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1853

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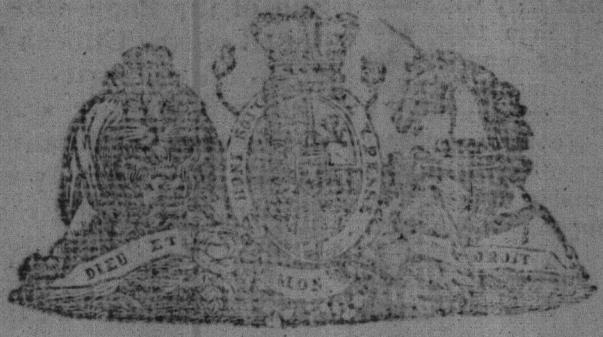
...RY TAYLOR,
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185

...at the Office of

THE

AND CONCEPTION BAY JOURNAL.



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No. 240.

Harbour Grace, Conception Bay, Newfoundland.—Printed and Published by JOHN THOMAS BURTON, at his Office, opposite Mr. W. Dixon's.

"The destiny of the children of the adopted son of the Emperor Napoleon," says the *Commerce*, "is worthy of remark. One of the sons of the Prince of Eugenie, Beauharnois became the consort of Donna Maria, Queen of Portugal, and the other son, the Duke of Enghien, was the victim of the Emperor's jealousy. The other son, the Duke of Nemours, was thrown into prison."

A sergeant of artillery at Leghorn has made an addition to the common carbine or musket, by means of which twenty balls may be discharged from it with equal force, and in whatever direction it is wished, in eighty seconds. He has also applied his invention to pistols, from which seven balls may be discharged in the same interval of time; and has constructed the model of a howitzer, which will discharge 2550 musket balls in eighty seconds, in one direction, or in seven, if required. The experiments made with this invention are said to have fully established its merit, though it has this drawback, that the firing cannot be checked until every ball is discharged. The inventor, by name Luigi Pierantoni, says he can obviate this defect without any difficulty.—*United Service Journal*.

ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS OF TEXAS.—A traveller recently returned from an exploring expedition to the region in Texas, near the mouth of the San Saba, gives an account of an interesting natural curiosity which he encountered. The banks of the San Saba river were followed by a party of twelve men, to the distance of forty miles above its confluence with the Colorado, no Indians appeared to molest them during the excursion. The traveller describes the country on this stream and the Colorado, below and between its mouth and the foot of the mountains, as being the finest he had ever seen. The valleys are generally broad and covered with a growth of very large timber, in which the oak predominates. Some specimens of gold and silver were found in the mountains. The country closely resembles the gold region of Georgia. The Enchanted or Holy Mountain is situated on the head waters of the Sandy, a small tributary of the Colorado, about eighty miles from Bastrop, in a north-westerly direction. It is about three hundred feet high, and appears to be an enormous oval rock, partly embedded in the earth. When the sun shines, the light is reflected from its polished surface as from an immense mirror, and the whole mountain glows

with such a dazzling radiance, that the beholder that views it from a distance of even four or five miles, is unable to gaze upon it without experiencing a painful sensation, similar to that which is felt in attempting to look upon the sun. The ascent of this hill is so very gradual, that persons can very easily walk up to the top; but the rock is so smooth and slippery, that those who make the attempt are obliged to wear moccasins or stockings instead of shoes.—This fact, together with the name of the place, Holy Mountain, remind the visitant forcibly of the command made to Moses, at Mount Horeb, "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet," etc. The Comanches regard this hill with religious veneration, and Indian pilgrims frequently assemble from the remotest borders of the region, to perform the Paynim rites upon its summit.

MR. THOMAS CLARKSON.—At a meeting of the Common Council of London, last week, it was unanimously resolved, "That a marble bust should be erected in the Court to Thomas Clarkson, A. M., as a small but grateful testimonial of the Corporation of London to the public services and worth of one who had the merit of originating and has the consolation of living to witness the triumph of the great struggle for the deliverance of the enslaved African from the most oppressive bondage that ever tried the endurance of afflicted humanity. Mr. Sheriff Wood, who brought the subject before the Court, at first suggested that the proposed testimonial should consist of the presentation of the freedom of the City in a gold box of the value of 100 guineas. It was, however, determined that a marble bust would be a more gratifying and lasting testimonial of Mr. Clarkson's services in the cause of humanity.

TAKING IT COOLLY.—As the Firefly was coming into dock in the Hull-basin on Monday morning, a sailor fell overboard; he sank, but instantly rose again, when his messmates threw a rope to him, which he caught hold of and they began to haul him on board, upon which Jack called out, "Avast there, leave go hauling; I fell overboard by myself, and I'll get on board by myself," which he effected by climbing up the ship's side, as if nothing had happened.—*Hull Paper*.

POLITICAL DUELS.—The violence of political parties, during the early part of the reign of George III., gave rise to many duels. In 1762, Wilkes discharged a brace of pistols with Lord Talbot, which meeting he has described in a manner irresistibly ludicrous, in a

letter to his friend, Earl Temple; in the following year, he fought his well-known duel with Martin, the Secretary to the Treasury, and was severely wounded. Just previous to the American war, Mr. Whatley fought, and was dangerously wounded, by Lieutenant-Governor Temple. In 1779, Mr. Adam called out Mr. Fox, for words spoken in the heat of a debate. Two cases of pistols were discharged; Fox was slightly wounded. When the affair was over, Fox, in allusion to the clamour which existed, as to the badness of the ammunition supplied to the troops, is said, on discovering his wound to the party, to have remarked—"Egad, Adam, it would have been all over with me, if you had not been charged with Government powder." In 1780, Col. Fullerton, the Member for Plympton, wounded the Earl of Shelborne, for designating him "a treacherous commis," in the House of Lords; and, in the same year, Sir Philip Francis challenged Warren Hastings, then Governor-General of India, for severe animadversions on his conduct, as one of the Members of the Council of Bengal. Hastings waived his dignity, and gave Francis a meeting, at which the latter was severely wounded. Francis, on his recovery, hastened to England, and accused his antagonist of high crimes and misdemeanours; and to him Burke, was deeply indebted in his gigantic attacks against Hastings. In 1786, General Stuart wounded Lord Macartney, in a political duel; and, in 1798, Pitt and Tierney discharged a brace of pistols, each with a lucky perversity of aim, and shook hands in the harmless smoke they had raised. Pause on the threshold of the 19th century.—*United Service Journal*.

Several cases of valuable china arrived on Wednesday last from the Continent, as a present to the Duke of Wellington from a foreign power.—They were shipped at Hamburg.—*Morning Post*.

It is said that Lord Durham will reside at Brussels till the opening of Parliament, a house having been prepared for him in that city.

FOOTE'S PROPENSITY TO JESTING. Foote, at times, spared neither friend nor foe; he suffered no opportunity of saying a witty thing to escape him. If ever he entertained a serious regard for any one, it was for Holland, the actor. The latter was the son of a baker, and died young. Foote attended as one of the mourners; and the friend from whom I had this account, declared that his eyes were swollen with tears; yet when this gentleman said to him after-

wards, "So, Foote, you have just attended the funeral of our dear friend," he replied, "Yes, we have just shoved the little baker into his oven." *Cradock's Memoirs*.

STAMP DUTY. The stamp duty on receipts was first imposed during the celebrated Coalition Administration, which gave occasion for the following *jeu d'esprit*, at the time generally attributed to Sheridan:

"I would," says Fox, "a tax devise.
That shall not fall on me."
"Then tax receipt," Lord North replies,
"For those you never see."

A person named Robert Watson, aged eighty-eight years, lately put a period to his existence in London, by drawing his nightcap over his face and neck, fastening a silk handkerchief round the latter, into the loop-knot of which he passed a poker, and thus twisted the handkerchief round until he smothered himself. When found his hands were firmly clenched on the poker, which he had used as a smith uses the handle of a vice. The landlord of the house in which deceased lodged said that he did not know who he was until the evening preceding the event, when the unfortunate man related to him the leading particulars of his life. He said that he had been deeply implicated in the riots of 1789, and at that period he was private secretary to Lord George Gordon. He afterwards became president for a time of the London Corresponding Society. Having resigned that situation he suffered various vicissitudes in foreign parts, and being in Rome in the year 1812 he became acquainted with a party who had in his possession several important documents relative to the Stuart family and to the secret history of the Papal government, particularly in reference to its connexion with the exiled royal family. Having made this discovery, he communicated it to Lord Castlereagh, then Chief Secretary for the foreign Department, who authorised him to produce the documents, in question at any price. After much difficulty he succeeded in obtaining them, and a frigate was sent out by the English government to bring him with the documents, to this country. In the meantime the Papal government being apprized of the existence of the documents seized, and set its seal upon them, but after a good deal of negotiation, consented to give up those that related to the Stuart family and this country, on condition that it should be allowed to retain those papers which referred to its own acts on behalf of the Stuarts. Lord Brougham (then Mr. Henry Brougham) was the chief negotiator in the transaction between the English and Papal government, and from him deceased had received several sums of money, though not all that had been originally promised to him. Witness, in conclusion, said that at the latter part of the recital deceased appeared very much excited and in that state retired to his bed-room. Deceased owed witness between £30 and £40, and was to pay him a portion of it on the day he was found dead.

An inquest having been held, a verdict of temporary mental derangement was returned.

It was stated that Lord Brougham had been written to on the subject.

NEUTRALITY ON POLITICAL QUESTIONS.—It was a law of Solon, that any person who in the civil commotions of the Republic remained neuter, or an indifferent spectator of the contending parties, should be condemned to perpetual banishment.