

committed by persons who could read and write well. Now, although we would never discourage educating the lower classes of society, he would still boldly affirm that Education, if not founded on Religious and Moral principles, instead of becoming a blessing to the poor, would in the end turn out a CURSE. To give a sound Education to the poor, Moral and Religious instruction must accompany it—the receiver must be well made to know, not only the Moral duties he has to perform, but the Religious ones. Education without Religious instruction would not control the strong passions of the human race; and he had only again to repeat that the various calenders throughout the circuit had plainly convinced him that it would be far better to leave the poorer classes of the community in ignorance than to give them an education which had not for its ground-work our revealed and blessed religion."

TITHES COMMISSION.—An important document has been lately published by order of the Tithe Commissioners, entitled "Course of proceeding in making Awards." The following is a copy:—
 "The assistant commissioner will proceed to ascertain—1. Who are the owners of the tithes, and in what right. 2. Who are the owners of the lands subject to tithes, the estimated quantities of such lands, and state of cultivation. 3. What moduses there are, and what lands are covered thereby, and the estimated quantities of such land, and state of cultivation. 4. What lands are exempt from any and what description of tithes, and the estimated quantities of such lands. 5. He will then proceed to ascertain the average composition or receipts for tithes during the seven years previous to Christmas, 1835, by calling on the tithes owners, to produce their accounts for that period. 6. The landholders will then have an opportunity of questioning these accounts, or producing evidence in proof of error. In case the tithes owners fail to produce their accounts the landowners will be called upon to supply the deficiency. If the rates and taxes have been paid for the tithes-owner, the average amount of such rates will be calculated from the ratebook, and the overseers' accounts for the seven years will be required. If the tithes have been taken in kind, the assistant-commissioner will call, first, on the tithes-owners to produce the accounts of the gross receipts during the seven years, with their estimates of the expenses of collection; second, the landowners may then question the accuracy of these accounts, or in the absence of such accounts may produce others of their own, and evidence as to the cost of collection and net value of the tithes. If no accounts of the compositions or value of tithes taken in kind can be obtained from either party, the assistant commissioner will at once report to the board that the case must be specially dealt with. In cases of an appeal for increase or decrease to the extent of 20 per cent. the tithes-owner may produce his account of average receipts. The landowners may then question the accuracy of his accounts, or in the absence of such accounts may produce others of their own. The appellant may then show cause of appeal, and produce his evidence in support. For the points on which such evidence should bear the parties are referred to the report made to the Secretary of State for the Home Department on the 1st of May, 1835, which report has just been sanctioned by the legislature. The respondent may answer and bring counter evidence. Disputed claims to modus or exemption will be decided." With this before them tithes-owners and landowners may at once prepare themselves for the forthcoming commutation. If their case fall within either of the four rules prescribed by the commissioners for early commutation; as 1st, tithes taken in kind; 2d, joint request of landowners and tithes owners; 3d, litigation pending, and this includes cases where the dispute is not yet in court; or 4th, where an incumbent has lately been inducted. In either of these cases no time should be lost, in making ready for the investigation, for when a parish so circumstanced is brought before the board, a month or six weeks may be the extent of the time given them for preparation. This programme, however, may be as serviceable in promoting and facilitating voluntary commutation as it is indispensable for the proper management of the compulsory cases. So far as it exhibits the course of the evidence which will be required in the one case, it will enable parties to form a safe judgment for themselves, and this is a use to which it might be satisfactorily applied.

Montreal, Jan. 24.—The greater part of the one hundred and sixty prisoners in Fort Henry have acknowledged that they belong to no denomination of Christians, and more than one half of them have never been baptized.

The Kingston Herald says that the sum subscribed for the invasion of Canada by the Piraical Sympathisers amounts to 70,000 dollars.

Yesterday, three pieces of Wooden Cannon, and 64 prisoners, taken in the neighbourhood of Beauharnois, were brought to town. We are sorry to add that the reports of yesterday go to state that already, in the district so lately visited by her Majesty's troops, the rebellious disposition is again visible.

THE STAR
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1839.

PHILOSOPHY AND THE NEW-FOUNDLAND PATRIOT.

We are not in the habit of garnishing our columns with extracts from the "Newfoundland Patriot;" but really there is something so inexpressibly ludicrous in the following attempt to describe the appearance of the parhelia which have lately "astonished" our metropolitan brethren, that we cannot refrain from giving it insertion. It is not in our power to transfer to our pages the inimitable "plate" that at once adorns and

illustrates the original; but if the reader can form an idea of a peeled potato with a japanned brace-button stuck in the middle of it, his notion of this wonderful picture will not be far from the truth.

With the writer's lucid and sagacious explanation of the cause of the phenomenon our scientific friends of every caliber (from your milk sipper of the Penny Magazine to the strong meat devourer of Newton, Brewster and La Place) will be exceedingly amused; nor will they, we presume, be less tickled with his astronomical display.

The concluding paragraph of this truly scientific production when compared with the modest reference to Captain Parry at the beginning will induce the most uncharitable of our readers to believe that this metropolitan philosopher must be a man of uncommon humility!

But setting irony aside, we are utterly at a loss to conceive how any Editor could be so forgetful of the reputation of his journal, as to give insertion to such intolerable mundungo: PARSONS'S we are pretty sure it is not; at least we hope so; we should blush if we thought that a countryman of ours had a hand in its production: it is quite bad enough, to have been so simple, as to print it.—But let it speak for itself.

"In our number of Saturday last, we inserted an extract from Parry's Voyages describing a Phenomenon in the Polar Regions, nearly similar to that which appeared in our atmosphere the previous Wednesday.

"Not content with PARRY'S remarks, which are only in common with those of every observer, who merely narrates, without assigning a cause for the appearances, we therefore (not finding any other person disposed or interested to treat on this department of science, which, under every enlightened government, has been fostered and encouraged) lay before our readers (with due deference to those who calculate the mean temperature of our atmosphere) the following explanation, which we illustrate by a plate, and though it is imperfect it will explain the subject to the reader not familiarized with the science, more clearly than words.

"About 10 o'clock, A.M. the atmosphere consisted chiefly of a luminous haze, unattended by clouds of any particular description. About half-past 10, the haze in the direction of the Sun began to recede, apparently leaving the Sun encompassed in a circle of blue ether of about 16 degrees diameter, the periphery of which seemed tinged with violet. At 11 o'clock the circle increased to about twenty degrees, at which time the circumference appeared well defined, tinged around with various hues, forming as many circles to the extent of about 3 degrees, the inner one not well rounded, of a deep orange colour, exhibiting on each side of the Sun, by a line parallel to the plane of the horizon, two spectra Stars. At noon the phenomenon was defined as fully as it could be; the Sun's rays penetrating the atmosphere with greater force, dispelled the undefined or uneven edge of the inner circle, thereby exhibiting the reflected images to great advantage; at this moment each of the reflected spectra had equal altitudes, exceeding the altitude of the real Sun by about 7 second, in consequence of the increased refraction of their situation in the vicinity of the aqueous circle.

"In accounting for the cause of this phenomenon, the reader will observe, that the density of the atmospheric air, at that time, consisted chiefly of frozen little globules and other icy particles pressed closely together, causing a partial circle of negation between the reflecting fluids and the condensed violet-colored stratum of the thickly coated surrounding atmosphere; through which all the Sun's rays, in consequence of his low altitude, &c. were unable to penetrate; but those proceeding from the Sun's centre, acting with greater force than the others, rarified the atmosphere in the direction of their course; thereby expanding and passing through a circle of orange colour all the aqueous particles in the direction of the oblique rays, or to the inside circle, which in consequence thereof became a transparent sheaf of reflecting fluid, coated by the icy and dense particles of the outer circle. Hence the sun being in the centre of this splendid atmospheric spectrum his image was accordingly reflected on each side in a line nearly at right angles with the meridian—

LOCUS POTATÆ.

"Thus, experimentally, let S represent the Sun's plane; N N points of the circle of reflection parallel to the plane of the Horizon; place a light in the centre S and looking-glasses or water on points N N—then the points will exhibit spectre lights similar to S in a horizontal position, which accounts for the phenomenon.

"It may not be amiss to remark, that the appearance of the Planets these nights, viewed through a good telescope, in their different orbits, is very interesting; particularly Venus between us and the Sun, and Mars and Jupiter more distant from the Sun than our Earth.

"In viewing the Celestial sphere we often feel that there is no study more adapted to create a sense of humility in the mind of man, or to impress him with a strong conviction of his own insignificance than a contemplation of the great and glorious canopy of Heaven; and on these occasions we could heartily enter into the ardent feelings of the inspired Psalmist and exclaim with him—

"Oh, Lord! what is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man that thou visitest him."
 —Patriot, Feb. 16.

COMMERCIAL ROOM,
HARBOR GRACE,
23d FEBRUARY, 1839

At a Meeting of Owners, Masters and Agents of Vessels, held This Day, pursuant to Requisition, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of the Act 4th, Wm. IV., cap. 2, to regulate the cutting of Channels in the Ice.

Mr. JOHN MUNN having been called to the Chair, read the Requisition and the above Act of the Legislature, it was Resolved—

That a Committee of Eleven Persons be appointed for the purpose of making arrangements for carrying the said Act into effect, as speedily as possible.

The following Gentlemen were then duly elected to form "Tax Ice COMMITTEE."

- Mr. BROWN
- FOLEY
- PUNTON
- GREEN
- STEVENSON
- RIDLEY
- YATES
- MUNN
- M. KEEF
- EDWARD PIKE
- MOSES PIKE.

The Meeting then adjourned until MONDAY the 25th inst.

JOHN MUNN, Chairman.
 COMMERCIAL ROOM,
 HARBOR GRACE,
 25th February 1839.

At a Meeting of the "Ice Committee" held This Day, the following rules and regulations were adopted:

Rules and Regulations of the Ice Committee.

1st. That a Channel of sufficient width be cut in the Ice from the SEA to opposite the Premises of Mr. WILLIAM PARSONS, SENR., under the direction of a Majority of the Ice Committee.

2d. That the Masters of all Sealing Vessels in this Port, shall attend to Cut the Channel, with One Man for every Ten Tons of the Registered Tonnage of his Vessel, or be subject to such Fines as the Law in this case provides.

3d. That the cutting of the Channel shall be commenced on SATURDAY next, the 2d March at 9 o'clock, A. M. and continue till 5 o'clock, P. M. on that day, and each succeeding day (Sundays excepted), until the whole Channel is completed.

4th That for every Two Vessels the Master and Men shall be provided with One Ice Saw, Four Hatchets, One Grappel and Rope, Two Prizes and One Shovel.

5th. That any Person obstructing the Committee in their duty, or wilfully blocking up or injuring the Channel, contrary to the directions of the Committee, shall be subject to a Fine not exceeding FIVE POUNDS, Sterling.

6th That if any Master refusing or neglecting to attend, with the number of Men required by these Rules—and the necessary Implements for Cutting the Ice, shall be liable to a Fine not exceeding FORTY SHILLINGS, Sterling.

7th That any Master of a Vessel who shall haul his Vessels into the Channel before she is ready for Sea, or who shall keep his Vessel in the Channel to the obstruction of any other Vessel, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding FIVE POUNDS, Sterling.

8th. That the Masters and Crews of all Vessels lying in the Channel, shall be subject to the orders and directions of the Committee.

9th. That all Foreign or other Vessels, who have not assisted agreeably to these Rules, in cutting the Channel, shall, on making use of the Channel, pay at the rate of FORTY SHILLINGS, Sterling, for every One Hundred Tons of their registry, which shall go to defray the expenses incurred by the Committee.

JOHN MUNN,
 Chairman & Treasurer.
 Thomas Foley, Peter Brown,
 Edward Pike, William Punton,
 Michael Keef, Moses Pike,
 Daniel Green, W. L. Yates,
 John Stevenson, Thomas Ridley.
 Ice Committee.

SEALERS
Agreements

For Sale at this Office.

On Sale

Just Landed

Ex Jane Elizabeth, Nathaniel Munden, Master,

FROM HAMBURG,

- Prime Mess PORK
- Bread
- Flour
- Oatmeal
- Pens
- Butter.

Also,

15 Tuns BLUBBER.

For Sale by

THOMAS GAMBLE.

Carbonear,
 Jan. 9, 1839.

The following Valuable Mercantile and Fishing Establishments situate at St. Mary's, belonging to the Insolvent Estate of Slade, Bidde & Co., of Carbonear.

Will be offered For Sale

By Public Auction,

On WEDNESDAY, the 1st day of May next

At 12 o'clock,

AT THE

COMMERCIAL ROOM

(St. John's.)

THAT Eligible Room, known as RIDDOUT'S ROOM—consisting of a Large DWELLING-HOUSE, with COUNTING HOUSE adjoining; Three STORES, One SHOP One COOK-ROOM, Two STAGES, One BEACH, FLAKES, MEADOW, and GARDEN.

That Eligible Room known as PHIP-PARD'S ROOM—consisting of one, DWELLING-HOUSE, One STAGE, One STORE, Extensive MEADOW GROUND with right and privilege of Piscary at Great Salmonier.

That Eligible Room known as CHRISTOPHER'S ROOM—consisting of a DWELLING-HOUSE, FISH STORE, STAGE, FLAKES, BEACH, GARDEN, and MEADOWS.

Also,

10 FISHING BOATS, carrying from 16 to 30 qts Round Fish.

At St. Mary's.

Together with sundry SKIFFS, PUNTS CRAFT, CASKS, &c.

Particulars of the Rooms may be made known on application to Mr LUSH, at St. Mary's; Mr. J. B. Wood, at St. John's or at Carbonear, to

J. W. MARTIN,

Agent.

Carbonear,
 9th Jan., 1839.

TWENTY GUINEAS
REWARD!

Cow Stolen.

WHEREAS some evil disposed Person or persons did on the night of the 12th instant, or early on the morning of the 13th instant, break open the door of the STABLE on the Premises of SLADE, BIDDE & Co. and STOLE herefrom a

MILCH COW,

Any Person giving information of the offender or offenders, so that he or they may be brought to Justice, shall receive the above Reward

There is also a further Reward of

10 Guineas

offered to any person who will give information of the Persons by whom the Meadow and other FENCES belonging to said Estate, have been destroyed

JOHN W. MARTIN,

Agent

Carbonear,