

THE CARBONEAR STAR,

AND CONCEPTION-BAY JOURNAL.

VOL. I.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1833.

No. 7.

BIOGRAPHY.

MOHAMMED ALI, PASHA OF EGYPT.

The present Viceroy of Egypt is a native of Cavalla, a small town in Roumelia, a district of Albania. Losing his father in early life, he was protected by the governor of the place, who betowed upon him that species of training which qualifies a man to rise under a despotic government, where vigilance, intrepidity, and a ready use of arms, are held the most valuable accomplishments. His activity recommended him to an appointment as a subordinate collector of taxes; and, in the performance of his duty, it was observed that he set a higher value on the money which he was ordered to exact, than on the blood or even the lives of the unhappy peasantry over whom his jurisdiction extended. On one occasion the inhabitants of a village refused payment, resisted, threatened, and rose in rebellion. The governor was alarmed at this unusual firmness, and applied to Mohammed. The young functionary undertook to reduce them to obedience; and for this purpose he proceeded to the refractory hamlet at the head of a few men hastily equipped, announcing that he was charged with a secret mission. He entered a mosque, and sent for several of the principal inhabitants, who, not suspecting any violence, instantly obeyed his summons. No sooner were they within the walls, than he ordered them to be bound hand and foot, and immediately set off for Cavalla, regardless of the pursuing multitude, whom he overawed by threatening to put his captives to death.

This resolute step procured for him the rank of Bonouluk-bashi and a rich wife, a relation of his patron the governor. As it is not uncommon among the Turks to unite the duties of a soldier with the pursuits of a merchant, Mohammed became a dealer in tobacco,—a business which he appears to have followed with considerable success till the invasion of Egypt by the French called him to fulfil a higher destiny in a scene of active warfare. The contingent of three hundred men, raised by the township of Cavalla, was placed under the command of Ali, who was now decorated with the higher title of Bin-bashi, and recognised as a captain of regular troops.

His conduct in the field of battle soon attracted the notice of the pasha, who recommended him to Kusruf, the governor of Cairo. After the massacre of the Mamlouks at Aboukir, the young Albanian obtained the command of a division in the army of Yousef Bey, and joined the expedition against the insurgent chiefs, which terminated so fatally to the lives as well as to the reputation of the Turks. Yousef, it has been already mentioned, accused Mohammed of misconduct, or disaffection, so extremely palpable as to have been the main cause of their miserable defeat. Whether there was any real ground for this charge it is impossible to determine; but at all events it was believed by Kusruf, who resolved forthwith to expel the Cavalliot from the country, as a person in whom he could no longer place confidence.

But the pasha was not aware of the character with whom he had come into collision. The pay of the troops were considerably in arrear; and this Mohammed demanded in a resolute tone, as the sole condition on which he would yield obedience. The governor sent orders that he should appear before him in the night; but the Roumelian leader, not unacquainted with the object of such private interviews, returned for answer that he would show himself in broad daylight in the midst of his soldiers. Perceiving the danger with which he was threatened, Kusruf admitted into Cairo the Albanian guards under Taher Pasha, hoping that the intrigues of the one chief would counteract those of the other. But in this expectation he was grievously disappointed; for the mountaineers, in whatever points they might differ, were unanimous in demanding their pay, and in all measures which were suggested for compelling him to advance it. They attacked the palace, reduced the citadel, drove Kusruf and his

household from the city, and finally deposited the viceregal power in the hands of the Pasha Taher.

The tyrannical measures of this new ruler brought his reign to a close at the end of twenty-two days, and the actual government of the country reverted to the hands of the Mamlouks, under the aged Ibrahim, Osman Bardissy, and Mohammed Ali. The Porte, indeed, sent a pasha of high rank to assume the direction of affairs at Cairo; but the beys having once more the upper hand, and mindful of the cruel treachery inflicted upon them by Hassan, seized the viceregal at Alexandria, and put him to death.

The undisputed ascendancy of the Mamlouks might in the end have proved fatal to Mohammed Ali, who did not belong to their body. For this reason, he contrived to embroil Bardissy, who has been called the Hotspur of the beys, with some of his associates; and finally attacking him with his own hand, drove him from the capital, and reinstated the exiled pasha, whom he intended to use merely as a tool for effecting his own purposes. The grand signior, suspecting his ambitious views, issued orders, in the year 1804, that the Albanians should return into their own country; intending, it may be presumed, to garrison the Egyptian fortresses with troops less disposed to insubordination. Mohammed, whose plans were gradually advancing towards completion, disregarded the mandate; intimating that his services were still necessary to repress the daring designs of the Mamlouks, who continued to occupy the greater part of the kingdom, while they breathed avowed hostility against the government of the Porte.

The following year a firman arrived, conferring upon him the enviable appointment of Pasha of Djidda, and of the Port of Mecca, on the eastern shore of the Red Sea. On this occasion he acceded so far as to assume the mantle and cap peculiar to his new office; but the army, prepared for the scene which ensued, flocked around him, uttering the most seditious language, and threatening immediate violence if their arrears were not discharged. Mohammed alone could rule the disturbed elements in this furious tempest. He was intreated to take upon him the duties of viceregal office, and was proclaimed, by the shouts of his numerous adherents, the new representative of the grand signior.

Kourschid Pasha, who was now in the capital, endeavoured, by inviting the dangerous aid of the Mamlouks, to oppose this nomination. But, while he was making preparations to take the field against the usurper, the capitan pasha unexpectedly cast anchor before Alexandria; who forthwith sent orders to him to place the citadel in the hands of Mohammed, and also to repair in person, without delay, to his head-quarters on the seacoast. Kourschid obeyed, and, after a short period of service in other quarters of the Turkish empire, lost his life.

The Mamlouks, who had been summoned to the standard of the governor, were unwilling to lay down their arms until they should have once more tried the fortune of war against their old enemy the Albanian pasha. The latter, who was contriving a snare for these turbulent horsemen, wished nothing more ardently than that they should attack him in Cairo; nay, he suggested to the sheiks, on whom he had the greatest reliance, to encourage the beys in their meditated assault, and even to promise them assistance should they resolve to enter the city. The Mamlouks, reposing implicit faith in these pretending friends, seized the first opportunity of bursting in at one of the gates, which had been opened for the purpose of admitting some countrymen with their camels. Dividing their numbers into two parties, they advanced along the streets sounding their martial instruments, and an-

icipating a complete triumph. But they soon discovered their mistake: for, being attacked by the inhabitants on all sides, driven from post to post, and slaughtered without mercy, they sustained so severe a loss as from that moment to cease to be formidable. All the prisoners met the same fate; and eighty-three heads were sent to Constantinople to grace the walls of the imperial seraglio.

But the Sublime Porte, unwilling that any one interest should obtain the ascendancy in Egypt, determined now to support the beys, and accordingly a capitan pasha was despatched to Alexandria with instructions to assist Elfy, well known by his residence in England, in his endeavours to assume the viceregal mantle, and thereby to depress the rising power of Mohammed. This capitan, upon his arrival, sent a capidji bashi to Cairo, summoning Ali to appear immediately at that port, where his master was ready to bestow upon him the government of Salonica. The Albanian chief had too much knowledge of the policy usually pursued in the divan to accept of such promotion. He asked those around him whether he should not show himself a fool and a craven if, after having won the supreme station with only five hundred men at his disposal, he were to abandon his post to his enemies, now that he counted at his side fifteen hundred resolute countrymen and companions in arms. "Cairo is to be publicly sold," he exclaimed:—"Whoever will give most blows of the sabre will win it, and remain master!"

His demeanour towards the pasha was, at the same time, submissive and dutiful; he regretted that the mutinous state of the army would not permit him to obey the summons of his highness, and to have the pleasure of showing how ready he was on all occasions to bow the knee before a representative of his imperial lord. At this very moment he was plotting with the beys, and sending large sums of money to Constantinople, to secure friends on both sides of the Mediterranean. At length the sultan, finding that Ali could not be deposed, and perceiving himself on the eve of a war with Russia, forwarded secret orders to the capitan to make the best terms he could with the usurper, and to leave him in possession of the viceregal office. A short time after this occurrence, the regular diploma confirming him in his office was transmitted by the Porte; and as Elfy Bey and Bardissy, the most powerful of his enemies, died about the same period, Mohammed found himself the master of Egypt, invested with a legal title, and opposed by no one whom he had any reason to fear. To complete his conquest, indeed, he advanced into Upper Egypt to attack the Mamlouks. There he defeated a large body of their troops, and was preparing to follow them, in the hope of effecting their utter annihilation as a political body, when he received despatches from Turkey announcing the commencement of hostilities between Great Britain and the Ottoman empire.

It was in the year 1807 that the English ministry sent a second expedition into Egypt, with the view of preventing that country from falling again into the hands of the French, whose ambassador at Constantinople was understood to direct the politics of the grand signior. The number of troops under the British general did not exceed five thousand; and it was entirely owing to the ignorance of our government in regard to the amount of the Turkish forces at Alexandria, and the strength as well as the disposition of the Mamlouks, that they exposed such a handful of men to certain destruction. The beys availed themselves of this opportunity to make their peace with Mohammed Ali, and consented to follow his standard against the invaders, who had established a footing on their coast. The melancholy result is well known. Alexandria yielded to General Fraser after a smart encounter; but, failing in his successive attempts on Rosetta and El Hamet, the flower of our little army was cut off, wounded or taken prisoners.—Four hundred and fifty of their heads were publicly exposed at Cairo, while the unfortunate captives were treated with every species of contempt and cruelty.

The departure of the British allowed the pasha to return to the internal affairs of his turbulent province. As he relied chiefly upon the army, he had increased its numbers till the expense of maintenance emptied his coffers, and compelled him, in order to replenish them, to resort to measures of extreme severity. He felt that his popularity was endangered; and being convinced that the Mamlouks would embrace the first opportunity of attempting to precipitate him from the viceregal throne, he resolved upon their final destruction at whatever expense of candour or humanity. This horrible determination, it has been conjectured, was confirmed by the necessity imposed upon him of conducting the war against the Wahabees in Arabia,—an undertaking in which he could not engage without employing in that country his best troops and commanders. The Porte had urged him to prepare for this expedition, so important to the purity of the faith and to the integrity of the empire; rewarding him, before hand, by conferring upon his favourite son, Youssouf, the dignity of a pasha of the second order.

The same youth had been appointed by his father general of the army which was destined to serve in Arabia. The 1st day of March, 1811, was named for the investiture of the new chief,—a ceremony which was to take place in the citadel. The Mamlouks were invited to share in the parade and festivities of the occasion; and accordingly, under the command of Châhyn Bey and arrayed in their most splendid uniform, they appeared at the hall of audience, and offered to the pasha their hearty congratulations.—Mohammed received them with the greatest affability. They were presented with coffee, and he conversed with them individually with apparent openness of heart and serenity of countenance.

The procession was ordered to move from the citadel along a passage cut out in the rock; the pasha's troops marching first, followed by the Mamlouk corps mounted as usual. As soon, however, as they had passed the gate, it was shut behind them, while the opposite end of the defile being also closed, they were caught as it were in a trap. Mohammed's soldiers had been ordered to the top of the rocks, where they were perfectly secure from the aim of the Mamlouks, while they poured down volleys of shot upon their defenceless victims, who were butchered almost to the last man. Some of them, indeed, succeeded in taking refuge in the pasha's harem, and in the house of Youssouf; but they were dragged forth, conducted before the kiaya bey, and beheaded on the spot. The lifeless body of the brave Châhyn was exposed to every infamy. A rope was passed round the neck, and the bloody carcass dragged through various parts of the city. Mengin, who was in Cairo at the time, assures his readers that the streets during two whole days bore the appearance of a place taken by assault.—Every kind and degree of violence was committed under pretence of searching for the devoted Mamlouks; and it was not until five hundred houses were sacked, much valuable property destroyed, and many lives lost, that Ali and his son ventured out of the citadel to repress the popular fury.

Mohammed noted among the slain four hundred and seventy mounted Mamlouks, besides their attendants who usually served on foot. The number of victims in the end did not fall short of a thousand; for orders were given to pursue this devoted race into the remotest parts of the country, and, if possible, to exterminate them throughout the whole pashalic. The heads of the principal officers were embalmed, and sent as an acceptable present to the sultan at Constantinople. Only one of the beys, whose name was Amim, is understood to have escaped the massacre in Cairo. Being detained by business, he was too late to occupy his proper place in the procession, and he only arrived at the citadel at the moment when the troops were passing the gate. He waited till they had entered the fatal passage, intending to join his own body; but seeing the gate shut suddenly, and hearing, almost immediately after, the discharge of fire-arms, he put spurs to his horse and galloped out

of the city. He afterwards retired with a small suite into Syria.

To be continued.

Miscellaneous.

ARCTIC LAND EXPEDITION, IN SEARCH OF CAPTAIN ROSS, &c.

The object of this expedition will be to penetrate across the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company to the shores of the Arctic Sea, primarily to rescue, or at least ascertain the fate of Captain Ross, who, it is well known, has not been heard of since he sailed in a steam-boat, three years ago, with the view of thus effecting a north-west passage to the Pacific; and subordinate to this object, to extend our knowledge of those shores, in particular to endeavour to fill up the interval between Cape Turnagain (the north-eastern limits of Sir John Franklin's discoveries) and the Straits of the Hecla and Fury, where Sir Edward Parry was stopped by the ice, when attempting to penetrate to the westward along the coast; or, should these prove, as some imagine, merely the entrance of an inlet, to determine where else is situated the north-eastern extremity of the American Continent.

The hopes entertained by Captain Ross's friends, that he and his companions are still alive, and may be extricated from their critical position, by efforts yet made for their relief, are founded, partly on the extent of his preparations, which were calculated to meet his wants for three years—partly on the amount of stores which, it is presumed, he would find untouched, in the wreck of the *Floxy*, abandoned by Sir Edward Parry, in 1825—and partly on an account (given by Hearne, and quoted by Mr. Barrow, in his *Chronological History of Arctic Voyages*, pp. 275—8) of the fate of the crews of two Hudson Bay vessels, which were cast on shore on Marble Island in 1719, and of whom it was ascertained, in 1769, that some survived nearly three years.

If, then, it is argued, severe as the sufferings of these poor people were, they could prolong their existence at all, for nearly three years, on Marble Island, which is a bare granite rock, with scarcely any local resources, whatever, it is not probable that Captain Ross's difficulties, even supposing that he was wrecked the first year of his departure, may not yet have been overwhelming? If they could thus survive, also, with only a moderate stock of supplies in their ships, fitted out, as these necessarily were, after the manner of the last century, may not his party be furnished amply in comparison? And even the character of the country seems to require that some search should be made for them—that 19 British seamen, embarked in the most disinterestedly spirited enterprise of the day, should not be lightly given up to their fate; especially when, by the same means, the discoveries of Franklin and Parry may be connected, and a series of expeditions be, as it were, completed, which, in so far as they have gone, reflect the highest honour on the British skill and enterprise, and have left, in truth, little more than the blank here contemplated to be filled up, in order to complete our knowledge of the outline of the American coast.

These views have been, therefore, lately brought under the consideration of his Majesty's government, and sanguine hopes are entertained that it may be induced to subscribe £2000 towards carrying them into effect. The Hudson's Bay Company has also, with great liberality, consented to provide boats and provisions for the party gratuitously; and has already forwarded the requisite orders for this purpose. Captain Back, R.N. one of Sir John Franklin's companions, in both his journeys, has volunteered to conduct the expedition, the plan of which was originally sketched by Dr. Richardson, and carefully revised and reconsidered by both these officers.—The party will be forwarded early in February next to New York, whence it will proceed, by way of Montreal, to Great Slave Lake, and descend the Fish River as early in the season as possible, probably in August. It will afterwards act as Captain Back's judgment and the circumstances in which he may find himself placed, shall direct; but, at least, two seasons will be requisite to execute the service in any degree satisfactorily. And, in every case, the scale of operations, their extent, continuance and ultimate success, will mainly depend on the means placed at his command.

Subscriptions towards the Arctic Land Expedition are accordingly now in the course of being received by some principal bankers in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin; and the amount, whatever it may be, will be placed under the sole authority of a committee of noble and gentlemen, of whom a most respectable list is already in circulation, as having, with the exception, Sir George Cockburn, G.C.B. as their chairman, signified their willingness to accept the trust. Men of all descriptions must wish well to the undertaking, for science must gain by it, and humanity may; nor will difficulties be nicely weighed, probably, even by the least sanguine, when the certain prize is knowledge, and the contingent, human life.

Previous to Sir Thomas Denman being appointed Attorney-General, the King was said what such an appointment would

be offensive to his Majesty; he replied, that he had forgiven, and almost forgotten the allusion in question, and that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to see a man of Sir T. Denman's talent and character raised to such a station. On the decease of Lord Tenterden, Sir T. Denman was immediately mentioned to the King, as a fit successor to that judge. His Majesty not only consented to the appointment, but was pleased to accompany that consent with some very kind expressions of satisfaction and confidence, and also took an opportunity of repeating them, in a more direct manner to Sir Thomas himself.

The number of conservatives (about a third of them, at least, may be considered as ministerialists) that will be chosen into the new Parliament is estimated at 150: the ministerial lists give only 136. The extreme radical members will be very few; the independent reformers very many. For all the purposes of "the Bill" the ministers will have an overwhelming majority, the greatest perhaps, that any ministry ever enjoyed.

The sound of the hammer, hatchet, and the saw never ceases at Plymouth Dock-yard, in which the workmen are not allowed a moment's respite from morning till night. The artisans work double tides; that is, they perform two days' labour in one; and even the Sabbath sabbies no holiday for them, for not only is the night made joint labor with the day, but Sunday, no longer divided from the week, has ceased to be a day of rest in Plymouth Dock-yard. The most extraordinary activity also prevails at Portsmouth and the other dock-yards.

The diabolical practice of incendiarism has again commenced in Kent and Sussex. Several destructive conflagrations have recently occurred in both counties.

It is understood that Governor Sterling, of the Swan River settlement, is expected daily, to arrive in England. The object of his visit here is, to represent, on the part of the colonists, the actual situation of the colony, and the policy of the British Government making some advances to the colonists.

Captain Hiram Covel, master of the barque Alliance, just returned to Newport, R.I. from the Pacific Ocean, states, that, on the 7th of May, 1831, in lat. 4 deg. 37 min. N., long. 163 deg. 40 min. W. he discovered a group of fourteen islands, not laid down on any chart. They were all inhabited and the natives spoke the Spanish language. He called them the Covel Group.

The ex-royal family of France entertain confident hopes of a third restoration. Charles X. has lately adopted, for his armorial bearing, a fallen oak, from the root of which issues a luxuriant shoot, over them is the device, "Pouissant debout!" The Duke d'Angouleme, in his reply to the officers who waited upon him, at Spandau, made use of the following expression: "I am but a poor fugitive now, gentlemen, we shall, however meet in better times, and then you will need no further pass-word, than that you formed part of the garrison of Spandau."

It is said that the King of Prussia is ill of the disease called hydrothorax, (dropsy of the chest). This disease proceeds slowly in its destructive course, but at his age, it must be regarded as attended with danger. The death of the King of Prussia would be, under present circumstances, a fatal event. The moderation of this prince is well known, and the accession to the throne of the prince royal, who is well known for his devotion to the system of Russia, must occasion a considerable change in the policy of Europe.

The Diet of Frankfurt, in one of their last sittings, have issued a declaration, that, if a French army were to pass the Rhine and the Meuse, they would consider it a declaration of war against Germany. This must be considered as a mere matter of form, knowing, as we do, that the French have solemnly pledged themselves to confine their operations to the siege of the citadel of Antwerp.

The activity observable in the French dock-yards surpasses even that in our own. The number of ships of war, which will be on the stocks, by the present year (1832) will be 70. Amongst these, 21 ships of the line, 27 frigates, 5 corvettes, and 5 steam-vessels.

The accounts from Spain have caused considerable animation among all parties connected with that country. It is firmly hoped, that the progress of knowledge will now have a powerful co-operator in the cause of true liberty; and that that kingdom may, once more, be restored to her place in the scale of nations.—An insurrection, in favor of Don Carlos, was projected at Madrid, on the 8th of December. Information, however, respecting it was conveyed to the Queen, and such preparations made, that nothing was done by the conspirators. Twelve monks and the prior of a convent were arrested, and the Duke del Infantado, to whom is attributed a project for restoring the Inquisition, is ordered out of the kingdom.

DREADFUL CONCUSSION.—The Talavera 74, Captain Brown, and the French frigate Calypso, brought to at the Nore, on Tuesday last, to repair the damages they had sustained by running aboard of each other in the North Sea, at half-past ten o'clock on Saturday night. It appears that, as the Talavera was on a wind, taking up her station, the Calypso mistook her for a Dutch man-of-war, and, having cleared for action, crossed her bows, when the Talavera struck the Calypso just at the gang-way, and with such force as to break 50 of her timbers, 20 knees, and 12 beams. The shock was so violent, that the side, opposite to that which was struck, was so forced by the beams, as to cause it to round out, whilst the side, on which she was struck rounded inwards, causing her to make three feet water in the hour. The damage sustained by the Talavera is the loss of the whole of the knee of the head. The Calypso was taken up to Chatham on Wednesday, to be docked to-day. The Talavera was taken into Sheerness on Wednesday, into the basin on Thursday, and was docked yesterday. She will be ready for sea in ten days. In the confusion of running foul, several men, in their fright, exchanged ships, fearing their own was going down.

WEST INDIES.—The *St. Vincent's Gazette* contains the report of the Committee appointed to frame a new Slave Act, in which are introduced forty-seven of the clauses of the Order in Council. Instead of a protector, with unlimited powers and an expensive establishment, as contemplated by the Order, a Police Magistrate, with a salary is to be appointed. The leading features of the amendments recommended are all the clauses respecting baptism, marriage, and attendance on divine service. Sunday markets in towns are to be abolished, and labour on that day prohibited; the cart-whip is to be put down, and the punishment of adult females to cease; the clauses respecting provisions, clothing, and the hours of labour, are to be modified in their details; the rule for freedom, for the non-separation of families, and the evidence clauses, are fully incorporated, and a plan for the compulsory sale of slaves has been devised for the consideration of the Legislature. Many penal clauses have been omitted in the Slave Act; and the Committee express a hope that in due time the law for the government of the slave will be equalized with that of the free man.

Sir Wm. Abraham Chatterton, Bart. of Castle Mahon, has been appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Cork City.

Legislature of Newfoundland.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

Saturday, Jan. 19.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House a letter received by him from Charles Cozens, Esq., Member for Conception Bay, acknowledging the receipt of the order of the House commanding his attendance, and praying that a few days' leave of absence might be granted to him before taking his seat.

A short discussion ensued, when, on motion of Mr. P. BROWN, the following resolution was carried.—That the House will not admit any further delay, but that Charles Cozens, Esq., be ordered to take his seat on Wednesday next.

The order of the day having been read, it was thereupon, on motion, resolved.—That the Bill to provide for the performance of Quarantine, and more effectually to provide against the introduction of Contagious or Infectious Diseases, and the spreading thereof in this Island, be read a second time on Saturday the 26th instant.

Mr. HOYLES, pursuant to leave given, presented a Bill to prevent dangerous quantities of Gunpowder being kept within the town of St. John's; and the same was thereupon read a first and second time.

It was then resolved that the Bill be committed on Monday next.

House adjourned.

Monday, 21.

CHARLES COZENS, Esq. member for Conception Bay, took the oath, and his seat.

On motion, it was resolved, that the House do to-morrow take into consideration the Petition of Hugh A. Emerson, Esq., complaining of an undue Election for the district of Bonavista.

On motion of Mr. THOMAS, resolved, That the House require to be informed what are the duties performed by His Majesty's Attorney-General, for the salary of £450 paid to that officer;—also, what specific Fees are payable for extra duties beyond those performed for the salary before named;—also, that this House require a detailed account of what his fees would have amounted to, during the past year, if they had not been commuted for the sum of £250.

On motion of Mr. THOMAS, it was also resolved.—That a Committee be appointed to wait on his Excellency the Governor, and request that his Excellency will be pleased to direct that there be laid before this House copies of all the Tables of Fees now taken in the different Courts of Law.—Also copies of the former and present commissions of the Justices of the Peace, for the district of St. John's.

Ordered, that Mr. Thomas and Mr. Bennett be a Committee to wait on his Excellency with copies of the foregoing Petitions.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House on the consideration of the bill for preventing dangerous quantities of gunpowder being kept within the town of St. John's.

Mr. KOUGH took the Chair of the Committee.

The Speaker having resumed the Chair, The Chairman reported from the Committee, that they had gone through the bill

and had made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report to the House;

The said amendments were then read a first and second time, and upon the question severally put thereon, agreed to by the House.

House adjourned to Wednesday.

Wednesday, 23.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House a letter from the Hon. Mr. Secretary Crowdy, transmitting, by command of his Excellency the Governor, in pursuance of the resolution of the 14th inst., the following documents, viz.—A return of the details of Public Expenditure in 1831, under the following heads:—the Courts; Fuel and Light; Gaol Expenses; Making and Repairing Public Roads; Repairs and preservation of Public Buildings; Repairs of Bridges and Government Fences; and other incidental charges.

Ordered, that the said Papers do lie on the table.

Mr. THOMAS reported from the Committee appointed to wait on his Excellency the Governor with copies of the Resolutions of yesterday, that his Excellency was pleased to say he should cause the information and documents required to be laid before the House.

On motion resolved that Mr. Emerson's Petition, complaining of an undue Election for Bonavista, be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The bill for preventing dangerous quantities of gunpowder being kept within the town of St. John's, was read a third time,—and thereupon, on motion of Mr. Thomas, it was resolved that the said bill be re-committed to a Committee of the whole House.

It was then resolved, that the House do to-morrow resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to consider of Ways and Means.

House adjourned till to-morrow, at 11 o'clock.

Thursday, 24.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House a letter from the Hon. Mr. Secretary Crowdy, in explanation of Lord Goderich's despatch, on the subject of the salary of T. Hyde Villiers, Esq. agent for the colony,—ordered to lie on the table.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the consideration of Ways and Means.—Mr. Hoyles in the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER having resumed the Chair, the Chairman reported from the committee that they had come to the following Resolutions:—

Resolved.—That it is the opinion of the committee that a duty of 6d. Sterling, per gallon, be levied on all Spirits, the produce of Great Britain or her Colonies, imported into this Island.

Resolved.—That it is the opinion of this committee that a duty of 1s. 6d. Sterling, per gallon, be levied on Champagne, Burgundy, Claret, Hock, and all other Wines imported into this Island, whose value in this market (exclusive of this duty) shall exceed the sum of 8s. Sterling, per gallon.

Resolved.—That it is the opinion of this committee that a duty of 1s. Sterling, per gallon, be levied on Port, Madeira, Sherry, and all other Wines imported into this Island whose value, as aforesaid, shall exceed 5s. Sterling per gallon.

Resolved.—That it is the opinion of this committee, that a duty of 9d. Sterling, per gallon, be levied on Fayal Madeira, Marsala, Malaga Sherry, Figuerra Port, Teneriffe, and all other Wines imported into this Island whose value, as aforesaid, shall exceed 2s. 6d. Sterling per gallon.

Resolved.—That it is the opinion of this committee, that a duty of 6d. Sterling, per gallon, be levied on Catalonia, Benecario, Common Fayal, Cargo Claret, and other Wines imported into this Island whose value, as aforesaid, shall not exceed the sum of 2s. 6d. Sterling, per gallon.

Resolved.—That with a view to prevent imposition in the value of Wines not named and which pay a duty according to their value, in this market, it shall and may be lawful for the Colonial Treasurer, or the proper officer to be appointed for that purpose, (on a suspicion that such Wines have been undervalued for duty) to add 10 per centum to the value of such Wines, as stated in the Bill of Entry made at the Custom House by the importer thereof, or his agent, and to take such Wines, for the use of the Island, at such said value, with 10 per cent. added thereon.

Resolved.—That it is most desirable these duties should be collected in the same manner, and under a like authority, as the present Imperial duties are now collected.

The Chairman then moved for leave to sit again on the consideration of Ways and Means—which the House agreed to.

The above resolutions were read throughout a first and second time, and, upon the question being severally put thereon, agreed to.

It was then ordered that Mr. Thomas, Mr. Hoyles, Mr. Bennett, and Mr. Kough be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill, or Bills, for carrying into effect the foregoing resolutions of the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House a letter from the hon. Mr. Secretary Crowdy, transmitting, by command of his Excellency the Governor, in pursuance of a resolution of the House, the following documents, viz.: A return of the expense of the Custom House Establishment; a return of the fees and emoluments of the Coroner, and Clerk of the Peace, for the year 1832; A return of the fees and emoluments received and receivable by the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Clerk of the Probate Court, and Registrar of Deeds, for the year 1832.—Ordered to lie on the table.

The House adjourned.

Friday, 25.
Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House an account of the number of Protestant Episcopal Churches in this Island, transmitted to him by the hon. Mr. Secretary Crowdy, by command of his Excellency the Governor. Ordered to lie on the table.

The order of the day was then read, and, on motion of Mr. THOMAS, it was resolved, that the House go into consideration of Mr. Emerson's Petition, on the day after the return of the Special Messenger lately sent by the House to summon Wm. Brown, Esq. (returned Member for Bonavista), to attend and take his seat in the House.

The Quarantine Bill was read a second time.

The whole House then went into Committee on said Bill—Mr. PACK in the Chair.

The SPEAKER having resumed the Chair, the Chairman of the Committee reported progress, and moved for leave to sit again on the consideration of the Bill.—Agreed to.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House for the re-consideration of the Bill to prevent dangerous quantities of Gunpowder being kept in the town of St. John's; and the Committee having made some amendments, it was ordered that the said Bill, with its amendment, be engrossed.

Adjourned.

Saturday, 26.

The Bill for the prevention of dangerous quantities of gunpowder being kept within the town of St. John's, was read a third time, and passed.

The House went into Committee on the further consideration of the Bill to provide for the performance of Quarantine, and to prevent the introduction and spreading of infectious diseases in this Island; and the Committee having made some amendments, it was ordered by the House that the Bill, with its amendments, be engrossed.

House adjourned.

Council.

Monday, 28.

The Council met to-day at 12 o'clock.—Shortly afterwards the Serjeant-at-Arms announced a message from the House of Assembly, when Mr. HOYLES and other Members of that House appeared with a "Bill for preventing dangerous quantities of Gunpowder being kept within the town of St. John's," which was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, to which day at 12 o'clock, the Council adjourned.

In accordance with a resolution of the Council (and we cannot sufficiently admire the liberal spirit which gave rise to it,) the Council was yesterday thrown open to the public—and shortly after the *Gunpowder Bill* had been read, the Members of the Assembly availed themselves of the indulgence—the whole House having been admitted, occupied the benches which had been prepared for their accommodation within the Bar.—*Gazette.*

ERRATUM:—In the statement of the temperature for the last month falling to 20d. Fahr. read 2d.

CARBONEAR STAR.

NOTICE.—We have been so severely treated lately by several GENTLEMEN, who after ordering and receiving our Paper for some weeks refused it, that we request, in future, all orders for it may be transmitted to us in writing.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1833.

By a private letter from St. John's, we understand Papers to the 3d ulto. have been received. They state that the affairs of Don Pedro, are, every day, becoming more desperate—that O'Connell is returned member of Parliament for Dublin, and it is probable six of his relatives will be returned for other parts of Ireland—Hunt has lost his Election at Preston—the County of Dorset has returned two Tory (Conservative) Members—and that Sir J. Byng and Mr. Ponsoby are returned for Poole, both Reformers.

THE CARBONEAR MUTUAL INSURANCE SOCIETY.

At the Meeting, advertised in the *Carbonear Star*, of last week, held at Messrs. MOORE and BRANSCOMBE'S, on Saturday evening.

Thirty Owners of Vessels attended: Mr. W. W. BEMISTER, was called to the Chair, the Treasurers, Secretary, and Surveyors for the last year, were re-elected; (with the exception of Mr. JOHN NICHOLL, Senr. who

was elected as Surveyor, to fill the place of Mr. R. HOPKINS, deceased).

The most important question submitted to the consideration of the Meeting, was: whether the Scheme should, or should not, continue to Insure Vessels up to the last of December, instead of the first of December, as last year; this question was submitted with a general understanding, that another would follow, as to whether the Scheme, should, or should not, Insure on Foreign Voyages, any of the Vessels that might belong to the Scheme on the Sealing Voyage. The extraordinary increase in the size and quality of Sealing Vessels during the last ten years, having rendered many of them fit for the Foreign trade of this country; the Labrador fisheries not affording such Vessels profitable employment; and the high rate of premiums in Great Britain, the States, Halifax, and St. John's, Newfoundland, being a heavy deduction, from the low freights afforded in the fish trade: were the causes that gave rise to an attempt to extend the benefits of the Mutual Insurance Scheme to the Vessels of this country on their Foreign Voyages.

After a very long, and animated discussion on the first question, it was abandoned, and a Resolution was passed, as follows:—

This Scheme, shall Insure all Vessels fitted out for the Sealing and Coasting Voyages; from 12 o'clock at night, on the fourth day of March, until 12 o'clock at night, on the thirty-first day of May. Any Vessel leaving her Port, to go on the Sealing voyage after the tenth of May, shall be at the risk of her Owner after the last of May.—Any Vessel lost on the Sealing voyage (if such Vessel did not sail after the tenth day of May) shall be paid for, although such loss may happen after the last of May. But, Vessels lost on the Coasting voyage after the last of May, shall not be paid for. Payment of all losses shall be made during the month of June. Thus, leaving the question of Insurance on Foreign Voyages, to be decided after the Sealing voyage is over:—and making, for the present; a Scheme of Insurance, principally for the Sealing voyage.

DIED.

At his residence, in Harbour Grace, on Wednesday morning last, between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock, the Very Rev. Thomas Ever, V. G. in the 87th year of his age.—His funeral took place yesterday, and was attended by the Irish, Merchant's, Fishermen and Shoremen's, and Mechanics' Societies, and an immense concourse of persons who testified by this mark of respect, the feeling they entertained towards the deceased.—We have not been enabled to procure a biographical sketch of his life for this week's publication, but hope to do so for the next.

Shipping Intelligence.

HARBOUR GRACE.

CLEARED.
Feb. 7.—Schooner Sarah, Bryan, Liverpool; 26½ tons cod oil, 4 tons blubber, 49 tierces and 44 bls. salmon, 28 cow hides, 930 qts. cod fish, 16lb old silver.

PORT-DE-GRAVE.

ENTERED.
Jan. 21.—Schooner Lady Ann, Coysb, Lisbon; 70 tons salt, 7 boxes oranges, 2 quarter-casks wine, 6 boxes raisins, 2 bags nuts.
22.—Brig Ringwood, Smith, Liverpool; 20 tons coals, 45 tons salt, 55 bls. flour, 80 firkins butter, 12 bags rice, and sundry merchandise.

BRIGUS.

ENTERED.
Jan. 21.—Brig Eagle, Keating, Halifax; 150 bls. flour, 20 bls. pork, 35 firkins butter, 2 lhd. moist sugar, 145 bushels oats, 6 lhd. porter, 8 chests tea, 22,617 feet board and plank, 2 bls. oysters, 1 cask poultry, 6 puns. molasses, 4 puns. rum.

ON SALE.

A QUANTITY OF
SAIL NEEDLES,

Which will be Sold low for CASH.

Apply to
Captain BARRETT,
Brig Nimrod.
Carbonear, Feb. 13, 1833.

TO LET,

On Building Leases, for a Term of Years.

A Piece of LAND, the Property of the Subscriber, extending from the House of Mr. Joseph Parsons, on the East, to the House of Mrs. Ann Howell, on the West, and running back from the South Side of the Street, to the Subscriber's House

MARY TAYLOR,
Widow.
Carbonear, Feb. 13, 1833.

NOTICES.

W. JACKMAN,

Tailor, Habit-Maker, &c.

BEGS to return his most sincere thanks, to the Inhabitants of Conception Bay, for the kind patronage he has received since his residence in Carbonear.—He, at the same time, assures them, that no care or attention shall ever be wanting, on his part, to execute any orders, in the above line, that may be committed to his care.

WANTED:—Two JOURNEYMEN TAILORS, who will have constant employment and good wages. None but good workmen need apply.

Carbonear, Jan. 9, 1833.

Dissolution of Co-partnership.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Co-partnership heretofore existing between the Subscribers, under the Firm of PROWSE and JAQUES, Carbonear, Newfoundland, is this day, by mutual consent, dissolved. All Debts owing to and from the said Concern, will be received and paid by the undersigned GEORGE EDWARD JAQUES. Witness our Hands, at Carbonear, this 31st Day of December, 1832.

SAMUEL PROWSE, JUN.
GEORGE EDWARD JAQUES.

THE Business hitherto carried on in this Town, under the Firm of PROWSE and JAQUES, will be continued by the Subscriber, from this date, in his own Name.

GEORGE EDWARD JAQUES.

Carbonear, Dec. 31, 1832.

S. PROWSE takes this opportunity of acquainting his Friends and the Public generally, that he has taken a Spot of Ground from the Executor of the late W. H. Scott, (East of the Dwelling-house at present in the occupancy of Mr. Gamble), where he purposes to erect Premises and continue BUSINESS on his own account.

Carbonear, Jan. 1, 1833.

THE Subscriber begs to inform the Inhabitants of CARBONEAR, BRIGUS, and their vicinities, that he has on hand a large and general assortment of Goods, which will be sold on

VERY MODERATE TERMS

CONSISTING OF

Blue, Black, Brown, Olive, Drab, Broad and Forest Cloths
Pilot Cloths, Blankets, Flannels
Serges, Stuffs, Plaids, Shalloons
Padding Cloths, Peruvian Cloths
Printed Chintz and Furniture Cottons
White and Grey Cottons
Shirting-Cotton and Shirting
Nankines, Blue and Pink Stripe
Nankin, coloured, Cotton Bed-Tick
Marseilles Quilts and Counterpanes
Coloured Counterpanes, Cotton Balls
Tapes, Pins, Needles, Silk Tabinett
Gros de Naples, Norwich Crape
Spotted, Book, Mull, and Checked Muslins
Lining Sarsnetts, Table-cloths, Carpets
Carpeting, Suspensers, Combs
Silk and Cotton Shawls, Room Paper
Hats of excellent quality
Cotton Check, Molekins, and a variety of other Goods
Congo, Souchong, and Green Teas
Soap, Raisins, Butter, Bread
Beef, Pork, Rum, and Molasses

ALSO,

TO LET,

BY THE SUBSCRIBER,
(On Building Leases, for 20 Years).
TWO Plots of Ground, (adjoining his Premises in Carbonear), each 25 feet front, and extending back to the Water-side.

THOMAS GAMBLE,

(Executor of the late W. H. SCOTT.)

Carbonear, Jan. 2, 1833.

BLANKS of every description for sale at the Office of this Paper.

NOTICE.

FOFTY SHILLINGS BEWARD.

LOST, on SUNDAY last, between the METHODIST CHAPEL and FRESHWATER, a Silver

WATCH,

Silver CHAIN, and Two KEYS, whoever has found the same, on delivering them to the Subscriber, shall receive the above reward.

ROBERT HUNT.

Freshwater, Feb. 13, 1833.

ON SALE.

JUST IMPORTED,

AND FOR SALE,

BY

THE SUBSCRIBERS,

The Cargo of the *Brig Indian Lass*, from *Waterford.*

CONSISTING OF

BREAD
FLOUR
PORK
BUTTER
OATMEAL
PORTER (in Tierces)
CARROTS
POTATOES
FEATHER BEDS 60lb each
Men's and Women's SHOES
OATS.

ALSO,

The Cargo of the *Brig Bawthick*, from *New-York.*

CONSISTING OF

BREAD
FLOUR
BUTTER
PORK and BEEF
OATS.

Cash, Fish, or Oil will be taken in Payment, or Scots in the Spring.

THOS. CHANCEY & Co.

Carbonear, Jan. 23, 1833.

BY

MICHAEL HOWSEY,

16 Puncheons Rum and Molasses
10 Barrels Superior Sugar
10 Chests of Souchong and Congo Teas
20 Barrels Prime Beef
20 Firkins Prime Butter
3 Cwt. Starch
5 Cwt. Leaf Tobacco

With a General Assortment of

SHOP GOODS,

CONSISTING OF

Blue Half-Cloths, Blanketing, Flannels, Serges, Stuffs, Printed Cottons
Calicoes, Muslins, Lace, Edging
Moleskin, Fustians, Feather Beds
Men's Lambs-wool and Yarn Hose
Blanketing Drawers
Men's Blue and White Flannel and Cotton Shirts
Carpenters' Tools, Coopers' Tools
Horse Collars
Whip, Cross-cut, and Hand Saws
Metal Fountains, and Boilers
Quadrants, Charts, Ensigns, Union Jacks
Parallel Rulers, Norey's Epitome
Gunier's Scales
Sealers' Sculpting Knives
Gun Locks, Gun Lock Vices,
Deck Boots
Men's Women's and Children's Shoes
Shingle and assorted Nails, from 1½ to 8 Inches
Superfine Blue Cloth Jackets, Trowsers and Vests
Castor Oil, Honey, Bermuda Arrow-root.

The above Articles, will be Sold reasonable for CASH.

Carbonear, Jan. 16, 1833.

BY

COLLINGS & LEGG,

50 Barrels American Flour
50 Barrels American Beef
30 Firkins Prime Butter
50 Boxes Raisins
And a general assortment of Dry Goods, Groceries, &c.

Carbonear, Jan. 9, 1833.

POETRY.

THE LOT OF WOMAN.

To make idols and to find them clay,
And to bewail that worship--therefore pray.
MRS. HEMANS.

It is woman's lot to smile,
Though her heart may ache with pain,
To forbear with cold neglect
And the silence of disdain.

It is woman's lot to speak
In a soft subduing tone,
Though her voice more true had been
In a sad and plaintive moan.

It is woman's lot to look
Ever cheerful, kind, and gay,
While the rising sigh's suppressed
For the loved one far away.

It is woman's lot to muse
On the future and the past,
Though the clouds of sorrow's gloom
O'er the present may be cast.

It is woman's lot to move
With a mild and graceful mien,
Though her manners, ill assumed,
To her mind's depression seen.

It is woman's lot to watch,
When the day-light disappears,
For the well-known form and voice,
Or the foot-steps ling'ring near.

It is woman's lot to weep,
When the weary world's at rest,
That the tears, in secret shed,
May relieve her anxious breast.

It is woman's lot to hope,
Though the phantom nicks her care;
Yet for happiness she hopes,
In the unknown realms elsewhere.

RESPECTABILITY.

(From the Friendship's Offering.)

"PRAY, what do you mean by 'respectability'?"
Is it wisdom, or worth, sir? or rank, or gentility?
Is it rough sound sense? or manner refined?
Is it kindness of heart? or expansion of mind?
Is it learning, or talent, or honor, or fame,
That you mean by that phrase (so expressive) to name?"
"No, no--these are not, sir, the things now in vogue;
A 'respectable man,' sir, may be a great rogue,
A 'respectable person,' may be a great fool,
Have lost even the little he pick'd up at school,
Be a glutton, adulterer, plung'd into debt,
May forfeit his honor, his best friend forget,
May be a base sycophant, tyrant or knave,
(But a livery servant, at least, he must have);
In vice he may vie with the vilest of sinners,
But he must keep a cook, and give CAPITAL DINNERS."

AN IMPARTIAL ENQUIRY INTO THE MERITS
OF WINTER, 13th FEBRUARY.

See, Winter comes to rule the varied year,
Sullen and sad with all his rising train;
Vapours, and clouds, and storms. Be these my theme;
These! that exalt the soul to solemn thought,
And heavenly musings.

Solemn enough, indeed! for who can help being solemn when his fingers are stiffened, and his teeth involuntarily chattering with cold? But for those heavenly musings the poet speaks of, where they are to be met with in the month of February, Thomson himself only knows. The good man would, doubtless, have had his readers believe, that his poem was penned under the immediate inspiration of Nature herself; but do not, oh ye lovers of truth! do not credit one iota of this; do not suppose, for one instant, that the muse of Thomson was ever invoked amidst east winds and icicles. Ah, no! had it, indeed, been so, he would have been far too much disgusted with his subject ever to have proceeded in it. But the true state of the case I take to be this; the worthy poet sat down properly accoutred in flannel waistcoat and worsted stockings, a fine fire blazing in his grate, and his warm study defended from every cold air which could intrude to check the flow of his imagination. Here it was that he vapoured about heavenly musings, and I have little doubt that had he put another Christmas log upon the stove, and kept himself awake to trim it, his poem would have been one continued panegyric upon the peculiarities of the season; but happening, good man, to prose a little, he fell asleep, and waking when his fire was out, and his frame shivering with cold, he forgot his former blessings, and exclaims--

The soul of man dies in vain boasting life,
And black with more than melancholy views!

An observation much more germane to the matter; for surely, of all the strange, unaccountable whims which have ever entered the human mind, there can be none so perverse, so utterly irreconcilable with the dictates of common sense and right reason, as partiality to winter; and I freely declare, I hold all who profess such a doctrine, in utter contempt. For, ah! how gross--how unsusceptible of all that is lovely, must be the man who can look on Nature, in all her splendour of full dress--her flowers and dewy gems, and forbear shuddering, as he thinks of the dreary, dreary day, when she shall be stripped of her graceful attire, and appear in all the nakedness of her leafless branches and flowerless beds? Or, how shall we think of him who can listen to the concert of sweet sounds, which Summer ever affords, when every tree is an orchestra, and the very skies seem resounding with more than mortal music? Oh! what shall we say of the ear, or the feeling of one who can wish such melody hushed in the drear silence of winter? Can such a being be said to have music in his soul? No, truly--a hurdy-gurdy were too good for him! And does not

the immortal Shakspeare, acknowledged to have a perfect insight into the human heart, does he not, in express terms, declare that such a one is fit for no earthly employment, but treasons, stratagems, and spoils! And shall I, or any other honest man, and useful member of society, keep company with such rascally fellows as these? No, as I would have shunned a Fawkes, a Ravalliac, a Thistlewood, a plague, pestilence, or famine, so will I ever avoid the cold-blooded lover of winter.

Being myself so confirmed a hater of cold weather, I take an amusement in gathering the opinions of my associates on this point, and examining the various reasons openly alleged, or obliquely glanced at, for this their defence of the Uncomfortable; and then (for I love to be methodical,) I will divide into two classes, the sturdy, and the sentimental. Under the first head may be ranked those who follow agricultural pursuits, (gentlemen farmers excepted,) sea-faring gentlemen of the old school, and all who, having passed their lives exposed to a great variety of climates, are become really hardened and incapable of feeling the inclemencies of winter. To those, more than to any other class of human beings, will I allow the privilege of praising the cold, for the fact is, they are so completely tough, so water-proof, and weather-beaten, that the rough scintillation of Auster and Notus, make not one wit more impression on them, than the soft Zephyrs of a July noon. But, while I tolerate their want of feeling, I must ever avoid coming in collision with such people. They seem to move in a cold, cold atmosphere of their own; it sticks about them, and every movement they make appears to freeze you; and then they talk with such a loud blustering voice, as if they had been conversing with old Aolus himself, in one of his crosser moods, and knew not how to accommodate their tone to mortal ears; and all their jokes are coarse and vulgar, like their own sensations; and, then they will never shut the doors after them.

The sentimental lovers of Winter, as the name infers, are totally opposite to these--they take a very different, though, in my mind, a still more mistaken view of the affair. They are of the amiable race of mankind, persons full of snivility and moral reflections, and who prize themselves much upon their taste for domestic comforts; and, when they wish to be particularly charming, they talk about the delights of a long winter's evening, with a blazing fire, and the shutters closed, and the window-curtains drawn, and a cheerful family circle round the hearth; but, good reader, whenever you hear such opinions as these delivered, be sure that he or she that utolds them, has a right to custom primogeniture, or some such tyrannical reason, to the comers of the fire-side; aye, and it may be, good easy chair too; for, if you will only take the trouble to mark the sentiments of your acquaintance on this subject, you will invariably find that, however large the family may be (and, by the way, the larger the more certain will you find my rule), there will never be more than two in it, who will take it upon them, to assert this opinion, inasmuch as it is an indisputable point, that there can be but two really comfortable places by any fire-side. And those of the amiable school, are the people who will sit all day long in their warm corners, shawled, and coated, and flannelled, till they look like lumps of animated fleecy hosiery; and when the snow is on the ground, and the ice in the gutter, will drive away their poor little sons and daughters, nephews and nieces, to take a "nice walk," eulogizing the cold starving atmosphere, as "charming weather for young people." Observe, that this sort of conversation is much in use, among certain gentlemen declining into the vale of years; albeit, the descent he made somewhat against their own inclination; meagre persons, with the scattering of grey hairs, which time has left them, carefully combed over the baldness of age; and these who, when in youth, would have shrunk from the chilly blast, will now, by way of appearing the hardest young fellows in the world, discourse mightily upon the invigorating influence of a fine frosty day, and commonly end in catching their deaths of cold, by creeping along one of these healthy days, without the addition of a great coat. Then there are some who praise the cold weather, more from habit than principle, and are led by the example of others; some because they want to sport a new coat, with a hundred caps; others again, because they are desirous of getting a ducking, or breaking their necks upon the Serpentine; and many, for no earthly reason whatsoever, but the direction of their own foolish imagination.

And if we inquire, impartially, into the consequences of this "fine healthy weather," what do we find but rheumatism, sore throats, and complaints on the chest in the elder part of the world; colds and chilblains amongst the younger. Do we meet three people out of four who are able to articulate intelligibly from hoarseness? And are we not continually in danger of having our most serious opinions, and, still more, our best jokes unnoticed, or mistaken, from the temporary deafness of our auditors? All the effect of this "nice healthy weather," I have heard cold weather extolled on this very account, that it brings with it a never-failing source of conversation; for, in whatever company you may chance to go, whether old or young, serious or lively, staid or agreeable, you are sure to have a subject entirely fitted to it, in inquiries after the cold of this person, or the rheumatism of that. And if, said the defender of Winter, the person you address should unluckily be himself free from illness of any sort, yet it can scarcely happen but that he has had some near relation, or dear friend, who has, or has had a prodigious cold, the symptoms of which will afford you copious materials for conversation. But should this resource even fail you (a thing scarcely possible), should his mother, his father, grandfathers, grandmothers, his nine sisters, his hundred and fifty cousins, be actually in perfect health, better still, as you may then expatiate, ad infinitum, on their wonderful good luck in escaping the effects of what has been so fatal to all your other friends, whose disorders, by the way, you may briefly touch upon, if necessary. But, for my own part, I look upon all this in a very different light, and can imagine few things more distressing than the sameness which is thus introduced into conversation; not to mention the everlasting sneezing, coughing, and nose-blowing, which assail

you wherever you go. I am loth to leave my subject which is, indeed, most fruitful to one who feels, as do, the miseries of this most miserable weather, without slightly reflecting on a certain description of persons, whose mode of conducting themselves, in their commerce with others, renders them an intolerable nuisance to people of my disposition. I mean those who, by way of displaying their own sagacity, or, as I sometimes suspect, for the malicious purpose of frightening their neighbours out of their wits, do invariably begin, about the end of October, or the commencement of November, to assert that there will be a dreadfully hard winter. This behaviour I positively object to; or, in the first place, it is my humble but decided opinion, that they knew nothing at all about the matter; and the next, I must take leave to observe, that if, by any unnecessary remarks upon the atmosphere, they should happen to have acquired an inkling of future suffering in the frost line, in the name of humanity let them keep their knowledge to themselves, and leave the uninformed to revel in happy blindness. "If ignorance be bliss, is it not folly to be wise?" I have the misfortune to number many of these soothsayers amongst my acquaintance--friends I will not call them, for nothing friendly ever came in the person of a prophet of frosts. Some of them shape their dark sayings, by the conduct of the birds of passage, from whose number and time of appearance, they will make calculations sufficient to freeze you to the very marrow. Woe to you if you have a sportsman among your associates, for he will talk as though he were grand minister of the snipes, and deep in the cabinet council of the woodcocks; long ere a beak, or so much as the tip of a tail, has been discovered by any other human being, he will bring you intelligence of the shoals he has seen of these messengers of evil. But this mode of judging is so evidently a remnant of the ancient Roman superstition, that I invariably turn a deaf ear to it; besides, I have heard the same story for the last twenty years, and the greater the number of birds so much the milder has been the subsequent weather.

Then there are other prognosticators, who go on a totally different scent, and foretell, not by the evolutions of the inhabitants of the air, but by the productions of the earth. They take Nature for their guide, and prophecy mighty frosts from the number of hips and haws that are to be found on the hedges; and thus the gay berries, which were wont to delight the eyes of the ignorant, are made a bugbear and a fatal warning of dreadful things to come. But an experience of their fallacy has made me reckless of their signs. I laugh at the birds, and scoff at their berries. This Winter, however, I have been assailed by a more formidable prophecy; for, not content with retailing their own observations, one or two of these infledged ravens have taken the field of terror under the broad buckler of a scientific name, and have given forth their predictions as those of one of the first chemists of the day, who they assert to have foretold, by calculations and deductions, all the more terrible to their auditors, as the second-hand retailers of the news are unable to repeat them, that this winter is to prove one of the most severe ever known in England. Triumphantly I reminded them, as the season advanced, that Winter was half over, and yet he had not appeared in his ugliest form. True, they replied, but we were not to experience the inclemency of the season till the departure of Christmas; then, say they, we shall begin to pile the hearth with the hoarded log, and the blood will stagnate, till the skin, losing all human semblance, shall rise in hideous puckers, like unto the flesh of geese, fifty years advanced in life, and it breaks and divides into deep furrows of pain and agony. Then shall Thames once more become a harmless monster, with fairs and bonfires on his back, rolling his sullen waters beneath a stiff canopy, of rebellious ice; thus, by deferring the execution of this sad sentence, do they secure to themselves a long reign of croaking, and by quoting the observations of Sir H. D., instead of those contained in the venerable pages of Moore's Almanack, escape all chance of being contradicted.

Alas! their prophecy is, I fear me, on the point of being fulfilled--a new moon and a hard frost, have entered, cheek by jowl; and even now its cold crescent is glimmering o'er whitened house tops, and kennels rugged with ice. The sight has chilled my fingers--the pen trembles within my grasp--a cold shiver has seized me--It steals through every vein--I feel it gradually wrapping me round like a wet blanket, till it settles on my devoted nose. I dare not longer meditate on our miseries, and can only add this final exclamation, "Would that I were a dormouse!"

SELECTIONS.

UTILITY OF REPORTING.--The utility of reporting is as incalculable as its effects are universal; and, perhaps, that which is deemed the most humble of its class, is the most useful. The police report is the poor man's law book, and but too often his only code of morals in his worldly dealings. It imparts the most useful of legal information to the middle, and even to the upper classes; it is a source of the prevention and detection of crime above all contrivances of law and police; it is an astonishing type of the infinite aberrations of the heart and mind under every variety of circumstances and caprice of fortune; and, above all, it is the copious source of mercy and benevolence to the poor, for it acquaints the affluent with the unspeakable sufferings of the miserable, and teaches pomp to take physic, and to "learn to feel what wretches feel." Our police reports often reflect the highest honour upon our nature, for I have known them to exhibit the firmest integrity, the most tender kindness and generosity, and even the most sensitive delicacy, amidst a class whose habits and sufferings from poverty might well lead to a supposition that they were rendered impervious to all but coarse and selfish feelings. It is from this, and many other reasons, that I regret so often to see police

reports made the vehicle of ribbald jests and low buffoonery, in which the sufferings of the poor are turned to heartless ridicule. Vice is never forgotten in its woe, but the humorous and harmless peculiarities of the lower orders, the legitimate sources of wit and a fund of amusement, too often escape the obtuse reporter. It must be observed, that police reporters form no part of the aristocracy of the reporting corps. They are paid by the piece, at a penny or three halfpence, or sometimes at two-pence a line, and are seldom attached to the establishments of any respectable newspaper. They have no communication with the parliamentary reporters, and even the persons of each class are seldom known to each other. Perhaps the hauteur and jealousy of the different classes of reporters may remind the reader of Sheridan's joke of the quarrel between the ladies for the precedence, which was settled by the order in which the articles of their husbands' trades were put upon the dinner table, and in which "tobacco came last of all." But this mode of paying police reporters produces a singular feature in the profession. It acts as a bounty upon long reports, and engenders every vice of composition. The police reporter spins out his account of the proceedings before the magistrate to a length beyond conception, and multiplying his copies by the polygraph, upon the silver paper, they are sent to the different newspapers *ad captivandum*. Those that are so fortunate as to be purchased are then abridged, and the average proportion of length between the original, or "FLIMS," as it is called in the newspaper technicology, and the abridgment, may be stated at twenty to one. It is obvious, that the chances of the public not obtaining strictly accurate police reports are much increased by this system of business. In the courts of equity, and in the three superior courts of law, the reporting is generally performed, for the morning papers at least, by barristers, at from three to five guineas a week. The ecclesiastical courts are but little attended to. Trials at assize are reported by barristers, or by the parliamentary reporters, specially sent for the purpose by the newspapers from their respective establishments, during the vacations of Parliament. These persons are not permitted to charge above one guinea per diem, with their expenses of stage or postchaise hire; and, in cases where their established salary is not continued during their journey, their rate of remuneration does not exceed that of the lowest class of travellers for the lowest of the commercial houses. Almost all the community derive from newspaper reports, all the knowledge they possess of the laws of the country in which they live, on which all they possess is at stake. They are with many lawyers a principal, and with all a very material source of professional knowledge.--The next, and highest branch of the reporting business, is that of giving the people reports of the debates and proceedings in both Houses of Parliament. In this, reporting is carried to an astonishing degree of perfection. It exhibits, beyond all precedent or existing example, the excellence which is produced, as a matter of course, or in natural and almost unavoidable result, from competition in a free and open market. --Metropolitan.

SINGULAR ANECDOTE OF A SERPENT.--The beautiful Anaconda now exhibiting at Peale's Museum is perhaps the most gentle of its tribe; and nightly excites great interest by the attachment it evinces to its master, which can only be exceeded by its deep sense of unmerited wrong--of this latter he has lately given a most striking proof. The other evening a gentleman, either waitingly or for the want of thought, struck him with the ferule of his umbrella on the back, making some remarks at the time, and then proceeded to the other end of the room. The serpent became so agitated as to excite its keeper's attention, but still perfectly harmless, having more the appearance of terror than of revenge. After a while the offending party returned, and was again making some remarks, when the Anaconda, recognising his voice, made a spring direct for his face, which, however, he happily missed, and was then as gentle as ever. What makes the above the more remarkable is, that the animal was blind at the time, from some of the last year's skin obstructing its vision; so that it must have discovered its adversary solely by the sound of his voice.--New-York Traveller.

A surgeon on board a ship of war used to prescribe salt-water for his patients in all disorders. Having sailed, one evening, on a party of pleasure, he happened, by some mischance, to be drowned. The captain, who had not heard of the disaster, asked one of the tars, next day, if he had heard anything of the doctor? "Yes," answered Jack, after a turn of his quid, "he was drowned last night in his medicine chest."

LAONIC.--Why was my paper discontinued? Answer.--Because 'twas never paid for.

Printed and Published by D. E. GILMOUR, at the Star Office, Carbonar, Newfoundland, to whom all Communications must be addressed.--Subscription, ONE GUINEA PER ANNUM, payable half-yearly.