

MISCELLANEOUS.

That he has taken great care that the Tide-waiters have been at their posts, and that they have strictly attended to their duties; and when any may have conducted themselves improperly, it is his duty to report to the Collector; but none, I am glad to say, have, as yet, violated their trust.

That frequently, and at uncertain periods in the day time, vessels having Tide-waiters on board have been visited by him to ascertain whether they were on duty, and were sober, and care has been taken that they should not absent themselves from the vessel without leave; that on such visitations their official books have been examined, and the Tide-Surveyor having ascertained that they had discharged their duty agreeably to their instructions, has at all times noted the day and hour of such visitations on the back of the Tide-waiters' official book, and signed his initials thereto.

That in order to ascertain that the Tide-waiters were not neglecting their duties, he has occasionally visited vessels in the port during the night, at uncertain periods, varying both the night and the hour.

No vessel has been allowed to exceed 20 days in discharging, without being duly reported to the Collector.

When the cargo has been out, the vessels have been rummaged in order to discover whether any goods have been concealed for the purpose of defrauding the Revenue; and when all has been found to be correct, the Tide-waiter has been discharged, and the same noted in his book.

That he has taken great care to clear all vessels in due time, otherwise the Revenue would incur unnecessary expense in Tide-waiters: and on their discharge a Bill has been made out to enable such Tide-waiters to obtain payment thereof in the Collector's Office.

To give further information as to the extent of duties performed, I would here observe that from the 5th January, 1849, to the 5th January, 1850, no less than 813 vessels have entered this port, and that 2480 visits have been required for those entering only, for the purpose of superintending the Tide-waiters placed on duty, 1168 of which have been made by Mr. Moore, the past year, and 1312 by Mr. Canning—the number of such visits being principally regulated by the number of days the Tide-waiters are employed.

For the further protection of the Revenue, there is a constant look-out required to guard against smuggling in various ways, without which a contraband trade would soon become of frequent occurrence, and the offending parties emboldened in their unlawful enterprise;—such transactions as are hereby described have occurred by night; there is every reason to believe—although perhaps not to any very great extent;—and such will, no doubt, be repeated occasionally, unless a night boat be employed for its prevention,—but I might here remark that the probable expense would be equal to the Revenue lost, for want of such protection.

The duties of the Landing Surveyor having been performed with those of the Tide Surveyor, I beg to state some particulars relative to that Department which are as follows:—

The Landing Surveyor assists in attending to the Waterside and Warehousing Departments. This can be done daily when in the performance of his Tide Surveying duties—for having to call at the respective vessels while discharging, and at the different wharves, he can then observe if all matters relative to the Water-side and Warehousing Departments are going on correctly, and can see if proper stowage is made in the Warehouses, and that the Landing Officers are at their duties; and the respective Officers have frequent opportunities of seeing the Landing Surveyor, and of getting any information from him that they may require in the discharge of their duties; he can, and has frequently attended at the valuation of goods under