

THE
STAR,
AND
CONCEPTION BAY JOURNAL.

VOL. 1. NEW SERIES.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1834.

NO. 7.

Conception Bay, Newfoundland.--Printed and Published by D. E. GILMOUR, at his Office, Carbonear.

On Sale.

At the Office of this Paper,
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Notices.

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For the Education of Young Gentlemen.

MR. GILMOUR begs respectfully to inform his friends and the public that the above School OPENED, after the *Christmas Vacation*, on Monday the 13th of January, 1834.

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No Entrance Fee.

Carbonear, Jan. 14.

MRS. GILMOUR begs to intimate to her friends and the public that her Seminary for YOUNG LADIES, OPENED, after the *Christmas Recess*, on Monday, January 13, 1834.

Carbonear, Jan. 14, 1834.

BLANKS of every description for sale at the Office of this paper.
Carbonear, Jan. 1

THE DRUGGIST OF FIFE.

Whether, in consequence of an epidemic prevailing, or of the season, which was Christmas, and the consequent repletion attendant on it, had caused such an unusual influx of customers to the shop of Andrew, chemist and druggist in the town of Fife, or no, certain it is he and his boy had been more than usually employed in compounding aperients and emetics for the inhabitants of the good city; never before had such a demand on his gallipots and bottles been used during it; 14 oz. blue pill, 5lb. jalap besides colocynth, senna, and rhubarb, at the lowest computation, had he prepared for the good town-folk of Fife; innumerable had been the cases of cholera morbus and plum-pudding surfeits, he had received that day, and the recollection of the proportion of evil he had been the means of alleviating, gave him the most pleasing sensations; the profit also accruing from this day's labour, contributed no small share of pleasing thoughts, and one half-hour more had passed, ere it entered his mind that the time of closing had more than arrived; he had however just arisen for the purpose, when a stranger entered. Now, Andrew, though an industrious man, would gladly have dispensed with any other calls for his services for that evening, and not altogether so obligingly as usual did he welcome his customer, but awaited his commands without deigning a question. The stranger was not, however, long in opening his commission, neither did he appear to take Andrew's inattention at all amiss; he seemed one of those happy beings upon whom outward circumstances make little or no impression, who could be either civil or otherwise, as should happen to suit his humor, and who cared little for any opinion but his own; his broad and ample shoulders, over which was cast a large coachman's coat, with its innumerable capes, with his hands thrust into the pockets, and his round, ruddy, good-humoured face showed the cares and troubles of the world had made little impression on him. Andrew had seen many a wild Highlander in his

time, but either there was something peculiar in his customer, or his nerves were a little deranged by his exertions during the day but an undefinable sensation of fear came over him, for which he could not account, and his first impression was to run to the door for assistance; but then he bethought himself he might, perchance fall into the hands of some of those night prowlers, who, report says, make no scruple of plying students with the living subject if they cannot procure a dead one. I cannot state this as a fact, but it occurred to Andrew he had heard so, and more, did he leave his shop, his till would be left to the tender mercies of the stranger; he was, therefore, compelled to summon courage, and demand the stranger's business. This was not so difficult to him, perhaps, as we may imagine, Andrew having formerly served in the militia; but it appeared his fears had alarmed him far more than there was any occasion, for, on asking the stranger's business, he in the most polite manner only requested him to prepare a box of moderate strong aperient pills; this at once relieved his fears, though it did not entirely remove them, and Andrew quickly set about the necessary preliminaries. Blue pill and jalap once more were in request, but so much had the stranger's sudden appearance agitated him, he could not recollect their places so readily as usual, and he was more than once on the point of mixing quite the reverse of what he intended; the stranger observed to him he appeared agitated, but politely begged he would wait a little and compose himself, as he was in no hurry; here all Andrew's fears returned, and in spite of all his efforts his hand shook as though he had the palsy, and never had the preparation of a box of pills appeared so irksome to him; it seemed as though the very medicine itself had this evening conspired to torment him—three times longer than it usually took him had he now been, and though the town clock had already told the hour of midnight, still Andrew was at his post, grinding and pounding, and often, as he delayed for a moment from mere inability to proceed, the stranger politely besought him to rest a few moments and compose himself, and Andrew, for very shame, was compelled to resume his occupation. At length his labours drew to an end, and he prepared the label, pasted it on, neatly covered the box with blue paper, and presented it to the stranger. "I will thank you for a glass of water," said he, as he bowed to Andrew, on receiv-

ing it, "and I see you have given me a smartish dose. 'All these pills to be taken at bed time,' but so much the better, they will perform their required duty sooner. I have, ere now, mastered a leg of mutton; and some writers affirm the human stomach can digest a tenpenny nail, so here goes."

It was in vain Andrew assured him he had made a mistake in the directions, that one pill was sufficient; in vain he remonstrated with him on the danger of taking a larger dose; pill after pill disappeared from his alarmed view, while between every three or four, in the same equable and polite tone came, "I will thank you to prepare me another box, and compose yourself, Sir; I'm in no hurry." Who could the stranger be? Andrew was now at the very climax of alarm; the perspiration stood on his brow, and his hands trembled so as to render it almost impossible to reach down his jars without damaging them; strong doses he had certainly often prepared after a city feast for the attendants on it, but this outdid all. A man that could devour a leg of mutton, digest a tenpenny nail, and take a box of pills at a mouthful, had never entered his imagination, much less did he ever expect to see such a being in person, but be he who he may, he was again obliged to commence his labour. The stranger had now finished his box, and Andrew had no alternative but to commence again, or stare him in the face—the latter he could not do, as his imagination had now metamorphosed into something more or less than man; once more, therefore, did Andrew ply at the pestle, while the stranger, as if to beguile the tedium of waiting, began to grow more loquacious. Had Andrew ever sought after the Philosopher's Stone, the Universal Solvent, or the Elixir of Life? Did he put much faith in Solomon's Balm of Gilead, or Carrington's Pills, or did he believe in the Metempsychosis? In vain he assured him he studied nothing but the Edinburgh Dispensatory, that his shop bounded his researches; the stranger took it for granted he must be able to give or receive information, and question after question did he put, to which Andrew assented, without knowing their purport. At length he seemed to have exhausted all his subjects, sat himself on the chair, as if to compose himself to sleep, and in a short time gave unequivocal proofs of it. Andrew now began to breathe more freely, and ventured to cast his eyes towards his strange customer; and after all, there was nothing to be alarmed at in his appearance, except he noticed the breath from his nostrils appeared more like the steam of a tea-kettle than the breath of a human being—still there was nothing extraordinary in his appearance; he had a jovial English farmer's face, and a dress that well suited it; to be sure a smile, or rather grin, lurked in the corner of his mouth, even while asleep, as if he mocked poor Andrew's perplexity; he did not, however, allow much time for observation—he seemed to be intuitively aware Andrew had ceased his operations, and he awoke with his usual polite manner. "Oh, I see you have finished; have the goodness to prepare one box more; but let me pray you to take your leisure and compose yourself, for I am in no hurry." Andrew, who had fondly

hoped his labour was at an end, now found himself obliged to renew it again with vigour, while the stranger aroused himself, rose from his chair, yawned and shook himself—spoke of the comfortable nap he had enjoyed, was sorry he had kept Andrew up so late, or early rather, for it was now morning. Andrew, though internally wishing him any where but in his shop, yet constrained himself politely to answer, his commands gave him great pleasure. Again did he renew his toil. Box after box did he prepare without intermission, and the hours of one, two, and three, had been told in succession, by the market-clock; bitterly did he lament his destiny—long before this ought he to have been snug and comfortable in his warm bed. Anger now began to assume the place of fear, as he grew more accustomed to his visitor's company, and often did he determine in himself to refuse preparing more, still his courage was not yet at that pitch; probably his exertions, as I said before, may have injured his nerves—however, he could not rally himself enough to do it. The stranger, with his usual smile or grin, stood looking on, employing his time by beating the devil's tattoo on his boot, while at intervals came forth the usual phrase, "Another box, but don't hurry yourself."

At length mere inability to proceed any further, supplied the place of courage; his arms and sides ached to such a degree with his labor, as to cause the perspiration to stand on his brow in great drops, and he declared he could proceed no further. The alteration in the stranger's countenance told him he had better have left it unsaid, and his hands instinctively grasped the pestle with renewed vigour, but his repentance came too late; the stranger's hand was already across the counter, and in a second more had grasped Andrew's nose as firmly as if it had been in a vice. Andrew strove in vain to release himself—the stranger held him with more than human grasp; and his voice, instead of the polite tone he had before used, now sounded to his terrific ears what his imagination had pictured of the Indian yell. The pain of the gripe deprived him of voice to assure his tormentor he would compound for him as long as he would wish; still he contrived to make signs to that effect, by stretching his hands towards his mortar, imitating the action of grinding; but his tyrant was relentless—firmer did he close his fore-finger and thumb. Andrew could not shake him off; like a person afflicted with the night-mare he in vain essayed his strength, though agonized with the fear of losing his prominent feature in the struggle. The stranger, at length, as if endowed with supernatural strength, lifted him from the ground, balanced him in the air for a moment, gave him a three-fold twitch, drew him head foremost over the counter and let him fall. When he came to his senses he found himself lying outside his bed, his only injury a broken nose, from coming in contact with the floor in his fall.

Varieties.

FLOWER-CLOCK.—LINNÆUS proposed a Calendar of Flora, he also proposed a *Dial of Flora*, or Flower-Clock; and this was to consist as will readily be supposed, of plants,

which make certain hours of the day, by opening and shutting their flowers. Thus the day-lily (*hemerocallis fulva*) opens at five in the morning the *leontodon taraxacum*, or common dandelion, at five or six; the *hieracium latifolium* (hawk-weed) at seven; *hieracium pilosella*, at eight; the *calendula arvensis*, or marigold, at nine; the *mesembry anthemum neapolitanum*, at ten or eleven; and the closing of these and other flowers in the latter part of the day offers a similar system of hour marks.

Some of these plants are thus expanded in consequence of the stimulating action of the light and heat of the day, as appears by their changing their time, when these influences are changed; but others appear to be constant to the same hour, and independent of the impulse of such external circumstances. Other flowers by their opening and shutting prognosticate the weather. Plants of the latter kind are called by Linnæus *meteoric* flowers, as being regulated by atmospheric causes: those which change their hour of opening and shutting with the length of the day, he terms *tropical*; and the hours which they measure are, he observes, like Turkish hours, of varying length at different seasons, but there are other plants which he terms *equinoctial*; their vegetable days, like the days of the equator, being always of equal length; and these open, and close, at a fixed and positive hour of the day. Such plants clearly prove that the periodical character, and the period of the motions above described, do not depend altogether on external circumstances.

Some curious experiments on this subject were made by Decandolle. He kept certain plants in two cellars, one warmed by a stove and dark, the other lighted by lamps.

On some of the plants the artificial light appeared to have no influence, (*convolvulus arvensis*, *convolvulus encorum*, *silene fruticosa*,) and they still followed the clock hours in their opening and closing. The night-blowing plants appear somewhat disturbed, both by perpetual light and by perpetual darkness. In either condition they accelerated their *going* so much that in three days they had gained half a day, and thus exchanged night for day as their time of opening. Other flowers *went slower* in the artificial light (*convolvulus purpureus*)—In like manner those plants which fold and unfold their leaves were variously affected by this mode of treatment. The *oxalis stricta* and *oxalis incarnata* kept their habits, without regarding artificial light or heat.—The *mimosa leucocephala* folded and unfolded at the usual times, whether in light or in darkness, but the folding up was not so complete as in the open air. The *mimosa pudica*, (sensitive plant,) kept in darkness during the day time, and illuminated during the night, had in three days accommodated herself to the artificial state, opening in the evening, and closing in the morning; restored to the open air, she recovered her usual habits.

Tropical plants in general, as is remarked by our gardeners, suffer from the length of summer daylight; and it has been found necessary to shade them during a certain part of the day.

ROADS IN ENGLAND.—No country in the world is so well provided with roads as Great Britain; and that is one of the chief causes which places it beyond all rational dispute, at the head of the civilization of the world. The greater part of England is intersected in all directions, not only by paths by which persons may pass on foot from one place to another, but by broad highways for the movement of wheel carriages, and the transference of the heaviest loads that can be dragged by the power of horse or of machinery. Formerly vehicles drawn along the public roads were not allowed to carry above a very small weight. In 1629, Charles I, issued a proclamation commanding that no common carrier, or other person whatsoever, should travel with any wain, cart or carriage, with more than two wheels nor with a load above twenty hundred weight, for fear of injuring the roads; and penalties continued to be exacted under this regulation for many years after. Our present roads as compared with those which then existed, are not more multiplied than they are improved in quality. Of their number and extent, the latest complete account which has appeared is that given in the appendix to a report of a select Committee of the House of Commons which sat on the subject of turnpike roads and highways in 1629. From this document it appears that the length of all paved streets and turnpikes in England and Wales was then 17,725 miles, and that of other public highways 95,104 miles, making the total length of travelling road 114,829 miles. Assuming all the turnpike roads to be of the statutable breadth of 60 feet, and the others on an average 30 feet broad, the space covered by the whole would be not less than 482,000 acres or about 752 square miles. In the years 1812, 1813, and 1814, (the latest for which there are no returns) this extent of roads was kept in repair at an annual expense of £1,404,842, being at the rate of £12 6s. 8d. per mile. But notwithstanding all that has already been done in this way the business of opening additional lines of roads is always going forward. Some idea of the rate at which this species of improvement proceeds may be gathered from the fact, that in the six years from 1827 to 1832 inclusive, the number of acts of Parliament which were passed for the formation of new and the repair or alteration of old roads, amounted to 388 or nearly 65 on an average per annum.

If the whole surface streaked and cut into by these roads, and our other channels of communication, could be taken in by the eye at once, what an extraordinary display of national enterprise and national wealth it would present! So large an accumulation of the conquests of energy and the constituent elements of riches, it may be safely said was never before collected within the same compass. These roads are often the noblest exemplifications of art subjugating and triumphing over an opposition of natural difficulties. Many of them are carried through the air over considerable rivers, by bridges of more or less cost and magnificence.—Others are supported across depths and hollows on stupendous embankments. Some

are driven under ground through mountains. Some terminate in piers that extend far into the sea. There is no hostile force that their daring engineers have not faced and vanquished. And then to our highways are to be added our railroads, and canals, and rivers made navigable, or otherwise improved by art, as all entering into the aggregate of those channels of communication which our ancestors and ourselves have created, and which contribute in so eminent a degree to make England what it is.

The advantages, however, which we thus enjoy are, in by far the greater part, only of comparatively recent acquisition. The Baron Dupin in the introduction to his work on the "Commercial Power of Great Britain," written in 1822, remarks that fifty years before that time France was generally as far a head of this country in all that concerns public utility, as we had since got before his own countrymen. Imperfectly supplied with roads as France now is, compared with England, the Baron's statement is probably true, if confined even to this particular. If we turn back at least to time somewhat, though not very much more remote, we find that there were hardly any roads on which travelling could be conveniently performed, except in the immediate vicinity of the capital, and not even always there.

Coaches are said to have been first introduced into England in 1580 by the Earl of Arundel, and by the commencement of the next century they had become common in London. They were brought to Edinburgh in the suit of the English Ambassador in 1598. Hackney coaches were first introduced in London in 1625.

In the year 1763, the London coach set off from Edinburgh only once in the month, and was from 12 to 16 days on the road. The vehicle which accomplished this adventurous achievement was at this time the only stage-coach in the northern capital, except two, which ran to the neighbouring port of Leith. A journey to or from Edinburgh was in those days a doubtful and hazardous expedition—something like setting out in quest of the north-west passage. It is said that in Scotland, when a person determined upon attempting the achievement, he used, with the laudable prudence of that country, to make his will before setting out.

The change that has since taken place is immense. The journey between London and Edinburgh is now performed by the mail-coach, at all seasons and in all weather, in little more than forty-three hours and a half.

MALT LIQUORS A PREVENTATIVE OF FEVER.—It is a curious fact, and one which is worthy of investigation by medical men, that persons who are in the habit of drinking of malt liquors are rarely known to be seized with typhus, or other slow fevers, whatever other effects these liquors may have upon the constitution. In corroboration of this fact, we have been assured by those whose opportunities for observation have been extensive, that there is not an instance known of a brewer's servant being entered as a patient, under these diseases, in any of the public hospitals.

DINNER FOOD FOR INVALIDS.—Roast beef and roast mutton are the most eligible of all food for dinner. The proper time of the day for the dinner of invalids should be early—at all events not later than two in the afternoon. Veal and lamb are both of them improper for the valetudinarian state, upon this principle—they are more indigestible, and not easily assimilated to nourishment. It is most true, that young animals, not yet arrived at perfection, are unwholesome; and although some people in health have stomachs so strong that they can digest any food, yet to an invalid it is very hurtful. Food in which the nourishing properties are highly concentrated, is not proper for the stomach of an invalid. Fish, in order to be preserved for the market, are allowed to linger and die, and instead of being put to death in health, as every living thing intended for food ought to be; and this circumstance very much alters its nature and properties as food; and, probably, is one cause why, with some people, fish is said to disagree, by exciting disturbance in the alimentary canal. It is less nutritive than the flesh of warm-blooded animals, and, of course, is less stimulant to the circulation. Where the complaint is attended with febrile excitement, fish is more proper than flesh: and in all cases where the digestive powers are sunk it is proper, as being easily converted into chyle. Fish, in proportion to its bulk, may be said to be almost all muscle; and it is readily known if it be in high perfection, by the layer of curdy matter interposed between its flakes. It often happens that those parts of fish, viz. the pulpy gelatinous, or glutinous, which are considered the most delicious, are the most indigestible, and unfit for the stomach of an invalid. Lobster sauce is a bad addendum, the best accompaniment is vinegar. Most shell-fish are very indigestible, and from the indisposition caused occasionally by eating them, the idea of their being poisonous has been created. Oysters, when eaten in large quantities, often cause great disturbance; shrimps and muscles have produced death; but whether from their indigestibility or poisonous quality, is doubtful.

EXPENSE OF THE AMERICAN CLERGY.—There is certainly no clergy so costly to the people as the American clergy; but it is only fair to add, that contributions are strictly voluntary.—*Murat's United States 2d edit.*

AMERICAN NAVAL DISCIPLINE.—The discipline on board ships of war is very severe; and I believe that it is necessary to make them forget republican equality, which could not be allowed at sea without the greatest danger.—*Ibid.*

BURNING SPRINGS IN SOUTH AMERICA.—Springs of water charged with inflammable gas are quite common in the vicinity of Canandaigua, the capital of Ontario county, in the south-western part of the state of New York. Those at Bristol, ten miles south-west of Canandaigua, are situated in a ravine on the west side of Bristol Hollow, about half a mile from the north presbyterian meeting-house. The ravine is formed in clay-slate, and a small brook runs through it. The gas rises through fissures of the slate from both the margin and bed of the

brook. Where it rises through the water it is formed into bubbles, and flashes only when flame is applied; but where it rises directly from the rock, it burns with a steady and beautiful flame, which continues until extinguished by storms or by design.

The springs of Middlesex (twelve miles south from Canandaigua), are from one to two miles south-west of the village of Rushville, along a tract nearly a mile in length, partly at the bottom of the valley called Federal Hollow, and partly at an elevation of forty or fifty feet on the south side of it.

These latter springs have been discovered within a few years, in a field which had long been cleared, and are very numerous. Their places are known by little hillocks a few feet in diameter and a few inches high, formed of a dark bituminous mould, which seems principally to have been deposited by the gas, and through which it finds its way to the surface in one or more currents. These currents of gas may be set on fire, and will burn with a steady flame.—In winter they form openings through the snow, and being set on fire, exhibit the novel and interesting phenomenon of a steady and lively flame in contact with nothing but snow. In very cold weather, it is said, tubes of ice are formed round these currents of gas (probably from the freezing of the water contained in it), which sometimes rises to the height of two or three feet, the gas issuing from the tops; the whole, when lighted in a still evening, presenting an appearance even more beautiful than the former.

Some time since, the proprietors of this field put into operation a plan for applying the gas to economical purposes. From a pit which was sunk in one of the hillocks, the gas is conducted through bored logs, to the kitchen of the dwelling, and rises through an aperture, a little more than half an inch in diameter in the door of a cooking stove. When inflamed, the mixture of gas and common air in the stove first explodes, and then the stream burns steadily. The heat evolved is considerable; so that even this small supply is said to be sufficient for cooking. In another part of the room a stream of the gas, from an orifice one-eighth of an inch in diameter, is kindled in the evening, and affords a light equal to three or four candles. The novelty of the spectacle attracts a concourse of visitors so great, that the proprietors have found it expedient to convert their dwelling into a public inn.

HOW TO SUBDUCE A MISTRESS.—On this occasion took place the famous interview between Henry, Rosny, and Gabrielle, so well known and so often illustrated by the pencil and the pen. The king at first sent Rosny to pacify his mistress; but, being repulsed, the latter returned to the Louvre; whereupon Henry getting without delay into his minister's carriage, drove with him to Gabrielle's lodgings, saying, "Come along with me; I will shew you, that women do not possess me altogether like evil spirits as folks say." When they arrived, Henry took his mistress by the hand, and, drawing her and Rosny into a private room, addressed her thus:—"See, Madam: he! true God! what is all this? What! you set about being angry in order to try my patience.—These be the fine councils people give you;

but, mark me, if you continue such ways, you will find yourself far from your hopes.—Think you, for your silly whims, I must send away the best servant I have? No, madam, henceforth you must listen patiently to him; and if you would consult him, you would find yourself the better for it. Know that I have loved you for your gentleness, graciousness, and complaisance; and that, if I find you become suddenly cross and obstinate, I must believe that your former behaviour was merely feigned, and yourself but like the rest of women." The fair Gabrielle endured the brunt of this rebuke without yielding, and burst into tears and sobs, and bitter complaints against Rosny. "Pierce my heart with your poniard and you will there find your image engraved," said she, "but do not come to reproach and menace me, to abandon me, rather than part with a valet that has insulted me. What has he not said in contempt of my children and me? and yet you suffer him. Oh, God!" cried she, flinging herself on her bed, "there is nothing left me but to die after such disgrace, when I see that you love more a servant who is hated by every body than a mistress whom none can reproach." The king replied to this with inflexibility, bidding Gabrielle be reconciled to Rosny; but she refused, continued to call him a valet, and to express her indignation at his being preferred to her. "You are determined, then," cried the monarch, "that I should drive away a servant with whose aid I cannot dispense; but, pardieu! such a thing, will I not do; for know, since you are so obstinate as to disturb my peace, and oppose the welfare of the state, that, if reduced to the necessity of choosing betwixt you both, I would prefer losing ten mistresses like you, rather than do without one servant like him." At this poor Gabrielle was overcome, and fell at the monarch's feet.—*Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopaedia; Life of Sully.*

POLAND.—JUSTICE (!) OF THE GRAND DUKE CONSTANTINE.—One day his officious police, of which he was in fact the principal, reported to him that a deserter had worked as a journeyman in several breweries belonging to respectable inhabitants of Warsaw, and, among others, to Zawadzki and Son, and to Joseph Ranlinski. Without regarding any law proceedings whatever, he immediately threw these gentlemen into gaol, and condemned them, by the sentence of the commandant of the place, to forced labour as convicts, and this, without their being even heard in their own defence! The writer of these lines, on the very day of the arrest of his fellow-citizens, repaired to the house of Baron de Mohrenheim, secretary for issuing the orders, of the Grand Duke. He represented to him the atrocity of such a proceeding under constitutional government, and conjured him to prevent the order being executed. All the answer he received was, that nobody was at liberty to make any representations whatever to the Grand Duke, or even to speak to him, upon any subject, when they were not asked. At the instant that he was leaving the Baron's house, the tyrannical order was put into execution, and the victims were seen wheeling the wheelbarrows on the Place de Saxe.—One of these citizens, James Zawadzki, an

old man of seventy years of age, had let out his premises on a lease, and did not inhabit the house in which the deserter was said to have been found. He was altogether ignorant of the transaction, and, lifting up his hands to Heaven he mournfully exclaimed, "Constantine, I cite you before the Judgment seat of God!" The populace trembled; exasperation was at its utmost height, but an imposing display of military force suppressed all attempts at resistance. Such were the horrors perpetrated, notwithstanding the formal guarantees of personal liberty, of the independence of the law, and the freedom of the press. The newspapers were not permitted even to mention a case so outrageous.

VALUE OF SCIENCE TO COMMERCE.—The sea-weeds with which the coast of Britany is covered had been unapplied to any purpose but that of manure until a few years ago, when M. Gailhem established at Conquet a manufactory of soda, a produce well known to be extracted from sea-weed. This establishment, commenced on a very small scale, has, within a very short space of time, attained a most extraordinary state of prosperity. It produces iodine, the hydriates and the nitrates of potash, and the sulphates of soda; but another invaluable result is derived to the country from the ashes, which the factory is enabled to supply at half the price at which they could be obtained previously.

NAVAL POLICE.—In consequence of the numerous depredations which have lately been committed in his Majesty's Dock Yards it has been determined on by the board of Admiralty to adopt a new naval police for the protection of the various stores. A naval police has been established at Chatham, and should it succeed, it is the intention of the Lords of the Admiralty to adopt the same system in all the dock yards throughout the kingdom.

THE AUTHOR OF WAVERLY.—Mrs Murray Keith, a venerable Scotch lady, from whom Sir Walter Scott derived many of the traditional stories and anecdotes wrought up in his admirable fictions, taxed him one day with the authorship, which he, as usual stoutly denied. "What," exclaimed the old lady, "d'ye think I dinna ken my ain groats among other folk's kail?"

UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.—Universal suffrage is the master-wheel in the machine of reformation, as it transfers the power from the hands of the rich into the hands of the poor; all government mechanics do therefore make it a principal object of their attention.

It will astonish persons not accustomed to attend to the subject, that there are upwards of sixteen thousand officers in the army.

No persons except distributors and sub-distributors, can now sell stamps without being licensed, under a heavy penalty.

A SURE MODE OF PREVENTING FIELD MICE FROM UPROOTING AND DESTROYING GARDEN PEAS.—Sow all the borders about an inch thick with coal cinders. After this you will find no trace of these animals; and the cinders have the effect of producing more abundant crops and finer peas.

VIRTUE IN A "LIGHT."—When Mr Hunt presented the Petition of Mary Smith, of

Stanmore, to the House of Commons, praying that unmarried females should be entitled to vote for members of Parliament, and to sit upon Juries, Sir F. Trench said it would be rather awkward if a jury half males and half females were locked up together for a night, as now often happened with juries. This might lead to rather queer predicaments.—Mr Hunt replied by observing that "he knew well the Hon. and Gallant Member was often in the company of ladies for whole nights, but he did not know of any mischief resulting from that circumstance."—"Yes," responded the Gallant Baronet, "but not locked up without a light."—By this we are to understand—and it behoves all parents who have unmarried daughters to look well to this—that as long as there is a light there is no danger.

THE STAR.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1834.

Pursuant to notice in the "STAR" of the 5th, and also to Hand-bills posted on the 8th instant, a meeting took place at Messrs MOORE & BRANSCOMBE'S on the evening of the 10th instant. The following persons were present viz.—

Messrs T. Chancey, S. O. Pack, J. Elson, John Jacob, Wm. Brown, Francis Taylor, Edmund Dwyer, James Legg, Charles McCarthy, jr. John Bransfield, John Bransfield, of Rd. Nicholas Ash, Richard Bransfield, jr. Francis Howell, Thomas Butt, Thomas Pike, of Tim. Michael Doyle, John Gittings, Edward Pike, (beach), Richard Taylor, Francis Pike, (beach), Joseph Taylor, Wm. H. Taylor, Wm. W. Bemister, Robert Ayles, John Nicholl, jr. Simon Levi, Felix McCarthy, sen. and Edmund Handrahan.

Mr Chancey having been called to the Chair, it was resolved that Mr Newell be Secretary to the Insurance Society for 1834.

That Messrs John Elson and Robert Pack, be Treasurers as last year.

That a separate Scheme be formed for the Insurance of Vessels at the Ice, to continue from the 4th March to the 10th day of May.

That the Owners of all vessels to be insured shall sign the Rules and the Power-of-Attorney to the Secretary, on or before the 5th day of March, and give to the Secretary at the time of their signing, the name of the vessel to be entered in the Scheme, thereby binding themselves to the Scheme that such vessel shall be entered, and liable to pay for the loss of any vessel on the Seal fishery.

The Secretary having read over to the meeting, the names of the Surveyors for last year—Mr Jacob stated to the meeting that those named as Surveyors for Bay Roberts, were not, in his opinion, competent to form a correct opinion as to the value of vessels, and several statements having been made, by other persons, to prove to the meeting, that the valuation of vessels by the Surveyors was in many instances very incorrect, it was proposed that the Owners of vessels do give into the Committee of the Society their valuation of the vessels to be insured, and that the Committee be invested with power to approve or disapprove of the

same, and to give to the best of their judgment, to all the vessels in the Scheme, a fair comparative valuation, but that all vessels should be subject to the inspection and approval of Surveyors, as usual, before such vessels sail for the Ice. This proposition having been subjected to a good deal of discussion, without the meeting coming to a decision on the subject.—

The Chairman adjourned the meeting until Wednesday next, the 12th instant, then to meet at the same place, at 7 o'clock in the evening. All persons interested are requested to attend.

T. NEWELL,
Secretary.

Carbonear, Feb. 11, 1834.

[Communicated.]

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE STAR.]

SIR,—Having, last evening, attended a meeting held at Messrs Moore and Branscombe's for the purpose of forming an Insurance Scheme; I could not but be surprised to find, in this town, which is rapidly improving in its public institutions, persons who would oppose themselves to a manifest improvement in the constitution of their Insurance Scheme. The Surveyors formerly, have been authorised to value the vessels they survey, and numerous complaints have been made by the Owners of vessels, that some were under-valued, and some over-valued.

It was proposed that the Owners should, themselves, value their vessels, and that such valuation should be subjected to the decision of the Committee.

This met with a great deal of opposition, principally from one of the Surveyors, who appeared to oppose the proposition because it happened to be brought forward by a gentleman from Port-de-Grave, who having for several years past, had a large stake in the Scheme, attended the meeting principally for the purpose of informing it, that the interest of the Insurance Society suffered very much by its not having at Bay Roberts, Surveyors who were judges of the value of vessels. Now, it is well known, that if the Committee be appointed to fix the valuation of the vessels, and such valuation be agreed to by the Owners, that there would not be much need of having Surveyors at all, because the Law of Insurance, presumes, in all cases, a warranty that the vessel insured be properly fitted and sea-worthy for the proposed voyage, and if it be proved that any want of such sea-worthiness exist, with the knowledge of the owner, the insurance will be vitiated.

The Surveyors are merely an additional security, and are appointed for the purpose of guarding against the carelessness of masters, or the supineness of persons who hold schooners, on hire, or by contract.

The Surveyor that opposed the improvement, appeared also to think that the Secretary was paid too much, by getting Fifteen Shillings from each vessel, to remunerate him for conducting the business of the Society, and offered to do the business himself, for Five Shillings.

Now he is one of the three Surveyors, who get together, Nine Shillings from each vessel for doing a thing, that is not indis-

pensable. This is more than half the sum the Secretary gets for doing that, without which, a Society of the kind could not exist, and his duty must be done in the proper manner, and he must understand his business, and do it in a legal manner, or he may subject the Society to unnecessary losses, and indeed make it an illegal Society. All this, the said Surveyor may probably do, or get some person to do for him, for Five Shillings, but, the cheapest things are not always the most economical.

I am, Mr Editor,
Your obedient Servant,
A PLANTER.

INQUESTS.—The following Inquests have been held before J. STARK, Esq., Coroner:—

At this place on the 24th ult., on view of the body of a female bastard child born of a young girl named Patience Martin—the body had been buried in the Church Yard, but from various reports in circulation, the Coroner issued his warrant and had the body disinterred, and a Jury assembled to enquire into the causes of its death.—Doctor Stirling attended the inquest and having completely dissected the body, and tried all the tests which Medical science affords in such cases, gave it as his opinion that the child had never respired.—Verdict "Still born."—It appearing that the child, was full grown, the Coroner felt it his duty to state that the crime of Infanticide was but too common in this Island, and it therefore behoved every good member of society to use every lawful endeavour to bring the unnatural mother to justice; it was clear that the mother in this case had been guilty of concealing the birth, but as the law now stood the jurisdiction of the Crown in cases of concealment had been abrogated, he should however, acquaint the Magistrates with the case in order that further proceedings might be instigated.

At the Gaol of this place on the 27th ult. on view of the body of Pearce Hennessey, a convict under sentence for larceny and who had been removed from the Gaol at St. John's, (where he had recently been released from the Hospital) to this place.—Doctor Stirling, the Medical attendant upon the prisoners, gave it as his opinion that the deceased died from a collection of matter on the lungs.—Verdict "Died in Prison of Empyema."—The deceased was a Roman Catholic, and had been attended in his sickness by the Very Rev. Mr Dalton, who zealously administered to his spiritual wants.—The Jury in this case consisted of six householders of this place, and six prisoners in the Gaol: it appeared that the deceased had received every kind of attention that could be expected from Mr Currie, the Gaoler, and his family, who had sat up several nights in one of the Debtor's Cells, to which place he had been removed on his complaint assuming a serious character.—*Conception Bay Mercury, Feb. 7.*

MARRIED.—On the 29th ult. by the Rev. James G. Hennigar, Wesleyan Missionary, Mr Samuel Parsons to Miss Mahala Taylor, both of this place.

Poetry,
Original and Select.

SAY WHAT IS JOY ?

Say what is joy ?
A transient gleam
Of sunshine darting o'er a scene
Of scattered hopes and fears ;
We scarce behold the fairer spots,
E'er we perceive the barren plots,
Of sorrows, sighs, and tears.

Say what is joy ?
The bubbling wave
Of running brooks, whose waters love
The barren mountain's dome ;
Its gentle glidings scarce we tread,
Till dashed against the rocky base,
We see it beat to foam.

Say what is joy ?
A dazzling spark,
A flash that banishes the dark,
And shows the gilded room ;
We see it glare, we see it fail,
Thus scarce we joy, e'er we bewail
A worse than midnight gloom.

Then what is joy ?
Then what is worth ?---
'Tis air in heaven, 'tis heaven on earth,
Though never known in hell ;
Its wide expanse is unconfined,
No human tongue, no mortal mind,
Its fulness e'er can tell.

LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP.

A FABLE.

Friendship and Love one day together found
Two altars on Calabria's sunny ground :
The one to Friendship raised, where art and taste
Its every part had diligently graced ;
Around its base were glowing clusters thrown
Of bursting grapes that Aulon's vines had grown ;
Whilst that to Love was but a simple stone,
With " Ad Cupidini " traced there alone.
" Behold ! " said Friendship, with exalted brow,
" Who claims the mortal's homage most, Love, now ?
Mark the proportions of this classic shrine,
Whilst yonder scarce hewn stone, alas ! is thine ;
Around me see the vine's enlivening birth,
The fruit of heaven, though the growth of earth,
That o'er the soul by goading cares oppress'd,
Can shed a spellwork that decess it bless'd ;
Whilst thou art honour'd with one tasteless flower,
That is at most the bauble of an hour."
" I envy not," Love in return replied,
" The gay adornments of thine altar's side,
Nor all the gifts which scatter'd round I see,
To thy shrine offer'd only---not to thee,
A lowly altar mine, and such should be
The mortal's offering to his Deity ;
Whilst this sweet rose, of him an emblem true
Who placed it here, expires where it grew ;
Nay, frown not, Friendship ; if we disagree,
And wrangle on, what, prithee, shall we be ?
Without thee I must as a meteor shine,
Too fierce my passion, and too frigid thine ;
But wisely mingling in one generous flame,
We both are worship'd, honour'd, prized the same."

GUERNSEY.

The happiest community which it has
ever been my lot to fall in with is to be
found in the little island of Guernsey. The
pictures of want, filth, and crime, which so

frequently shock the eye of humanity in our
own country, and which appear to a still
greater extent in Ireland, and many parts of
France, are not to be met with in Guernsey ;
but in their stead are to be seen the happy
signs of abundance, comfort, and content-
ment. The poor man has his neat little
house, is surrounded by his cheerful family,
and is under no apprehension that he shall
not be able, with moderate labour, to provide
a full meal and a comfortable lodging for
all who are dependent upon him.

What are the causes of this superior state
of things in Guernsey ? Why is it that with-
in so short a distance of places where the
pining labourer is but half fed and half clad,
the man of Guernsey should have a well
stored board and abundance of clothing ?
The climate is not peculiar the land is not
remarkably fertile. The southern parts of
England are quite equal to Guernsey in both
these particulars. How is it then that
Guernsey should be so much ahead in the
career of happiness ? *Guernsey has superi-
or laws—superior institutions* And the
state of things in Guernsey is one among the
thousand proofs that have been given, that
the prosperity and happiness of a people are
much more dependent on its laws, instituti-
ons, and the manner in which its government
is carried on, than on climate and fertility
of the soil.

I have twice visited the island of Guern-
sey under circumstances favourable for be-
coming acquainted with its condition : and,
in the hopes of directing general attention to
a model from which much might with ad-
vantage be adopted, I will give a brief ac-
count of what fell under my observation.

One of the most striking changes which
the visitor, whether from England or France,
meets with on his landing in Guernsey, is
the entire absence of beggars. That mis-
erable compound of imposture and real dis-
tress—the wandering mendicant—is there
unknown. A tradesman who has been es-
tablished at St. Peter's Port (the town of the
island) for upwards of thirty years, assured
me that during the whole period of his re-
sidence in the island, he had never seen a
beggar. For myself, I neither saw nor
heard of one ; and I was satisfied from all I
learnt, that a beggar is in Guernsey a being
of a past age—a creation of history—a fit
subject for the speculations of the antiquary
—but too completely covered with the dust
of ancient times, for those of the present day.

Not only is the island free from beggars,
but it is free also from those debasing but
unfortunate creatures whom the twilight of
evening brings forth from their hiding
places, like swarms of moths, to join the
giddy dance round the flame that is soon to
destroy them. Prostitution proceeds from
the same sources as mendicity—want and
ignorance—and where the latter is not found,
the former will rarely be met with. Be that
as it may, however, the fact is, that the
streets and roads of Guernsey are not dis-
graced by the appearance either of the pros-
titute or the beggar.

Two establishments, called the Town and
Country Hospitals, exist in the island, to
which all persons are sent, who, for any rea-
sons whatever, are unable to obtain an ho-
nest livelihood. In these establishments

are to be found females who would other-
wise be living by prostitution—the habitual
drunkard—the lunatic—the destitute or-
phan—all have here an asylum, and are re-
moved from the temptation and misery to
which they would otherwise be exposed.

I visited the town hospital, situated, not
in the town itself, but in the outskirts, and
I was very much gratified with what I saw.
The scene was a busy one. The men were
occupied, some in weaving cloth, some as
tailors, others as shoemakers, &c. The wo-
men were engaged principally in washing.—
In addition to the washing for the hospital,
a great deal is taken in from families living
in the neighbourhood, and by this means
the women do much towards paying the ex-
penses of their maintenance. The greater
part of the cloth, shoes, &c., which the men
manufacture, is sold. The men are also
employed as scavengers.

By thus employing the men and women at
profitable labour instead of setting them to
turn a great stone as is done in some of our
parishes, the expense of the maintenance of
the inmates of the hospital is greatly reduc-
ed. The average yearly expense of each in-
mate is not more than seven pounds, not-
withstanding that at least half of those in
the hospitals are boys and girls who pro-
duce but little, being the greater part of the
day in school ; and, notwithstanding also,
that there are many lunatics and infirm peo-
ple, who are of course unable to do anything
towards their own support. The number of
inmates in the town and country hospitals
together is about three hundred, and their
expense to the island is about £2000 a-year.

The arrangements of the hospitals, and
the discipline maintained in them, are ex-
cellent ; at the same time, the inmates are
treated with great kindness, are allowed an
abundance of good wholesome food, and
are well clothed and lodged. Those whose
conduct deserves reward, are frequently al-
lowed to visit their friends for a day or so ;
but if the privilege is abused, and, for in-
stance, if any one returns to the hospital in
a state of intoxication, he is not allowed to
leave the hospital again for several months.
On the whole, whether we regard these hos-
pitals as asylums from misery, or as schools
of morality, I must say, that I have never
yet seen any institutions in this country that
would bare comparison with them.

There are many causes which co-operate
in preventing any numerous class of people
of Guernsey sinking into that state of pov-
erty, which leads to crime and misery. In
the first place, all the necessaries of life are
exceedingly cheap. Wheat, during the last
twenty years, has been at about two-thirds of
the price at which it has been sold in Eng-
land. In the summer of 1830, when I last
visited Guernsey, wheat was twenty shillings
(Guernsey money) per quarter, in the mea-
sure of the island. This price is the same
as forty-six shillings English money, for an
English quarter. The price of wheat in
England, at the same time, was sixty or
seventy shillings per quarter.

I need scarcely say, after mentioning the
price of wheat, that our corn laws do not
extend to Guernsey. Wheat, as indeed
every thing else, with the single exception
of tea, can be freely imported into Guern-

sey. In the year 1815, when the rigour of the English corn laws was greatly increased, it was intended to extend the corn laws to Guernsey, and the other Norman Isles; but the inhabitants bestirred themselves, and succeeded in warding off this terrible blow to their prosperity. For their success in this struggle, they were in a great measure indebted to the exertions of Mr Brock, the Judge or Bailiff as he is termed, of Guernsey—a gentleman, who appears, on all occasions, to have been the good genius of the island. The inhabitants of each of the islands presented Mr Brock with a piece of plate, as a token of gratitude for his services on the occasion in question. The people of the Norman Isles, are not only allowed to import corn for their own use, from wheresoever they choose, but they are permitted to export all the corn they themselves can grow, to England. This being the case, the people of course consume but very little of the wheat their own islands produce.—This latter supply is kept for the English market; so that there is the singular anomaly constantly going on, of corn from the Baltic actually sailing by the coasts of England to supply the people of the Norman Isles, and to enable them to send to England, the wheat which is growing at their own doors.

Provisions of other kinds are at prices proportionately low, with those of wheat.—The ordinary price of good meat, is fourpence per pound; that of moist sugar, from threepence to fourpence a pound; potatoes sell for threepence a peck; the price of butter varies from sevenpence to tenpence per pound. Tea, though cheap compared with the price in England, (the price of the best black tea is from half-a-crown to three shillings a pound) is dearer than it otherwise would be, did not the monopoly of the East India Company extend to the Norman Isles. The tea consumed in these islands, is not subject to a farthing of King's tax, so that the sole cause which keeps up the price of tea in these islands, is that the East India Company have a monopoly of the supply.—So much dearer, however, does this make the tea, that it is a constant article of smuggling from France. With the exception of tea, of which I have just spoken, and spirits, on which there is an import duty of one shilling a gallon, a perfectly free and untaxed importation is allowed of every species of food, and, indeed, of produce of every kind. The consequence is, that as far as their limited demand will command a market, the inhabitants of the Norman Islands can select from the whole world, the produce which each country is best able to furnish. Instead of using dear and bad Canadian timber, they employ good and cheap Baltic timber. Christiana deals, twelve feet long, nine inches broad, and three inches thick, sell for £15 15s. 6d. per 120, or rather more than half-a-crown each deal.

Among other things which are cheap in Guernsey, in consequence of their being free from taxes, I may mention newspapers.—With a population of only twenty thousand people, the inhabitants of Guernsey support five weekly newspapers. The usual price of a newspaper is sometimes a penny, sometimes twopence. The taxes collected in the

islands are very light. A tax of a shilling per gallon, on imported spirits, is the only indirect tax of any kind whatever. The principal tax is a direct one, of a very fair kind. It is a property tax, not only for his land and houses, but for money which he may have in the funds, for money lent on mortgages, &c. The produce of this tax is appropriated to the support of the two hospitals, and the paving and lighting of the town. In addition to this property tax, and the tax on spirits, the church receives a tithe on all kinds of corn, on fish, and on a few kinds of agricultural produce of small importance, but not upon hay. This tithe completes the list of taxes in the Norman Isles.

If it should be a matter of surprise, that these islands should have been so highly favoured by those who have had the framing of laws, imposing taxes, the explanation is readily given. The Norman Isles are so much nearer to the coast of France than that of England, that it would not be a difficult matter for the inhabitants to transfer their allegiance from England to France.—This would be a serious loss to England, as the islands are of great use as an asylum for English vessels, especially in time of war.

The importance which has been attached to the possession of these islands, and their peculiar situation, has, no doubt, been the principal reason for the considerate manner in which they have been treated.

Next to the blessings of light taxes and unrestricted importation of food, I may mention the state of the laws of inheritance as being very favourable to the happiness of the people living in the Norman Isles. In our own country, when a man dies, his estate, if consisting of freehold land, goes altogether to his eldest son, the other children being left to do as well as they can; at least, this is the case if the man has not left a will to direct that his property shall be divided, which is seldom done. But in Guernsey, and the other Norman Isles, a much fairer arrangement is adopted. Two-thirds of the estate are divided equally among the sons, however many there may be, and one-third among the daughters. This plan of division, though only an approach to perfect justice, is evidently much better than the one followed in this country.

In order to prevent an unnecessary splitting up of estates, it is provided that the eldest son shall, if he has it in his power, be allowed to pay each of his brothers and sisters the value of their share of the property, and then retain possession of the whole himself.

The consequence of this state of the law of inheritance is, that instead of the property of the islands being held in large masses, each acre of which is but of insignificant value to the owner, the islands are covered over with clusters of small estates of from four to five to forty or fifty acres, so that every person has a little plot of land which he can call his own. We all know how men's hearts are set upon this, and what a powerful stimulus it is to greater exertions, superior economy, and a love of independence.

Next to the equal division of property, which prevents waste and extravagance on

the one hand, and extreme poverty on the other, I may mention the abundance of paper money in the island of Guernsey, as a great cause of the prosperity of the island.—The paper money is issued by the government of the island, and in the following way. When any great undertaking has been determined on by the States, (as the representatives of the people are called) such, for instance, as the opening of new roads, there is, immediately, an issue of one pound notes by the government. These notes are sent out as the work proceeds, and as money is wanted. When the undertaking is completed, and begins to yield an income, the notes are gradually bought in again, and new undertakings are commenced. The notes are not payable on demand: indeed the government has not even an office, at which the notes can be presented. Nevertheless, the notes are never refused. The people find by experience, that their representatives "The States," do not issue the notes in greater abundance than the demand for them justifies, and consequently no depreciation in their value is to be feared. Moreover, the purposes for which the notes are issued, are of advantage to every man in the island; so that every one looks upon them as coming from the bank to which he is a partner.—Here then, in the little island of Guernsey, we have, perhaps, the only instance in the world of a really national bank; a bank in which the whole property of the state is the security, and the profit of which is shared by the people at large.

By means of this truly "healthy" currency, undertakings of great magnitude (considering the size of the island) have been executed during the last few years. One work alone, namely, the opening of a new street into the town, the erection of a market-house in it, and the purchase of the neighbouring land, cost eighty thousand pounds. The profits of this undertaking have enabled the States to erect another market-house, for the sale of fish. This building is really on a magnificent scale. I am quite sure there are towns in this country, containing four times the population of the whole island of Guernsey that cannot boast of a market-house equal to it. A college for the education of the middle-classes of the island, has been erected at an expense of forty thousand pounds. A spacious court of justice has been built, and new and excellent roads have been made crossing the island in different directions.—*Chambers' Journal.*

"The Temple of Ignorance is the innermost Court of Bedlam."—HARRIET MARTINEAU.

EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.—The celebrated Cuvier argued that knowledge should precede power, that the people should be instructed in political rights before they should be possessed of them. This plan, like the plan of the scholar of Hierocles, for learning to swim without incurring the dangers of the water, would be a great convenience were it possible.

The same power which would resist the expansion of popular rights, would resist the knowledge qualifying for the exercise of such rights. On the other hand if the people are strong enough to obtain power

nothing on earth will convince them of an inability to prevail upon them to abstain from the possession until they are of riper understanding. To speak the matter in truisms, if the people can be kept back they will be kept back, if they cannot be kept back they will not keep back. The aristocracy will never discover the policy of giving knowledge to the people till they have been seared by some explosion of ignorance in combination with power.

The arguments against democracy run parallel with the arguments against slave emancipation. Prepare the slave for freedom was the cry; make him fit for liberty before you concede it to him. While this fine doctrine was upon the tongue of the slaver, he resolved in his heart to employ all means to obstruct and defeat the intellectual cultivation of the negroes, and hence the persecution of the missionaries who were the teachers of the slaves.

Cuvier said, let knowledge precede power; the organ of high Toryism, the *Standard*, says, let knowledge be unattempted because the complete attainment of it is impossible. Our contemporary asks:

"Shall the state provide for the people that education which experience (putting revelation on one side in the argument) has shown to be sound and wholesome; or shall the State give its subjects, under the name of complete education, a faculty of reading and writing, which may serve as the key to knowledge of all kinds; but which, certainly, does not specifically direct to any?—Shall the State, in a word, turn loose its subjects into a world of good and evil, without compass, and without guide, even deceiving the unhappy wanderers into the belief that they are fully qualified to be their own conductors?"

Reading and writing are but extensions of the faculties of seeing and speaking, and is it enough for Toryism to refuse those aids? would it not go further, and have the people deaf, dumb, and blind, if it had the power? Do not the high Tories think that nature has been impolitic in giving to the mass of the people tongues to speak, and to speak grievances and complaints, ears to hear, and eyes to see? They would be more easily held in thralldom without these gifts. But nature makes no hereditary distinctions; Toryism must lament that she is incapable of bestowing the exclusive advantages of sight, speech, and hearing on the privileged classes.

If it were in the power of the aristocracy to give or to deny sight to the people who can doubt that the nation would be stone blind. "Sight," the *Standard* in such a case would argue, "may serve to the commission of crime. The robber must see his booty, the murderer must see his victim, the evil passions must see the objects of desire—it is better that the people should be blind. Shall the State turn loose its subjects into a world of good and evil without guide, even deceiving the unhappy wanderers into the belief that they are fully qualified to see their way?" Nero wished the people had one neck for the stroke of the sword, the Tories would appropriately wish that the people had one eye that they might put it out, and reduce them to a manage-

able blindness. The very type of this policy is the story of Backback, in the *Arabian Nights* (a book just prohibited, one would think for such instances, by the autocrat of Russia). A thief finds his way into the company of the blind Backback and his sightless brother beggars. He pilfers their money, he eats their bread, they take the alarm, suspect the truth, and do their best to attack the robber, but the buffets they intend for him fall on each other while he having his sight, evades their wild misdirected blows, and thrashes them all round, crying thieves louder than they did, as despots cry rebellion when their subjects resist robbery, banishment, and murder. Here is the helplessness, of ignorance, the darkness of the mind's eye, illustrated. The ignorant know that they are plundered and wronged, but they strike wide of the true object, and injure each other in their wild ill-timed attempts to injure their enemy. Would the spoiler give them sight? would the spoiler approve of the operation of couching? No, no more than the Tory approves of education.

Facetiæ, &c.

Two distinguished philosophers took shelter under one tree, during a heavy shower; after some time, one of them complaining that he began to feel the rain, "Never mind," replied the other, "there are plenty of trees; when this is wet through we will go to another."

The manager of a country theatre being asked to get up the play of Henry the Eighth, said he could not do that, but he would play the two parts of Henry the Fourth, and that, he supposed, would amount to the same thing.

J—, hearing that a literary pretender, with a "plentiful lack of wit," had been seized with a *brain fever*, drily observed, "Oh! the thing is impossible." "Why impossible?" asked his informant. "Because," was the reply, "there's no foundation for the fever, or the report."

THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S "LARNING."—In the official announcement of this noble functionary about the Drawing Room of Thursday, the following instructions to the company is found: "No lady can be presented to the Queen at her Majesty's Drawing Room, unless the lady who presents be actually present." Prodigious!

LISTON BULWER'S EPIGRAM.—Really it is too bad of Liston Bulwer to trifle with the tender passions as he does—in his last work he illustrates the heedless way courtships are carried on and cut off by the lower orders in the following verses, which he calls an amatory epigram:—

Bob courted Molly for some time,
But Susan's charms were in their prime,
And faithless Bobby left poor Mary
In unrequited love, a quondary;
And all her sweetest smiles refusing
His soul surrendered to fair Susan.
"Oh, wretch! (cried Moll, with angry look,
And is it thus that I'm for-Sook?"
"No (Bobby grinned) Moll thou'rt mistaken,
'Tis I'm for-Suke and thou for-saken."

AN ORDINARY LORD.—"Who do they mean by the Lord Ordinary?" said Lady

L., laying down a newspaper in which she had been reading a Scotch Appeal case.— "Can't say (replied spously), unless they mean Montford—he's the most 'ordinary Lord' in the three kingdoms.

PADDY'S IDEA OF STEERING BY THE COMPASS—"Can't you steer," said the captain. "The deuce a better hand at the tiller in all Kinsale," said Barney, with his usual brag. "Well, so far so good," said the Captain. "And you know the points of the compass: you have a compass I suppose?" "A compass! by my soul it's not let alone a compass, but a pair of compasses, I have that my brother, the carpenter, left me for a keepsake when he went abroad; but, indeed, as for the points o' thim, I can't say much, for the children spoilt them intirely, boorin' holes in the floor."

On Sale,

By the Subscriber,—SEALING GUNS; SHOT, SSG. and BB.; CLASP-KNIVES; TOBACCO PIPES; a few boxes of RAISINS and jars of Spanish OLIVES;

ALSO,

One box of SPERM CANDLES; and 25 barrels of PITCH.

G. E. JAQUES.

Carbonear, Feb. 4.

A FEW

HORSE COLLARS

FOR SALE,

At FIVE Shillings each,

By the Subscribers,

T. CHANCEY & Co.

Carbonear, Jan. 22, 1834.

FOR SALE at the Office of this Journal the CUSTOM-HOUSE PAPERS necessary for the ENTRY and CLEARANCE of Vessels under the New Regulations.

Carbonear, Jan. 1.

JUST RECEIVED

AND

FOR SALE,

At the Office of this Paper.

A VARIETY OF

SCHOOL BOOKS, viz.:

Murray's Grammar
Guy's Orthographical Exercises
— Geography
Entick's Dictionary
Carpenter's Spelling
Ruled Copy Books, &c. &c.

Carbonear, Dec. 25.

Notice

The NORA CREINA having ceased running for the season, DOYLE begs to inform the Public, that he employs a POST-MAN WEEKLY, to convey letters, &c. round the Bay, (weather permitting.)

Carbonear, Feb. 5, 1834.