

[FOR THE BEE.]

MR DAWSON,

Sir,—The Schoolmasters in this County, many of whom come some distance for the Provincial aid, cry aloud for redress. They are told by the Clerk, (Mr M. Smith,) that the money is not received from the Treasury. He still admits that Mr Hockin has advanced, and that some of the Masters are paid. At this late date we should be thankful to know through your useful paper, how and when we are to receive our dues, and whether at this late date it is according to the Act.

A. MCKAY, AND OTHERS.

19th June, 1837.

P.S. My time lost, and expenses, seeking after my dividend, is 23½ per cent. on the sum already.

[FOR THE BEE.]

MR DAWSON,

Sir,—I would like to ascertain through the medium of your paper, whether any law exists to regulate the quantity and quality of Bakers' Bread in this town. In all towns the doings of the Bakers are subject to weekly enquiry and regulation.

I have cause for concluding, that some of the damaged rice lately sold here, is now qualifying some of our Bakers' bread. Poison, nausea, and head-ache, have been felt as the consequence.

While passing by, I have been credibly informed by an eye witness, that a large trough of this stuff, baked and reduced, has been introduced for use into a bake-house, a few days since. I hope, according to your advice, that people will see the necessity of baking their own bread.

TRUTH.

Pictou, June, 1837.

Remarks.—We would not wish to create any unnecessary alarm about the quality of bread from Bakers' Shops, particularly at this time, when the people are more than ordinarily dependant on these establishments, for their daily supply of that necessary article; and therefore, we hope our Correspondent has been misinformed. At the same time, we deem it to be our duty to publish the following sketch of the Law, from "Murdoch's Epitome," in order that the people may see the manner in which our public functionaries discharge the duty they have sworn to perform, in regard to the quantity and quality of bread. We have not heard of the assize of bread being fixed for some years, though flour has been at all imaginable prices. The people are thus left to the tender mercies of the Bakers.

Should these remarks produce no investigation of the evils complained of, we shall again revert to the subject at an early day.—Editor.

"The assize of bread is regulated by the act of 1796, 36, G. 3. c. S. 1, P. L. 371; made perpetual by act of 1807. 48, G. 3, c. 22 2, P. L. 22. By this law whenever the price of flour varies 1s. in the cwt. from that at which the preceding rate was established, the sessions, general or special, are authorised to fix the weight of the different kinds of bread according to a table given in the act which is calculated to settle the just allowance for the baking of the bread. The qualities of bread allowed to be made, are settled in the act, and no others are suffered to be sold under penalty of from 5s. to 20s.

"To enable the justices to set the assize, it is made incumbent on the clerks of the market, if directed, to notify the prices of flour and meal, from time to time, to the sessions. The book in which the returns and entries are kept of the prices at which sales are effected, is to

be open to the inspection of all bakers, in order that they may object to the entries when they are incorrect. Penalties between 40s. and 60s. are fixed on bakers, who put any improper ingredients or musty flour into their loaves, or otherwise deviate from the regular mode of making good bread. If journeymen offend in this respect their fine is from 20s. to 40s. and in either case the parties, if they do not pay the fine, on conviction before one justice may be imprisoned in the house of correction from 7 to 14 days, and the offenders' names are directed to be published in the newspapers.

"Deficient bread sold or exposed for sale by the baker, exposes him to a penalty of from 1s. to 5s. for each ounce wanting on every loaf. If the deficiency be less than an ounce, then the fine is from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per loaf. The weighing is to take place 24 hours after it is baked, to make the baker liable, and he is excused when unavoidable accident or the tricks of others cause his bread to be deficient.

"Bakers are bound to mark all their bread with their own christian and surnames, and the initial letters of the grain of which it is made, in Roman characters under a fine of from 5s. to 20s. recoverable before one or more justices.—The clerks of the market are bound to pay a weekly visit to bakers shops. They as well as justices and constables having justices' warrants are authorized in the day time to enter any baker's premises or those of persons who sell bread, and to weigh and inspect bread, and seize all that is in any way bad or deficient, and the penalty for obstructing or opposing such search of from 20 to 40s.—If the baker can prove the defect for which he is fined, to have been caused by the wilful neglect or default of his journeyman or servant, a justice of peace may order the offender to make a reasonable compensation to his employer, and if he fail to do so, may commit him to the house of correction for a month. Any one justice may adjudge on offences against the act, but an appeal is given in all cases to the Quar. Sessions. In prosecutions against persons who have acted in pursuance of this law, the defendants if successful are entitled to treble costs; and all prosecutions for violation of the act must be brought within three days."

FOREIGN.

MADEIRA.—The following interesting account of this country, was written on the 17th Dec. last, by a person arrived there from N. York.

The island is a mass of volcanic mountains towering over the inhabitants, who seldom occupy higher than 2000 feet, or half way. The population of Funchal is about 20,000 to 25,000; that of the Island about 120,000. The farmers occupy small lots, even more densely than in Ireland; a quarter of an acre, an eighth in favourable situations, produce grapes sufficient to pay their rents, and buy wheat bread, and salt fish, which is their principal food. The people neither read nor write, and it appears they are in the interest of Don Miguel. We have in Funchal Roads the English sloop of war Pearl, twenty guns, Captain Nurse, employed in cruising round the island, with the Portuguese brig Velasco, and some smaller craft. A regiment of Lisbon troops, (6th,) occupy the ci-devant convents and Jesuits' property, amongst the finest in Funchal; besides, there is a conscription of 2000 islanders, and a line of telegraphs all round the island, with sentries who are incessantly calling out in the night time; and there are besides hosts of custom house officers, who exercise their authority against olive oil, soap, tobacco, &c., the revenues from which the Government lets out, but the duties are so high, that little is raised.

The soil here is productive. Drought has prevailed nine months; the winter so far is exceedingly fine: the thermometer stood at noon at 63 and 70 degrees, with a strong north-east wind. Among the trees new to me were the palm, the cyprus, the banana, the guava, the fig, the orange, the lemon, the cane used to trail grapes on, the Brizal cane—a beautiful pendant tree—and the VINE, which is grown from points distant from each other about four feet in all directions, then trailed eight or ten feet in height, as a protection against the heat of summer; the grapes hanging over the heads of the inhabitants, who have walks underneath. The jessamine and the rose are in full bloom, and some of the finest arbours imaginable are met with at the entrances of the houses of the wealthy, all in full verdure. Yet the leaves of the northern trees have fallen, such as the button wood and weeping willow.

The houses of both Portuguese and the English are good, built of stone, and well furnished. They are polite, and dress like other Europeans. The lower classes have a blue jacket, and peaked blue cloth cap which covers half the head, and neither shelters from cold or heat. They are well formed, active and civil to every body. We hear of no cold blooded murders. There are fewer prisoners in Funchal, for the whole Island, by three fourths than in Quebec. The houses generally in this country are about 10 to 15 feet by 8 to 10, covered with wheaten straw, the produce of the Island—wheat being cultivated to some extent—with potatoes of a good quality, pumpkins, and prickly pears. These houses have a window or two without glass, but board shutters, and doors; and families appear to be less numerous than in other countries; probably because the women perform a great part of the hard labor in ascending and descending the mountains with loads.

TO BE SOLD,

BY JAMES DAWSON, AT PUBLIC AUCTION,

Before the Court House in Pictou, on Friday, the 23d day of June, at ten o'clock, a. m.

SEVEN LOTS, marked A, C, D, E, F, G, and H, on a plan of the late Mr Mortimer's Estate to be seen at Mr Dawson's, and exhibited at the sale. They contain about

TWO ACRES EACH,

and as they lie within a short distance of the Town, are well adapted for building or gardens. Possession will be given at the end of the year. The title is an exceptionable.

Terms—A deposit of ten per cent at the sale; 25 per cent more on delivery of the deed; the remainder with interest, in two years, to be secured by bond and mortgage.

AT THE SAME TIME,

Will be offered for Sale:—

FIVE HUNDRED ACRES OF LAND,

Belonging to the heirs of the late John Tullos, lying on the northern side of River John, and bounded by lands granted to Robert Patterson and others.

Terms—A deposit of ten per cent at the sale; the remainder on delivery of the deed.

WM. YOUNG.

Pictou, May 1 1837.

A YOUNG LADY, is desirous of obtaining a situation as Instructress to young Children, or as attendant on an elderly lady. She would have no objections to travel, or living in the Country. Apply to William Lawson, jun'r. Esq., Halifax. June 14.

WANTED,

A SMART Young Man, as a

FARM SERVANT.

Apply to George Craig, 10 Mile House, West River. [June 5.]