The Weekly Observer.

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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER,
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DONALD A. CAMERON.

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Printing, in its various branches, executed with neatness and despatch, on very moderate terms.

Weekly Almanack.

April—1832.	Sun Rises.	Sun Sets.	Moon Rises.	Full Sea.
25 Wednesday	5 5	6 55	2 51	7 30
26 Thursday	5 3	6 57	3 22	8 32
27 Friday	5 2	6 58	3 50	9 23
28 Saturday	5 1	6 59	4 18	10 8
29 Sunday	4 59	7 1	4 47	10 49
30 Monday	4 58	7 2	sets.	11 26
1 Tuesday	4 56	7 4	8 26	morn.

New Moon 30th, 11h. 16m. morning.

Assize of Bread.

Published April 2, 1832.

	lbs.	oz.
The Sixpenny Wheaten Loaf of Superfine Flour, to weigh	2	4
The Sixpenny Rye	2	14

And Shilling, Three-penny, and Penny-half-penny Loaves in the same proportion.

LAUCHLAN DONALDSON, *Mayor.*

THE GARLAND.

THE WINDS OF HEAVEN.
(FROM THE "TALES OF THE AFFECTIONS.")

"The Wind,
Most spiritual of all the elements."

Soft Summer Wind! thy gentle breath
Scarce stirs the trembling aspen tree,
Or from the rose-tree's crimson wreath,
Shakes off the dew drop's brilliancy:
Steal gently o'er the silver lake—
Its slumb'ring waves will just awake!
Then fold, within the leafy grove,
Thy sunny wings—like those of love.

The Summer wind! her breath is fraught
With sweetness from a thousand flowers;
Her voice is like an echo, caught
From the far ocean's wave-dashed shores,
And wrapt in robes of light, she lies
Hush'd to repose in cloudless skies.

Autumnal Wind! thy path is laid
O'er the dark clouds in yon blue Heaven,
That seek, ere winter comes, to shade
The orb for warmth and splendour given,
On in thy glorious track; nor wail
That faded leaves before thee fly—
For floating clouds upon thy gale
Are borne in gorgeous majesty.

Th' Autumnal Wind! her step we hear
Rustling 'mid flowers fall'n and sere;
And her low voice, unearthly wild,
Comes on the ear of fancy's child,
With muttering moan and dirge-like flow,
That speak the spirit's restless woe.

Thou Wintry Wind! oh not alone
Dost thou pursue thy mad career;
For night and darkness are thy throne,
And round thee fly all forms of fear,
Rein! rein thy rushing steeds—thy car,
Rings like loud thunder o'er the world,
And, at thy wrathful bidding, far
Earth's mightiest monuments are hurl'd.

Infuriate giant; on his brow
Bright as the mine's resplendent gem,
But formed of glitt'ring ice and snow,
He wears a frozen diadem;
And, bound within his frigid Zone,
Nature is changed to silent stone.

Wind of the gentle West! come murm'ring on—
The flowers are waiting to expand for thee;
The icy fetters of the streams are gone,
And the young leaflets tremble on the tree.
Bear on thy wing the weary pinion'd bird,
Whose joyous notes far distant lands have heard;
And scatter o'er our earth the seeds of flowers
That bud and bloom in climes more sweet than ours.

The soft Spring Wind! and hath she not a power
On the cold sterile heart fresh seeds to fling,
Of many a sensitive and gentle flower,
Such as adorned it in its gay spring?
No, No!—once rooted up and cast away,
Like poisonous weeds, to wither and decay,
The transient blossoms of the heart no more
Can breath of early spring to life restore.

MISCELLANEA.

Loss of Life in Merchant Vessels.—A very sensible letter from Lieutenant Lister Maw, of the Navy, (in the Times of Jan. 14,) on the subject of the dangers necessarily risked by Merchant vessels, thro' the ignorance of Captains, and the insufficiency of the means of nautical calculation, ought to be pointed out to general attention, and the recommendations of this enlightened officer duly considered. It is a subject we cannot enter upon, and we chiefly allude to it for the sake of pointing out that associations like insurance societies, while they diminish individual loss, also blunt individual motives to secure the venture without risk, and in other ways tend to aggravate the perils of a marine life. We are creatures of so little sympathy with others, that so long as our own property and our own lives are secured, we leave the rest of the world to wag as it listeth. Ships are missing every day, the crew goes to the bottom: but the cargo is insured by one party and the vessel by another, and they who are interested in the life of those on board go weep when old hopes are lost, and dry their tears when new ones spring up.

But lately, a ship came within hail of a foundering vessel and struggling crew, and as soon as it got an idea of distress, changed its course, and veered about, as a man would turn from the cholera. The sinking creatures, who were afterwards saved, could not explain a degree of inhumanity, apparently so wanton, till it was ascertained that the assistance the other vessel might have rendered in a high sea by approaching the one in distress, and taking off the crew, involving some portions of danger, would have forfeited the insurance, even in case of any subsequent misfortune. Vessels are constantly reported missing from every port; the public are more indifferent to the fact than to a Bow-street case of pocket-picking or swindling. Nobody cares; it is nobody's business! but now, when they are told that a great part of this loss of life and property is not necessary, is no part of the inevitable peril of a sea-faring life, surely some inquiry will be set on foot,—some sympathy excited for brave and useful men, unnecessarily exposed to danger and a horrid death.

Mr. Lister Maw avers that the persons employed in the navigation of merchantmen are unfit for the service, and the crews generally insufficient. No man ought to be entrusted with the lives of any number of his fellow citizens, without being pronounced a master of his business by a competent authority. And if merchants under the feelings engendered by the insurance plan, feel no motive to provide their vessels with chronometers and other instruments, they should be made to do it by the legislature, which ought to come in always when individual motives fail and general interests alone are concerned.

We may just observe, that in France no man is entitled to command merchant vessels without a certificate of competency granted by an Inspector of the coast, after repeated examination; and that a distinction is made between a certificate entitling a person to command on a coasting voyage, called *cabotage*, and *la longue course*: for which higher nautical knowledge and longer experience is required.—*New Monthly Magazine for February.*

Public Squares of Dublin.—*Merrion Square.*—No city in Europe can boast of such beautiful and capacious squares as Dublin. The truth of this assertion is confirmed by the testimony of recent tourists. London has no square of the amplitude, magnificence or rural attraction of St. Stephen's Green.

We would have commenced with Stephen's Green were it not that the residence of O'Connell in Merrion square hallows and celebrates it.

Foreigners, arriving in Dublin, will make the first enquiry for Merrion square, in order that they should go on a pilgrimage to the house of the liberator, which is No. 27 on the East side.

The central area, on which all the genius of landscape-gardening has been tastefully lavished, is 1040 feet in length, and 530 in breadth, and contains a space of thirteen acres, enclosed by a green painted iron palisade, placed on a dwarf wall of chisled granite. Lawns, arbours, grottoes, clumps, and shell-paved walks, render this square a sylvan haunt, which is frequented by the beauty and fashion of Dublin.—Merrion square owes its origin to Lord Fitzwilliam; he designed its landscape arrangement during his short, but popular vice royalty in Ireland. The houses that line the square are composed of brick, and more remarkable for ample dimensions than for Grecian or Roman ornament. Between the houses and the enclosed part of the square, is a carriage way, nearly sixty feet in width, and side walks running parallel with the palisade, and the houses each ten feet in breadth, and flagged with granite. In the centre of the square there is a sculptured fountain of white marble, which was erected over a prolific spring, under the auspices of the Duke of Portland, during his administration in Ireland. Several of the winding walks are shaded with the foliage of flowering shrubs.

Merrion square is approached by the following splendid streets, viz. Upper Merrion-street, Fitzwilliam-street, Upper Mount-street, Lower Mount-street, Holles-street, Lower Merrion-street, and Clare-street. The city residence of several of the Irish nobles, bishops and judges, give beauty and eclat to Merrion square.—*Irish Shield.*

Growth of Stones.—A person digging in the Cow-hills, near Oudmallah, (Calcutta) may be convinced that stones grow out of common earth and sand; he would there find them in every state of formation. The agent which hardens them appears to be ferruginous matter, which gathers and concretes the earth in laminas to a form like an egg. The ferruginous matter is at first of a blackish purple colour, soft, soapy, and appears distinct about a line thick, between every lamina of clay, which is about three lines or more in thickness. In this state it may be broken with the fingers; but as the stone advances in growth the cementing matter disappears, and mixes with the mass, which becomes a close-grained, bluish, boulderstone, not easily to be broken by a heavy hammer. I dwell upon this circumstance from the conviction that soft stone, or argillacious clay, may be hardened, by iron liquor slowly dropping upon it, until it becomes durable, and may be of great use in the arts. —*Parliamentary report on East India Affairs.*—The question of the growth of stones, coals, &c. is a very interesting subject for investigation, and has given rise to considerable discussion. In White's work on the Gradation of Man, we found, in the course of our reading, something rather bearing upon the subject, which we copied out, and which we now transcribe:—"Rock crystals, amethysts, and various precious stones have been thought, by De Boot, to grow like mushrooms."—*Ato, p. 9.*—"In the Cretan labyrinth it hath been observed that the names of travellers which have been *cut in* the rock in former ages are now in *alto relievo*; and the older the dates are the greater is the protuberance, resembling the callus formed by the incision in trees.

Scotsmen in Parliament.—It is surely a very extraordinary thing to observe at the meeting of every new parliament how it is composed; but nothing is so much so as the fact that there is a continual increase of Scotchmen, which is most consolatory to all good subjects. Both England and Ireland have many boroughs represented by Scotchmen, but never yet has it been necessary for Scotland to bring a member out of either of these two nations. This, no doubt, is a cause of her prosperity, quite as much as the union, of which so much is said, and proves the great utility of her excellent system of parish schools.—*Mr. Galt.*

Degeneracy of the World.—It has been a practice of every age to lament its own degeneracy, and to exalt the virtues of its forefathers. So general, indeed, has the custom been in all times, that one would be inclined to suppose it to belong to some universal principle of human nature. If age after age, however, had spoken the truth; if every succeeding generation had been worse than the former, in what part of our beings would room have been found to contain the stock of depravity which, long ere this, must have been collected by the accumulation of so many centuries?—*Chenevix on National Character.*

Fall of Nations.—In the decline of free states every misfortune becomes doubled, as it scarcely ever fails to reanimate the fury of parties. Mortified pride seeks for revenge; and the guilt of unsuccessful war and humiliating peace is hurled from one party to the other. Their mutual hate is thus not only increased, but becomes greater than their hate to the most haughty foe; and thus becomes explained the melancholy, though in history ever-varying, phenomenon, that it becomes easy for the enemies of such a state to form themselves a party, by which they gain intelligence of all its designs. This melancholy phenomenon showed itself at Carthage, in its fullest extent, after the second peace with Rome.—*Heeren's Trade of Africa.*

Spilling the Salt.—Some have supposed that the popular superstition of its being unlucky to overturn the salt-dish originated from the circumstance of Leonardo da Vinci having represented Judas as spilling the salt, in his celebrated picture of "The Last Supper." This superstition, however, was derived from Pagan Rome, where the salt-dish was a holy platter, in which the firstlings of the feast were offered to the gods, and which was actually ornamented with the figure of some divinity. Hence to overturn the altar or images of the gods, are naturally esteemed ominous. In proof of the accuracy of this account, the testimonies of Livy, Horace and Statius, might be produced.

Iceland is, perhaps, the most deplorable spot on the world's map. "Not very long ago it counted at least 100,000 inhabitants. Depopulated by time, which has more than once introduced frightful pestilence, there are now not half that number. Their occupation is that of shepherds and fishermen, for the bitterness of the climate makes all agricultural labours vain or unproductive. They are scattered over the wide wastes of the country, far distant, in huts and farms, and it was only in 1787 that any portion of the population was gathered into towns, if towns may be called the two spots where a few families have their abode together."—*Foreign Quarterly Review.*

One Week's Profit of the Gazette de France.—Four seizures, five actions at law, and seven lawsuits!—*Paris in London.*

The Canadian Courant, contains an able address of the Rev. Mr. M'Dowall, delivered before the Demaestville and Sophiasburg Temperance Society. We take the following extract:

"Character and Deeds of Alcohol."—He is a hypocrite, a thief and a robber. He makes his appearance robed in the beauteous garb of friendship—he offers his aid as a physician to heal our sickness, he promises to communicate strength—to inspire vivacity, and to give ability to acquire a fortune. But he is a deceiver. He had his origin in Arabia, the land of thieves and robbers. And to steal and rob is his chief employment. He has stolen away the fair reputation—the health—the property—the personal and domestic endearments, and future felicities of tens of thousands. Millions has he robbed of comfort, of morals and of life. It is therefore our duty and interest to oppose him as a common enemy. Look yonder; there you may see him feigning a smile in the midst of his bowls filled with witchery, designed to fascinate and destroy you. Be upon your guard.—He has already slain your neighbours, your fathers, and your brothers. He is even now whetting his sabre, and intends to redden it in your heart's blood.

But take courage. Our society is a small detachment of a vast and powerful army. We have tried his valor and found him to be a coward. Unite as soldiers under our banners, and we will drive the murderous coward out of the country. We will put in your hand a weapon which the dastardly coward dare not approach. Its name is *Abstinence.*

Advantages of Temperance.—Two glasses of gin every day, at three-halfpence a glass, cost four pounds eleven shillings and three-pence a year; which would pay for—

	s. d.		s. d.
A Man's Hat	6 0	Neckerchief	1 4
Pair Men's Stockings	1 9	Pair Men's Shoes	8 6
Pair Women's ditto	1 6	Pair Women's ditto	4 0
Shift and Muslin Cap	3 8	Flannel Petticoat	2 6
Printed Cotton Gown	5 6	Coarse Cloth Cloak	7 0
Full-sized Man's Cotton Shirt	4 0	Quilting Waistcoat	4 0
Do. do. Fustian Coat	16 0	Fustian Trousers lined	7 6
Pair large Blankets	12 0	Pair Cotton Sheets	6 0
			£4 11 3

—*London Morn. Herald.*

Temperance Society.—The *South African Commercial Advertiser* of the 14th December, has just been received, containing an account of the proceedings of a meeting at Cape Town for the purpose of forming a Temperance Society. The Rev. Dr. Philip presided, and two of the Society of Friends, Mr. James Backhouse, of York, and Mr. G. W. Walker, of Newcastle, just arrived at Cape Town by the Science, took part in the proceedings.—*British and Foreign Temperance Herald.*

Rage for Legislation.—We used to say at Gottingen that every Englishman is born with a mania for legislation. Let him have but a single idea in his head, and it is sure to be connected in some way or other with 'the British constitution.' The hereditary worshippers of liberty are in point of fact so enamoured of despotism, that, not content with the laws of God and man framed for their subjugation, they have constituted half-a-dozen minor codes of the most fanciful and arbitrary nature; and as if these enactments of the common council of society were insufficient to render him uncomfortable, each individual institutes for himself an extraordinary statute of limitations. In Paris, people usually conform to the little prejudices and customs of the coterie to which they belong; and in determining a point too trivial to be submitted to the mighty test of 'right or wrong?' refer it to the preferences of those with whom they live in habits of intimacy. But this never appears the case in my own country. An Englishman observes on every petty occasion, 'I make it a rule,'—'it is my invariable custom,'—'nothing should induce me to,' &c. He lives up to a theory in the choice of his great-coat; and acts upon fixed principles in the colour of his coach-horses; regulates his servants' hall on the system of Say; and will not pass a bill without three readings and a family committee. Even his egotism assumes a parliamentary tone.—*Le Opera.*

Qualifications of a Legislator.—Cicero says "It is necessary for a senator to be thoroughly acquainted with the constitution; and this is knowledge of the most extensive nature; a matter of science, of diligence, of reflection, without which no senator can be fit for office." If such qualifications were exacted in all Legislators, how many who now deem themselves wise enough to sit in our legislative halls, would have occasion to vacate their seats! Such a test would prove far more cruel than any freehold qualifications.

Important to Ladies.—Young lady! looking out for an establishment—meditating on the delights of a house of your own—two main and a man, over whom you are set in absolute authority—do any thing rather than marry a confirmed bachelor—venture on one who has been successful with every succeeding wives, with ten small children ready made to order—walk off with some tail youth who considers a wife and a razor definite signs of his growth and his sense; but shun the establishment of a bachelor who has hung a pendulum between temptation and prudence till the age of ——; but of all subjects, age is the one on which it is most invidious to descant.—*Romance and Reality.*

It is curious to observe how little, in the lapse of many centuries, the popular taste, in regard to articles of diet, has changed. White bread, *roasted* meat, rich puddings or pastry, are still as much the taste of the middle and lower classes *now*, as in the days of Froissart, when he remarked, that while the French love everything in the form of pottage, the Englishman thinks nothing of his meal, unless it consists of roast meat.—*Athenæum.*

Danger of Beauty.—In the first attempt made by Mary Queen of Scots to escape from her imprisonment in Lochleven castle, she disguised herself as a laundress, with whom she had changed clothes, and when seated in the boat and putting off from the shore she was discovered by letting her hand to her head.—The extreme beauty of her hand, with its whiteness, discovered her at once, and she was carried back to her chamber in bitterness and tears.

New York Statistics.—The number of towns in the State of New-York is 764; cities 6. The number of aliens in the city is 17,573, of whom 5,477 reside in the ninth ward; number in the State 52,488. Number of deaf and dumb in the State 885, of whom 115 are in the city. The number of blind persons in the State is 724. Number of coloured persons in the State 44,945, of whom 13,659 reside in the city; 76 are returned as slaves. The aggregate amount of real and personal estate in the State is, real estate $289,457,404, personal $75,258,726, making a total of $364,715,830. The *assessed* value is probably, on an average, one-third less than the real value, which would swell the amount to more than $500,000,000.

Dr. Weatherhell, a distinguished British pedestrian, has discovered a *fossil forest*, extending several miles under ground, along the banks of the Tiber near Rome. The earth about it, is freely mixed with volcanic dust, leading to the inference that this phenomena has resulted from an earthquake, of the particulars of which history has said nothing. The wonder is, that it should have remained undiscovered until the present time.

The Freedom of the Press.—It is a very good thing to draw the line between liberty and licentiousness. The liberty of the press is as the very air we breathe—if we have it not we die. But licentiousness—who can say a word in favour of licentiousness?—no one. No one will vindicate the licentiousness of the press—why not? because licentiousness is the name by which every man designates more liberty than is quite agreeable to his own taste. Liberty of speech is precisely of the same nature, it is altogether a matter of opinion, depending on the fancy of every individual. To make a distinction between liberty and licentiousness is mere cant. When an Attorney-General prosecutes for a libel, he speaks according to his cue when he bothers the jury about licentiousness. When a man wishes to take a little liberty of arraigning public men at the tribunal of public opinion, he always wishes to make it out that he is not indulging in a licentious use of the press, but merely exercising that liberty without which public abuses would never be corrected, and would go on to still greater and greater abominations. The real and proper state of the question is—is it worth while to legislate on the subject at all, and may not the press be very safely left free as speech? Nay, in good truth, a printed lie does not do half the mischief that a spoken lie does. A spoken lie is an invisible contagion, it is a pestilence that walketh in darkness; but a printed lie is in a tangible and visible form; you may look at it, examine it, sift it, refute it, extinguish it.—*London Atlas.*

From the London Morning Herald, March 2.

If any person had said ten years ago—ay, five years ago—that the Americans would be able to import glass into England, notwithstanding the heavy duty upon foreign glass, and undersell our own manufacturers of that article, he would have been laughed at: yet, nevertheless, such is the fact. At this time the glass-makers of the United States are manufacturing for the English markets, and they can actually afford to bring it to this country, and sell it by auction, at the Auction Mart, and realise a good profit upon it. The goods which the Americans send to England are what are called pressed glass—a description of article which makes a great deal of waste in the manufacturing—that is, out of four vessels that are made by the pressing process, perhaps three will come out imperfect. As, however, they are made with great rapidity, this is not of much consequence in the United States, where they can throw the imperfect pieces into the melting-pot, and lose nothing but a little labour. The general reader will naturally say to himself "Well, what of this? It cannot give the Yankees any advantage over the English glass-manufacturers, seeing that they may do the same thing, and seeing, also, that labour is not so dear here as it is in America." True, labour is cheaper here—the materials are cheaper here; the coals used in the American glass-houses, we believe, are even imported from this country; but the Yankees are not taxed—their trade is free—they can work without the superintendence of an exciseman. "But what of all this?" exclaim the disciples of Peter MacCulloch and Mr. Powlett Thomson; "if glass is not taxed in the United States, it is taxed when they bring it here;" and then they refer us to Ellis's British Tariff, from which we learn that imported glass pays a duty of 20 per cent., besides another of £4 upon every hundred weight. "Surely," they continue, "this is protection enough;" and Mr. Hume begins to talk about the interests of the public; a word which, as used by our political economists, is really without meaning, but exceedingly convenient in misleading the productive classes. Not, however, to dwell upon this point, let us return to what we have said about waste in the manufacturing of pressed glass. The Americans, we observed, could throw the imperfect pieces into the pot, losing nothing except the labour; but the English glassmakers cannot do this—they are actually obliged to pay the duty for every morsel of glass they take out of the pot. If they fail in producing a perfect article, they not only lose their labour, but lose the duty into the bargain. Indeed, it is calculated that every piece of pressed glass made in this country has actually paid duty three or four times over. Is not this monstrous? Yet it is not more monstrous than true. Frequent applications have been made to the present Chancellor of the Exchequer to remedy this shameful grievance, and his Lordship has promised, we believe, to bring it before the Legislature after the Reform Bill is passed. But why wait for the passing of the Reform Bill? Mr. Powlett Thomson caused the duty on barilla to be taken off without an Act of Parliament, though the measure ruined our own manufacturers, and benefitted those of foreign countries; and surely Ministers might have issued an Order in Council to have relieved the glass-makers from a grievance which compels them to abandon one branch of their business to the French and Americans.

Cargoes of Timber, &c. entered at the Port of Liverpool, from British America and the Baltic, for the last eleven years.

Year ending 1st Feb.	British America. Vessels.	British America. Tonnage.	Baltic. Vessels.	Baltic. Tonnage.
1822	307	82499	77	18121
1823	338	98369	122	27680
1824	348	97655	172	39495
1825	427	123694	132	37535
1826	308	89533	204	41366
1827	328	101461	114	27820
1828	218	71081	109	28437
1829	241	66017	106	27272
1830	266	85474	95	23641
1831	321	106392	66	18166
1832	252	85501	62	17686

Army Estimates.

Sir J. C. Hobhouse, in bringing forward the army estimates, stated that they only embraced the quarter ending the 31st of March next, as it had been determined that, in future, the financial year should commence on the 1st of April. The military force of the country was now nearly the same as in 1820, but the expense of the present year, as compared with 1820, showed a decrease of £684,000. The total charge for the effective service was now £896,831, for the non-effective service £276,211. He concluded by proposing the first vote, that the number of men employed for the quarter ending on the 31st of March be 89,047.

After some further conversation, the resolution was agreed to, as were also the various items proposed.

On the motion of Mr. S. Rice, £300,000 were voted for the army extraordinaries, and £368,781 for the Commissariat Department, for one year and a quarter, to the 31st of March, 1832.

£169,500 half-pay and military allowance to reduced and retired officers.

£378,579 1s 7d, on account of Chelsea Hospital and the Out-Pensioners.

£13,204 to defray the charges for the half-pay superannuations and retired allowances of the officers of the Commissariat, up to March 31, 1832.

£83,235 to defray certain other charges upon the Commissariat Department, 1832.

Cobbett and his Cridiron.

Manchester, Feb. 4.—The Committee appointed to conduct the election of Mr. Cobbett for this town, in the event of Manchester being allowed the privilege of sending Members to Parliament, invited him to a public dinner at the Town-hall, Salford. Mr. Cobbett accepted the invitation, and Monday last was fixed on for the dinner to take place. Tickets were issued at 5s. each, and about one hundred and eighty persons sat down to dinner. Mr. John Fielden, of Todmorden, in the chair. He was supported by Mr. Cobbett on his right, and Mr. Whittle the Editor of the Advertiser, on his left. Mr. Harvey and Mr. Croft were the vice-chairmen. On the orchestra, and leaning against the wall, was placed a tremendous gridiron, large enough to have broiled a bullock upon. After the cloth was drawn, the chairman gave, as the first toast, "the people—the source of all legitimate power." This toast, as was every other given during the evening, with a single exception, was hailed with three times three tremendous cheers. The next toast given was, "Our venerable King, uncontrolled by boroughmongers." A variety of other toasts were given, which called forth speeches from Mr. Cobbett, Mr. Whittle, and others. Mr. Thomas Smith, of Liverpool, in a speech full of eulogium on Mr. Cobbett's consistency and talents, proposed "the gridiron, and may that glorious emblem soon be hung in triumph over the graves of the funds, loans, paper money, usury, and fraud." Mr. Cobbett, in reply, said if they elected him Member for Manchester, he would go up to London in his own carriage, with the gridiron for his crest. The meeting was kept up until 12 o'clock, when Mr. Cobbett and his friends left the room, amidst tremendous cheers.—*(Courier.)*

It appears, from Parliamentary returns, that the amount of poor-rates collected in England and Wales in 1831, was £8,111,422, being an increase of eight per cent on the preceding year. At the same time it may be safely stated that not one half of this sum was applied to the legitimate object of the poor laws.

It is, we are informed, the intention of a company of merchants at Liverpool to equip a steamer of 100 tons burthen, and other vessels for a trading voyage up the Niger. We have further learned that the merchants have it in contemplation to send a limited number of Moravian Missionaries with the expedition, who are to remain in the country; though this matter is, we believe, as yet undecided. The vessels, it is expected, will leave Liverpool about May next.

DOMESTIC.

From the City Gazette of Thursday last.

At a Common Council holden on the 10th April instant, the following appointments, among others, were made:—

Visiting Physicians—John Boyd, M. D.; Henry Cook; George J. Harding, M. D.; John Paddock.

Assessors of Taxes, and Assessors of Statute Labor—William Jarvis; Ambrose S. Perkins; Benj. Smith; Samuel Strange.

Assessors of Nightly Watch Tax—John Wishart; Solomon Nichols; Leveritt H. DeVeber.

Fire Wardens—George Harding; Thomas Barlow; John R. Partelow; Daniel Ansley; John Ward, Jun.; Ambrose S. Perkins; William Tyng Peters; Thomas Harding; Lauchlan Donaldson; Thomas Heaviside; Thomas Sandall; Gregory Van Horne; Robert Robertson; Solomon Nichols; George D. Robinson; John Robertson; James T. Hanford; George Bond; Tristram Ring; James F. Lilly.

John Monahan, *Locker after nuisances King's Ward.*
Robert W. Nowlin, do. do. *Queen's Ward.*

PORTLAND, NEW-BRUNSWICK, TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

In pursuance of Public Notice, a meeting of the inhabitants of the Parish of Portland, residing in the immediate vicinity of the City of St. John, was held on the evening of the 29th March last, in Portland Church, for the purpose of taking into consideration, the most effectual means of suppressing Intemperance.

The Rev. B. G. Gray, D. D. having been called to the Chair, opened the meeting, by elucidating in a most impressive manner, the baneful effects of Intemperance on Society generally in a moral and physical point of view.

The views of the Rev. Gentleman, were ably supported, and warmly urged on the attention of the meeting, by several gentlemen present.

The following Constitution was unanimously adopted, and 65 persons immediately came forward and subscribed their names as members.

CONSTITUTION

Of the Portland, New-Brunswick, Temperance Society, formed the 29th March, 1832.

1st. This Society shall be called the Portland, New-Brunswick, Temperance Society.

2dly. Any person subscribing to this Constitution shall be a member of this Society.

3dly. We whose names are hereunto annexed being convinced that the use of ardent spirits, is pernicious to the best interests of individuals and of society, do agree that we will not use them, unless as a medicine in case of hurt or severe bodily sickness; that we will not provide them for the entertainment of others, or furnish them to persons in our employment, and in all eligible ways we will discountenance the use of them in the community.

4thly. The officers of this society shall be a President, a Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be chosen annually, and shall perform the duties customarily assigned to such officers.

5thly. The officers of this Society, and such other members as shall be appointed for that purpose, not exceeding nine, in addition to the officers, shall constitute an Executive Committee who shall be annually chosen, and shall perform the various duties which may be needful in order to promote habits of Temperance to the greatest possible extent, and shall report annually to the society.

6thly. The society shall meet annually on the 29th March, in each and every year, being the anniversary of this society, and at such other times as a majority of the Executive Committee may appoint or as the President, or in his absence the Vice-President may deem expedient.

7thly. Any member, giving one months notice in writing of his intention to the Secretary, may withdraw from this society, and this constitution may at any annual meeting be altered by a vote of two thirds of the members present; but this rule is not to preclude any additional regulations which circumstances may render expedient, provided they do not affect the main and fundamental principle of this association,—the discouragement of the use of ardent spirits.

8thly. If any doubt shall arise, as to the construction of the acts of individuals who compose this society, it shall be decided by a vote of the majority of the Executive Committee.

After the above rules were read, and adopted, the following persons were chosen by the meeting, office bearers for the ensuing year:

Charles Simonds, Esq. *President.*
Robert Payne, Esq. *Vice-President.*
John C. Waterbery, Esq. *Secretary.*
Mr. William Ruddock, *Treasurer.*

The following gentlemen were added to the Committee, viz:—

The Rev. Mr. Desbrisay, Mr. John Owens, Mr. William Eagles, Mr. Moses Tuck, Mr. James Joyce, Mr. Robert Chapman, and Mr. Ptolomey Lunbird.

The thanks of the meeting was unanimously voted to the Rev. Dr. Gray, for his exertions in promoting the cause of Temperance generally, and for his able conduct in the chair.

A second general meeting of the society was held on Thursday last, at the Portland Wesleyan Chapel, which was numerously attended, and the cause again warmly advocated, by several gentlemen present; and at the close of the meeting 45 names, were added to the list of members.

The Book containing the above rules, and list of subscribers, is left at the office of R. Payne, Esq. for signatures.—*Ib.*

From the St. Andrews Courant.

At a Meeting of the Saint Andrews Temperance Society, held on Tuesday the 10th instant, the following gentlemen were chosen Officers of the same for the ensuing year:—Rev. John Cassilis, President—Mr. John Stubs, Vice-President—Mr. W. Jack, Secretary and Treasurer—Messrs. A. M'Allister, Geo. Lowe, S. H. Whitlok and J. Sherwood, Committee.

The principles of the above Society, are total abstinence, and the number of signatures to the rules when the meeting adjourned was 55.