

## CURIOUS ADVENTURE WITH A BEAR.

A rencontre which Barras had with a bear is worth narrating. It seemed that he had discovered a cavern, in which a bear had taken up his winter quarters, and from which he immediately determined to dislodge him. Single-handed he did not dare to attempt this, and accordingly he chose one of his most hardy companions to join him in the attack. The place which the bear had chosen for his retreat was an almost inaccessible cave on the side of the Pic du Midi, and among its darkest forests. When the two hunters arrived at the entrance of the cave, they consulted as to the best mode of rousing the animal, and getting him to leave it. Barras proposed that he should enter the cave, and wake him, while his companion stood guard without. This extraordinary mode of disturbing the bear's slumbers was adopted, and the sentry having sworn by the blessed Virgin to stand by his friend, the other prepared to enter the cave. For a considerable distance the cavity was large enough to permit of the daring hunter walking upright, but decreasing in height, he had to grope his way upon all fours. While proceeding in this manner, the bear, roused by the slight noise which the hunters had made at the entrance of his chamber, was heard approaching. To turn and run away was hopeless; the bear was too near to permit of this being attempted, so that to throw himself on his face and, take the chance of the animal's passing over him, was the only chance of escape. Barras did so, and the bear walked over him without even saluting him with a growl. His companion at the mouth of the cave did not get off so easily, for, expecting that he would certainly have some warning of the approach of the animal, he was not altogether prepared for the encounter when he appeared, and ere he had time to lift his gun to his shoulder, he was folded in the deadly embrace of the giant brute. Within a few yards of the cave, the precipice was several hundred feet in depth, and in the struggle both bear and man rolled over it together. Barras, eager to aid his friend, followed the bear after it had passed over him, but reached the mouth of the cave just as the bear and his comrade were disappearing over the edge of the precipice. Horror-struck at the dreadful fate of his friend, and without the slightest hope of saving him, Barras rushed forward to descend the mountain-side, and rescue, if possible, his wretched body; when the first glance into the gorge below revealed to him his friend dangling by his clothes among the branches of a thick shrub, which, growing out of a fissure in the precipice, had caught him in his fall, while the bear, less fortunate, had descended to the bottom. To release his friend from his precarious situation was no easy matter; but by the aid of the long sashes which the mountaineers almost always wear, he at last effected it, and drew him to the platform from which he had been so rudely hurled. The bear had lacerated him severely, but he was no sooner on his legs than, expressing his confidence that the bear must have been killed by the fall, he proposed descending to the foot of the precipice to ascertain the result. This with much difficulty they effected, and to their great satisfaction, as well as profit, found among the rocks below the object of their search, in the last agonies of death. Sure of their prize, they returned to the Eaux Chaudes, the wounded man greatly exhausted by loss of blood; and Barras returning next morning to the field of battle, accompanied by a band of villagers, triumphantly carried off the spoil. The occasion upon which Barras related this adventure to me was a very appropriate one; we were then crouching together under a fallen pine of great size, watching a bear pass. I asked him how he relished the bear walking over him in the cave; he said that he knew his life depended on his remaining perfectly quiet; and he drew his large bony hand down my back, by way of indicating the feeling which the tread of the animal gave him.—*A Summer in the Pyrenees, by Hon. J. E. Murray.*

## UNPARALLELED MAGNANIMITY.

During the first winter that I passed at Vienna, in 1778, I became acquainted with the count and countess Podotski. She was one of the most beautiful and accomplished women of high rank, whom I have seen on the continent. Her husband a great Polish nobleman, hereditary cup-bearer, or "grand echanon" of the crown, had become in some measure an Austrian subject, in consequence of the first partition of Poland, which took place in 1772. His patrimonial estates lying principally in that southern portion of the kingdom which fell to the share of Maria Theresa, he of course repaired frequently to Vienna; between which capital and Warsaw he divided his time. During the winter of 1776, as the count and countess Podotski were on their way from Vienna to Cracow, the wolves which abound in the Carpathian mountains, rendered more than ordinarily bold and ferocious, in consequence of the severity of the season; descending in great numbers, began to follow the carriage between the two little towns of Oswieczk and Zator; the latter of which places is only a few leagues distant from Cracow. Of two servants who attended him, one had been sent forward to Zator, for the purpose of procuring post-horses. The other, a Heyduc, to whom he was much attached on account of his fidelity,

finding the wolves rapidly gaining ground on them, rode up, and exhorted the count to permit him to abandon to these animals his horse; as such a prey would naturally arrest their impetuosity, and allow time for the count and countess to reach Zator. Podotski immediately agreed to the proposal; and the Heyduc, mounting behind the carriage, left his horse, who was soon overtaken, and torn in a thousand pieces.

They continued their journey meanwhile with all possible speed, in the hope of getting to the town, from which they were at an inconsiderable distance. But, their horses were bad; and the wolves, became more ravenous, as well as eager, by having tasted blood, already were nearly up with them. In this extremity, the Heyduc said to his master, "There is only one way left to save us. We shall all be devoured in a few minutes. I am ready to sacrifice myself, by going to meet the wolves, if you will swear to be a father to my wife and children. I shall be destroyed; but, while they are occupied in falling upon me, you may escape." Podotski, after a moment's reluctance to accept such an offer, pressed nevertheless by the prospect of imminent destruction to them all, and seeing no prospect of any other means of extrication, consented; and assured him, that if he were capable of devoting himself for their common preservation, his family should find in him a constant protector. The Heyduc instantly descending, advanced to meet the wolves, who surrounded and soon despatched him. But, his magnanimous sacrifice of himself, by checking the ardour of their pursuit, allowed count Podotski time to reach the gates of Zator in safety. I believe count Podotski most religiously fulfilled his engagement, to befriend the family of his faithful servant. I cannot say that I have heard him relate this story, himself; but I have received it from those persons who knew its authenticity, and who recounted it to me at Vienna, while the count was engaged in the same room at play, in the hotel of the French ambassador, the baron de Breteuil only about two years after it took place. An instance of more prompt, cool, and generous self-devotion, is perhaps not to be found in the history of mankind; nor ought its value to be in any degree diminished by the consideration, that even if the Heyduc had not acted as he did they must all probably have perished together.—*Wrazalls Historical Memoirs.*

PROFESSOR PORSON.—We have seldom read a better story, to say the least of it than the following. As to the facts of it, we can only say that the statement rests on the authority of the author of "Lacon," whence it is extracted:—Porson was once travelling in a stage-coach, when a young Oxonian, fresh from college, was amusing the ladies with a variety of talk, and amongst other things, with a quotation, as he said, from Sophocles. A Greek quotation, and in a coach too, roused our slumbering professor from a kind of dog sleep, in a snug corner of the vehicle. Shaking his ears and rubbing his eyes, "I think, young gentleman," said he, "you favoured us just now with a quotation from Sophocles; I do not happen to recollect it there." "Oh, sir," replied our tyro, "the quotation is word for word as I have repeated it, and in Sophocles too; but I suspect, sir, that it is some time since you were at college." The professor, applying his hand to his great-coat, and taking out a small pocket edition of Sophocles, quietly asked him if he would be kind enough to show him the passage in question in that little book. After rummaging the leaves for some time, he replied, "Upon second thoughts, I now recollect that the passage is in Euripides." "Then, perhaps, sir," said the professor, putting his hand again into his pocket, and handing him a similar edition of Euripides, "you will be so good to find it for me in that little book." The young Oxonian returned again to his task, but with no better success. The tittering of the ladies informed him that he had got into a hobble. At last, "Bless me, sir," said he, "how dull I am! I recollect now, yes, yes, I perfectly remember that the passage is in Aeschylus." The inexorable professor returned again to his inexhaustible pocket, and was in the act of handing him an Aeschylus, when our astonished fleshman vociferated, "Stop the coach—holloah, coachman, let me out, I say, instantly—let me out! there's a fellow here has got the whole Bodleian library in his pocket."

## MERCANTILE AND NAUTICAL ACADEMY.

THOMAS BURTON,

BEGS leave to notify to his friends and the public, that he has opened an Academy in Brunswick-Street, opposite the New Methodist Chapel, where he intends instructing youth of both sexes, in the following branches of education, viz. Orthography, Reading, Writing, English Grammar, Arithmetic, and Mathematics, generally. Likewise, Maritime and Land Surveying, Geometry, Trigonometry, Navigation, and the Italian and modern methods of Book-keeping by double entry. The strictest attention will be paid to the morals and advancement of such pupils as may be committed to his care. July 8.

## CARD.

MR. WM. F. TEULON, Practitioner in Medicine, Obstetrics, &c. having now spent one year in Halifax, returns thanks for the attention and favors which he has experienced from the public during this term. At the same time he is obliged to acknowledge that owing to the healthy state of the Town, and other causes his support has been very inadequate, — he therefore requests the renewed exertions of his friends, as having with a family of seven experienced great difficulties; but which might soon be overcome if he had a sufficiency of professional engagements. Having practised the duties of his profession three years in this peaceful Province, and nine years in a neighbouring colony, previous to which he had assiduously studied for several years in the metropolis the human sciences; normal and diseased, and the arrangements of Divine Providence in reference to the preservation and regeneration of health in the respective functions; he has obtained a habit, a confidence, and a love of the science and art of healing, which he would not willingly exchange for any of the gifted acquisitions of life, but to give these efficiency he must secure the favours and confidence of a number. With this laudable object before him he respectfully invites their attention, and promises to use his studious endeavours to emulate the conduct of those worthy members of the profession, who have proved its ornaments; and not that only, but the ornaments of civil and scientific life; and also of Humanity.

W. F. Teulon General Practitioner; next House to that of H. Bell, Esq. M. P. A. Aug. 18.

## NEW ENGLAND BRANCH SEED STORE.

THE Season for the sale of Garden Seeds being now over the subscriber acknowledges, with thanks, the patronage the Public have afforded this Establishment—the most convincing proof of the known superiority of New England Seeds in this climate. The Store will be re-opened next Spring with a more extensive and general assortment; and in the mean time, any demands for articles within the reach of the Boston House, transmitted either to Messrs. J. Breck & Co. of that City, or to the Subscriber in Halifax, will receive the most prompt attention.

ON HAND—a stock of Timothy, Red-top, and Clover—first quality.

E. BROWN, Agent.

HENRY G. HILL,

Builder and Draughtsman.

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public, that he has discontinued the Cabinet business, and intends to devote his time exclusively to

PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL BUILDING.

He begs to offer his grateful acknowledgments to those who have hitherto patronised him, and now offers his services as an Architect, Draughtsman and Builder, and will be prepared to furnish accurate working plans, elevations and specifications for buildings of every description, and trusts by strict attention to business to insure a share of public patronage.

Residence, nearly opposite Major McColla's Carpenter's shop—Argyle-street. June 10.

C. H. BELOHER, BOOKSELLER & STATIONER, OPPOSITE THE PROVINCE BUILDING, HALIFAX.

HAS received by the Arcadian from Greenock, Part of his Importations for the Season—the remainder expected by the Lotus from London.

BOOK-BINDING in all its branches executed in the neatest manner.

BLANK BOOKS of all kinds constantly on hand, or made and ruled to patterns.

PAPER HANGINGS and BORDERINGS, a neat assortment, handsome patterns and low priced. A further Supply of these Articles, of rich and elegant patterns, expected from London.

PRINTING INK, in Kegs.

June 17, 1837.

## CARD.

DR. RUFUS S. BLACK, having completed his Studies at the Universities of Edinburgh and Paris, intends practising his profession in its various branches in Halifax and its vicinity.

Residence for the present, at Mr. M. G. Black's, Corner of George and Hollis Streets.

Advice to the Poor, gratis. Sw. July 8.

PRINTED every Saturday, for the Proprietor. By Wm. CUNNABELL, at his Office, corner of Hollis and Water Streets, opposite the Store of Messrs. Hunter & Chambers. HALIFAX, N. S.

TERMS,—Fifteen Shillings per annum—in all cases one half to be paid in advance. No subscription taken for less than six months.