the City of Saint John, without being Freemen or duly Licensed.

Passed 25th November, 1850.
Confirmed 7th December, 1850.

I. BE *it Ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Saint John in Common Council convened,* That if any person, not being a Free Citizen of the said City, or not being duly Licensed by the Mayor, shall after due warning, as required by the Charter of the said City, at any time use any art, trade, mystery or occupation within the said City, or shall carry on any business in merchandise or otherwise, within the said City, contrary to the said Charter, or any Bye Law or Ordinance of the said City, he shall, for each and every offence, forfeit and pay the sum of Five Pounds, to be sued for, prosecuted and recovered by and in the name of the Chamberlain of the said City for the time being, upon conviction of the offender, before the Mayor, or Recorder, or any one of the Aldermen of the said City, upon the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, the confession of the party offending, or the view of the said Mayor, Recorder, or Alderman before whom such conviction shall be had, or by action of debt in any Court of competent jurisdiction to be prosecuted, or in any other lawful method to be obtained, in the manner and for the uses directed in and by the Charter of the said City, to be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of the said Mayor, Recorder, or Alderman, as aforesaid, and for want of sufficient distress, the offender shall be committed to the Common Gaol, there to be imprisoned for twenty days.

A LAW in addition to a Law entitled "A Law to PREVENT NUISANCES in the City of Saint John."

Passed 25th November, 1850.
Confirmed 7th December, 1850.

BE *it Ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Saint John in Common Council convened,* That if any person or persons shall haul or draw, or cause to be hauled or drawn, upon any Street, Lane, Alley, Highway, Public Wharf, or Square in this City, any Timber, Lumber, Stone or other thing, otherwise than upon wheeled carriages, (or in the winter season upon sleds,) or if any person or persons shall suffer any Timber, Lumber, Stone, or other thing, which shall be carried principally or in part upon wheeled carriages or sleds, to drag or trail upon such Street, Lane, Alley, Highway, Wharf or Square, to the damage, injury, or prejudice thereof, or if any person or persons shall use any drag, tipstick, or other instrument, for the purpose of retarding the descent of any cart or other carriage down any hill, in such manner as to destroy, injure, or disturb the surface of any Street, every person so offending, in any of the cases aforesaid, shall, for each and every such offence, forfeit and pay the sum of Twenty Shillings, to be sued for, prosecuted and recovered by and in the name of the Chamberlain of the said City for the time being, upon conviction of the offender, before the Mayor, or Recorder, or any one of the Aldermen of the said City, upon the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, the confession of the party offending, or the view of the said Mayor, Recorder, or Alderman before whom such conviction shall be had, or by action of debt in any Court of competent jurisdiction to be prosecuted, or in any other lawful method to be obtained, in the manner and for the uses directed in and by the Charter of the said City, and shall and may be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of the said Mayor, or Recorder, or Alderman as aforesaid, and in case sufficient goods and chattels cannot be found whereon to levy, the said offender shall be committed to the Common Gaol of the City and County of Saint John, there to be imprisoned for eight days.

SUGAR, &c.

The Subscriber has just received, and now in course of landing:—

25 CHESTS Souchong TEAS, of superior quality, suitable for family use:
50 chests London Fine CONGOU;
10 hhds. Bright quality SUGAR.

JOHN V. THURGAR.

Nov. 5. North Market Wharf.

Miscellaneous.

Here's Merry Christmas come again.

BY ELIZA COOK.

Here's merry Christmas come again,
With all it ever used to bring.
The mistletoe and carol strain,
The holly in the window pane,
And all the bloom from hill and plain
That Winter's chilly hand can fling.

It must be welcomed with a song,
Though nothing new may fill the ditty;
Old-fashioned feelings may be wrong,
But prejudice is very strong,
And dear old Christmas, wou'd so long,
Shall find us faithful, if not witty.

It comes with roar of city bells;
It comes with many a village chime;
And many a village grand-dame tells
Of places where the white ghost dwells,
Of demon forms and robbers' cells,
And all the tales for Christmas time.

It comes with music in the hall,
That stirs the old man in his chair,
And when the midnight measures fall,
He'll lead the blithest dance of all,
Spurning alike the chimney wall,
And seventy years of wear and tear.

It comes with frolic, feast, and mirth,
It sings the chaunts it used to sing,
And makes the yule log on the hearth
An altar forge, where links of earth,
That, bound and broke, in strongest girth
Are welded fast in Memory's ring.

Here's merry Christmas; and methinks,
Although it seems an olden story,
There's something pleasant in the winks
Of blue-eyed fire that boils and blinks,
Mocking the palm that snaps and shrinks
Above the tempting plumes of glory.

Here's merry Christmas; and it seems
To call back Childhood to the breast,
With kindly words and laughing screams,
With leaping steps that shake the beams,
With merry games and happy dreams,
And all of Life that's bright and blest.

Bring fragrant bay with laurel tied,
Bring shining chestnuts—how we'll roast 'em;
Bring forth the bowl in wassail pride,
Bring sack and brown ale, side by side,
Bring foaming flip in endless tide,
Bring friends around—and how we'll toast 'em;

Here's merry Christmas come again;
Cling heart to heart and hand to hand,
"Love one another," was the strain
Of Him who never taught in vain;
And let it sound o'er hill and plain,
And rule the feast in every land.

THE COUNTRY.

Would you be strong? go follow the plough;
Would you be thoughtful? study fields and flowers;
Would you be wise? take on yourself a vow,
To go to school in Nature's sunny bowers.
Fly from the City! nothing there can charm—
Seek wisdom, strength, and virtue on a farm.

LIVES OF THE QUEENS OF SCOTLAND AND ENGLISH PRINCESSES,

Connected with the Regal Succession of Great Britain. By Agnes Strickland. Vol. I. William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London.

MARGARET TUDOR.

The careful and accomplished authoress of the "Lives of the Queens of England" enters, in the volume before us, upon the delineation of the manners and characters of an epoch, most interesting both to English and Scottish readers: and which has hitherto been little explored either by the biographer or the novelist. The former especially know little of the private history of the period in question, although one of great national importance, inasmuch as it furnished England with the germ of a new dynasty, and prepared the way for that fusion of the then, and for centuries previously, hostile kingdoms of England and Scotland into a united empire, commencing by the accession of the Stuart, James the First, to the British throne. The first biography presented to us in this volume is that of Margaret Tudor, sister to our own Henry the Eighth, and married to the chivalrous Scottish monarch, James the Fourth. A brief sketch of the career of this princess will enable the reader more easily to appreciate the extracts which we shall have to give from the work itself. Margaret Tudor was the eldest daughter of Henry the Seventh—the *Richmond* of Shakspeare's play of "Richard the Third"—and Elizabeth of York. At the time of her birth the enmity existing between the two countries had reached to a fearful pitch; and the inroads committed by our Scottish neighbors were a sore annoyance to England, and had been especially damaging during the wars of the roses.—Under these circumstances it occurred to the English monarch, that a permanent peace might possibly be secured by a matrimonial alliance being formed between the royal families of the two countries; and, accordingly, at an early age, Margaret was betrothed to James the Fourth, the gallant and accomplished Prince of Scotland, at that time grown up to man's estate. Such a marriage could not be expected to be conducive to connubial happiness; and it was nearly prevented from taking place by James's private espousal of the lady Margaret Drummond, who, after bearing him a daughter, was, along with her two sisters, poisoned, it was said, by a rival aspirant to the heart of her husband. On the death of this first wife, the connexion previously devised for him was forced upon him by his Privy Council; and in the month of June, 1503, the young princess started off upon her journey to join the husband selected for her. The "progress" of Margaret, as described by the chroniclers, presents a curious contrast to that of Sovereigns in the present day of Railway and Steam locomotion. We give here a portion of it:—

"Before the Queen arrived at Hexham, she met Sir Ralph Bowes and Sir William Aylton, with a fair company in their liveries; and at Hexham, without the gate, she was received by the abbess and her *religieuses*, bearing their cross. It was then the Bishop of Durham who handed her the cross to kiss—a ceremony which seems to have been of constant occurrence. Her bed was prepared that night at Darnton. Two miles before she drew nigh to the town, Sir William Bulmer, Sheriff of the bishopp of Durham, met her in company with Sir William Ewers, and many people of honor of that country, who, in brave order, conveyed her to Darnton. At the gate of the church stood richly vested the Vicar and his folk of the church; and she was led to the manor of the Bishop of Durham to sleep that night. The next noon being the 20th of July, the Queen, a mile from Durham, was encountered by Sir Richard Stanley, and my lady his wife, with folk in their livery, on horseback, to the number of fifty; and the bride Queen prepared herself to enter the said town, very richly arrayed, in her usual manner. And all her escort attired themselves very grandly. As for the Earl of Northumberland, he wore a gown of goodly tinsel furred with ermines. He was mounted on a fair courser, his harnass was of goldsmith's work: all over 'that same' was sewn small bells, making a melodious noise when he moved: and he did not spare gambades. His gentlemen of honor were dressed in long jackets of taffavery, very richly wrought with his devices, as were all his folk.' In short, our Somerset Herald indubitably considered my lord of Northumberland at once the great man and the beau of the bridal escort; nor is he ever weary of describing his tinsel jackets and gold gowns, the gambades he perpetuated, or the little bells (campanes) that chimed, sweetly tuned in unison, whenever the equestrian capers were cut. He viewed this young lord with favour, perhaps, because he entertained an officer at arms for the especial service of his noble line, called Northumberland Herald, who gave his quaint assistance on this grand progress. My lord of Northumberland, thus replete with bells and tinsel, in the spring time of his youth, was no other than that solemn and consequential personage whose proceedings in his old age have been so graphically described by Cavendish, who draws no very pleasing picture of my lord of Northumberland, when he nipped in the bud the passion of his son Lord Percy, with the fair maid of honour, Anne Boleyn. Queen Margaret lodged in the castle at Durham under the immediate protection of the Bishop; and she reposed there until the 24th of July, when she commenced her journey to Newcastle. She made her toilet afresh a mile before she entered that town, in which her reception was unusually brilliant; for besides the religious processions, with their banners and crosses upon the bridge-end gate, were many children vested in white surplices, who sang melodious hymns, and played on instruments of divers sorts. The streets were hung with tapestry, and all the window loops and ship tops were full of people;' and 'there were gentlemen and gentlewomen in such great numbers it was a pleasure to see. However, no artillery or ordnance was shot off'—a remarkable omission as our herald thought. 'But in state and fair array was the Queen brought to her lodging at the Friars Austin: and when she had entered, every man departed to his own dwelling.' The festival of St. James, the patron and name-saint of Queen Margaret's wedded lord, was very gaily celebrated at Newcastle, that 25th of July. 'She abode all day in the town, and was at the church-mass nobly accompanied.'

The Earl of Northumberland, with his "small bells making a melodious noise when he moved," must have been a truly courtly gentleman.

Her reception by James was worthy of so distinguished a knight and sovereign: and notwithstanding the disparity of age between them, the union might have been attended by moderate happiness had there not been a still greater disparity in their respective tastes and temperaments. "The series of flatteries," says her biographer, "she had experienced in her bridal tour, had only puffed up the vanity and presumption to which the female character at that age (fourteen) is peculiarly liable. The sedulous attentions and little fond indulgences with which her accomplished lord had humanely endeavoured to soothe and console her for her removal from her country and parent, were all utterly thrown away on a thankless and murmuring spirit." Nor did the object for which the marriage had been contracted appear to be at all realized.—Driven by the discomforts of his domestic position almost to desperation, James rushed into feuds with his powerful nobles, and ultimately into a quarrel with England, which, together with the life of the monarch himself, came to an issue upon the fatal field of Flodden. At the age of twenty-four, Margaret was left a widow, with one child, afterwards James the Fifth, during whose minority she was to exercise the office of Regent, aided by the Lord Chancellor, James Beton, Archbishop of Glasgow, the Earls of Arran, Huntley, and Angus.

From this period the bad qualities in Margaret's character rapidly developed themselves, the most prominent being a grasping love of money, consummate treachery, and a gross disregard to the sanctity of the marriage vow. On the accession of Henry VIII., her brother, to the English throne, she became his unwearied correspondent, her letters consisting principally of importunate demands for money, as the reward for repeated betrayals of the best interests of the country committed to her keeping, and of the rights of her young son. At the same time, she maintained an equally dishonest and begging correspondence with the Regent Albany, and with others of the Scottish party. Her whole career, indeed, up to her death, appears to have been one of constant meanness, rapacity, ingratitude, and unpatriotic intrigue.

The work displays great research and historical knowledge: and we anticipate much pleasure and information from the series. In particular, we look with great interest to Miss Strickland's biography of Mary Stuart, respecting whose unfortunate career we are assured that she is in possession of many documents which have not as yet been made public.

BIOGRAPHY OF DR. WISEMAN.—Cardinal Wiseman is now in his forty-ninth year, having been born on the 2nd of August, 1802. He is descended from an Irish family, long settled in Spain. At an early age he was brought to England, and sent for his education to St. Cuthbert's Catholic College, at Ushaw near Durham. At the age of eighteen he published in Latin a work on the Oriental languages, and he bore off the gold medal at every competition of the colleges of Rome. The cardinal came to England after he had reached manhood in 1835, and in the winter of that year delivered a series of lectures on the Sundays in Advent. From the moment of his arrival he attracted attention, and soon became a conspicuous teacher and writer on the side of the Catholics. In Lent, 1836, he vindicated, in a course of lectures—delivered at St. Mary's, Moorfields—the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church; and gave so much satisfaction to his co-religionists, that they presented him with a gold medal, struck by Mr. Scipio Clint, to express their esteem and gratitude, and commemorate the event. He was afterwards appointed President of St. Mary's College, Oscott, and contributed by his teaching and his writings very much to promote the spread of Roman Catholicism in England. He was a contributor to the *Dublin Review*, and the author of some controversial pamphlets. The cardinal's second visit to Rome led to further preferment. He was made Pro-Vicar Apostolic of the London district in place of Dr. Griffiths, deceased. On the death of Dr. Walsh, in 1849, he became Vicar-Apostolic of the London district. To him the Roman Catholic body acknowledges itself indebted for the completion and dedication of the cathedral in St. George's-fields. His success in negociating the re-establishment of the Roman hierarchy in England gratified his Holiness. In a Consistory held on the 30th of September, Nicholas Wiseman was elected to the dignity of cardinal, by the title of Saint Prudentia, and was appointed Archbishop of Westminster. Under the Pope he is the head of the Roman Catholic Church in England, and a Prince of the Church of Rome. Cardinal Wiseman is the seventh English Cardinal—if he can be called English, having been born in Spain, and passed the greater part of his life in Rome—since the Reformation. The other six were Pole, Allen, Howard, York (a son of the Pretender, who was never in England), Weld, and Acton (a member of an English family, we believe, long settled in Naples.)

AGES OF THE NOBILITY.—The eldest Archbishop is the Archbishop of Armagh, aged 77; the youngest is the Archbishop of York, aged 62. The eldest Duke is the Duke of Hamilton, aged 84; the youngest is the Duke of St Albans, aged 10. The eldest Marquis is the Marquis of Hunley, aged 99; the youngest is the Marquis of Bute, aged 3. The eldest Earl is the Earl of Bantry, born Aug 5, 1767, aged 83. (The Earl of Cork was born Oct. 21, 1767, and the Earl of Portsmouth was born Dec 18, 1767.) The youngest Earl is the Earl of Dunmore, aged 9. The eldest Viscount is Viscount St. Vincent, aged 84; the youngest is Viscount Hood.— The eldest bishop is the Bishop of Durham, aged 80; the youngest is the Bishop of Down, aged 42. The eldest Baroness is the Baron Berners, aged 98; the youngest is Baron Louth, aged 19. The oldest baronet is Sir Charles V. Hudson 95; the youngest is Sir Reginald Lea Okes, aged 3.

MASSACRE ON BOARD THE FRENCH SHIP ALBERT.—Our issue of the 24th August recorded the departure of the French ship Albert, of Dieppe, Capt. Jean Pain, from Cumsingmoon, for the west coast of South America. That vessel was chartered to carry 180 coolies, some of whom, shipped for Don D. Elias, through the firm of A. A. Ritchie & Co., received previous to departure the sum of $8 each, repayable out of a salary of $4 per month, accruing on their arrival at Lima, for services to be rendered as general servants, the contract being made for a period of five years.

Besides the captain, chief mate, boatswain, cook, and a crew of six seamen, there were two passengers on board.

In lat. 32 N., lon. 139 E., on the 7th inst., about 6 A. M., the coolies, who had secretly possessed themselves of arms, rose *en masse*. The captain, driven from his cabin to the top of the round house, had his throat cut and was thrown overboard immediately. One of the passengers was murdered in his cabin, the cook shared the same fate in his galley, and the mate, chased up into the maintop, seeing no chance of escape, desperately precipitated himself among the miscreants, one of whom he killed instanter and desperately wounded another. The poor fellow was immediately despatched and consigned to the deep. The boatswain, Luis Argentine, was then directed to steer the ship back to China, and the course was altered from N. N. E. to S. by W. accordingly.

Five days afterwards, in lat. 28 N. lon. 133°37 E., a severe gale was experienced from the S. E., veering to S. S. W., during which the topgallant masts went over the side. On Thursday, off Pinghoy, a pilot went on board, who was directed by the Chinese to steer for Canton. One hundred of them left the vessel in the first boats going along side. Forty left yesterday morning, and the remaining forty came into this harbour with the vessel in the afternoon, when they were immediately taken from her to the police station.

She is in a sad state. Packages of silk shawls, lacquered ware, vermilion, medicines, &c., have been broken open and divided into lots, of which several still remain on board. Before leaving, some of them very quietly removed the barometer, a chronometer, and compass from the captain's cabin, and took them away altogether.

Twenty-four of them are supposed to have arrived here as soon as the vessel. Four men were captured by our indefatigable Deputy Superintendent of Police, Mr. Caldwell, just as they were leaving for Macao. Their packs, containing silk shawls, and agreements with the Albert, leave no doubt as to their being part of the gang.—*Overland Friend of China, Sept. 28.*

SYRIA.—*Disturbances.*—A letter from Beyrout, Nov. 4th, says—"For some years past the Turkish government have been desirous of subjecting the Syrian population to the recruitment system; but so great was the dissatisfaction the idea caused among the people, that it refrained from doing so. At last, in September, it determined to execute the design, and it began operations. The people murmured: and bands of armed men, commanded by the Emirs Mahomet and Hassan, of the family of Harfourch, commonly known as the Emirs of Baalbeck, advanced towards Damascus, but were dispersed by the Turkish troops. It was believed that, after this, the recruiting would take place quietly, but the two Emirs re-appeared at the beginning of October, in the environs of Damascus, at the head of between 3000 and 4000 men. A corps of the regular army, consisting of two battalions of infantry, two squadrons of cavalry, four guns, and four hundred irregulars, under Mustapha Pacha, marched to meet them, and succeeded on the 10th of October in surrounding them in the defiles near Moloulah, six hours distance from Damascus. The rebels were obliged to give battle, and were completely defeated, with a loss of 1000 men; the two Emirs were captured. The loss of the troops was only 30 men. The village of Maloulah is inhabited principally by Christians: and the Turkish soldiers, exasperated with the resistance they made, pillaged some houses, carried off women, killed a Catholic monk, wounded another, and so seriously wounded a schismatic Greek bishop, that he died. They also completely sacked two convents, pretending that they contained gunpowder, and that insurgents had taken refuge in them. M. de Valbezene, the French consul at Damascus, exerted himself on behalf of the Christians, and, through his intervention, the seraskier of the army of Arabia promised assistance to the villages, and ordered the troops forthwith to give up all the articles taken from the churches and convents. The day after the battle, the Emirs were made to walk through the streets of Damascus in their shirts, with irons on their feet, and street brooms on their shoulders. They were to have been subjected to the same punishment during five days, but suddenly they were sent off to Beyrout, from whence they were to be forwarded to Constantinople. This measure was taken in consequence of the breaking out of the revolt at Aleppo. Immediately after, the seraskier proceeded with his troops by forced marches to Aleppo. The greatest secrecy was observed, and it was not until eight days after that the people of Damascus learned that there had been a rising at Aleppo, and that it had been suppressed. The two insurrections took place in consequence of a combined plan, and the Aleppo insurgents only yielded when they were informed of the defeat of the insurgents at Maloulah. The situation would have been a serious one for the Turkish government if, by the energy of the seraskier of the army of Arabia, the revolts had not been promptly crushed."

CHOLERA IN THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA.—A letter of Nov. 30th from Kingston, Jam., in the N. Y. Evening Post, gives the following information:

The cholera has been an awful visitation to us. In this city of 40,000, about one tenth of the population have fallen. In the small town of Port Royal upwards of one fourth have died; and in Spanish Town there has been nearly a like proportion. It has in a great measure subsided here. The deaths have diminished from 250 a day, probably the maximum of only one day's mortality, to 27, which I believe was that of last night. In Port Royal it wholly subsided eight or ten days ago, and it is nearly as altogether the same in Spanish Town.—It is raging in other districts, and I doubt not that though it is about leaving Kingston and its vicinity, that it will accomplish a deadly work in other districts ere it be exhausted. The mortality has been chiefly among the lower classes. The negroes, in their low, filthy houses, with their bad habits, and disadvantages of all sorts, have been the chief victims. There have been comparatively few deaths of persons in good positions; but these have been increasing latterly, and we all still live under considerable apprehension.

TO DAY.—It is the golden fruit which hangs within my reach. I may pluck it, and secure its blessings. It has duties which cannot be done to-morrow, and privileges which never will be found in the future. The wise man will not leave until to-morrow what he can do to day, but will improve the present opportunity. If he has a soul to save, a heaven to gain, a race to run, a crown to win, he will make the most of the present moment. 'To-day,' will be his motto. 'To-day,' will his efforts be put forth; and if possible, his success will be secured to-day. *Yesterday* is gone, bearing with it all its joys, and griefs; *to-morrow* has not come: may never come. *To day* I have—*to-day* I will improve.