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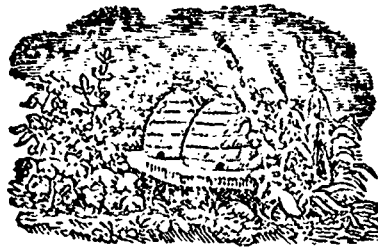
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VOLUME II.

PICTOU, N. S. WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC 14, 1836.

NUMBER XXX.

THE BEE

IS PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING, BY JAMES DAWSON,

And delivered in Town at the low price of 12s. 6d. per annum, if paid in advance, but 15s. if paid at the end of the year;—payments made within three months after receiving the first Paper considered in advance; whenever Papers have to be transmitted through the Post Office, 2s. 6d. additional will be charged for postage.

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From the Gift, for 1837. THE MAIL ROBBER.

A TALE.

By W. E. Burton, Philadelphia.

CONCLUDED.

ETHERINGTON rode for some few minutes about the vicinity of the cross roads, but found not the man he so anxiously expected. Jumping from his horse, he covered the hot and panting sides of the noble beast with his top coat, and tied him to the post by the bridle, muttering at the tardiness of the smuggler, and almost fearing that he had been duped. At that moment Johnson stood before him.

"Well, Lawyer, here you are, as I expected—for he must be a log of a man whom love and money did not move. You have done the guager's business beautifully; we started every tub and bale from his premises in the early evening without interruption. I will take care to have it known in the right place, and that will settle old Stillwell, when he is removed from the situation, young Martin must come in, and we can do as we like with him."

"I have, then, been the cause of the old man's ruin! Johnson, no more of this. If you are about to serve me, give me the money and let me go."

"The money I have you not heard the news? Oh, true, you have been up at the George all day. Brown's bank has stopped payment, and the devil himself could not raise five thousand pounds in all the place."

"Stopped payment?"

"There is a pressure in the money market, at London, it seems, and the bank has refused its usual discounts. Rumours were afloat and people ran for gold. The house was obliged to close to day half an hour before its usual time, and it depends upon circumstances whether it will ever be open again."

"Ruined!—ruined!" said Etherington, as he flung himself on the ground, and buried himself on the long dank grass which grew above the felon's grave.

Thoughts, hot and blasting as the fell simoon, seemed to wither up his very heart. How could he face the disgraceful exposure of the falsehoods he had told to Norris? How could he bear to lose his Ellen, when the fond girl had already fixed the wedding day, and he had pressed her to his bosom as his own? He had sold himself to shame, had leagued himself with meanness and deceit, and was he to be deprived of the wages of his infamy? Jumping up from the ground, he exclaimed,

"Johnson, I must have money. This bank story, if true, cannot affect you. You do not deposit there your sin-won gold! Where is the produce of last night's cargo? I am not to be fooled; I have dishonoured myself in your service—you promised me money and I must have it."

"Do you think I carry it about with me, to be shared among the custom-house sharks, who would rob me of every penny, could they for one moment get me in their power. I say that I do bank there—not in my own name to be sure. You know that if once convicted, they would attach every farthing to the king, and what then would become of Susan and the little ones."

"You have other resources. I must have the money; get it me and I will pay you back ten fold."

"There is a way to obtain it, but you are so squeamish."

"To-night?"

"Ay—now, to-night."

"Tell me how. I must have it, be the risk what it may."

"Softly. This horse of yours will be better out of the way. I will tie him to one of the trees yonder. Here, Lawyer, 'tis a cold night—take a pull at this flask while I am gone."

The smuggler led the horse towards the patch of woodland, and in a few moments was lost to sight. Etherington swallowed a large portion of the spirit from Johnson's flask—spirit which stuck of guager had never dabbled in,—when sounds, as of a subdued whispering among the trees, broke upon his ear. Before he could well direct his gaze towards the spot, the stalwart form of the smuggler was seen emerging from the shade.

"Down, Lawyer, here on this fitting spot—let us sit here on the thin spot of earth that covers old Farrell's bones, and lean our backs against the wood. Have you the courage to be rich? Wealth is in your grasp! will you shut your hands and clutch it, or will you let it slip between your fingers?"

"What is it you mean? speak boldly, and fear not me."

"I do not fear you, Lawyer; for, if you refuse to join me, and were to speak of what I shall tell, and by your means this gibbet here were tenanted again, your life would not be worth a fortnight's purchase. Go where you like, hide where you may, it would be useless—the free trade has long arms, and none can escape their grasp. How much money—hush! is not that the sound of wheels in the hollow there? No! 'tis the wind moaning amongst the branches of the trees. How much money had you in Brown's bank?"

"All I possessed in the world. Not much, I own, but it was my all."

"So did they hold all mine. All I have toiled for in the hot sun, and freezing blast; all for which I have risked life and limb—have endured the damp horrors of the lonely cell, the terrors of the midnight storm—have lost the respect of my fellow men, the chance of peace on earth, the hopes of rest hereafter. Lawyer, this morning I was a rich man. I was about to quit the trade, and in my native village, in the bosom of my family, seek for that happiness I have so long sighed for, but have never known. This cursed bank has failed, and I am a beggar. Shall I do wrong, then, in snatching my own from the swindler's grasp?"

"Snatching your own! what is it you mean?"

"Listen. From intelligence I can depend on, no matter how obtained—the free traders have friends every where—I have learned that a messenger has been despatched to L—bank, and has returned with a promise of assistance in a remittance of notes and specie by to night's mail. The cart must pass this way, and soon. Shall we stop it, and pay ourselves from the money sent for the use of those bankrupt robbers?"

"Do not tempt me to the act of a fiend! your proposal is too horrible to be serious. You cannot mean it."

"But I do, and will go through with it, whether you help me or no."

"If the remittance is large we shall all be paid."  
 "Not so; they have overtraded their stock, and there is scarcely sufficient to liquidate the claims of my band. William Etherington, I owe you my liberty—perhaps my life. I should like to see you happy with the old 'squire's black-haired girl. Join me like a man, and claim your share. I can do without you; but is it not better to have eight or ten thousand pounds of your own, than to borrow five of a needy friend?"

Etherington spoke not. His eyes, fixed upon the dark impenetrable gloom, seemed starting from their sockets; his parched tongue essayed in vain to convey the slightest message to his shrivelled lips, and his hard, quick breathing sounded in the still night like the ticking of a huge clock. He remained for some minutes convulsively clutching at the long grass, when, leaning towards Johnson, so that his hot breath coursed over the rough linaments of the smuggler, he said in a low, unceremonious tone—

"No—no blood?"

"No," said Johnston, "unless they fire, and then God help them all at home."

The smuggler suddenly started, putting his ear to the ground, and motioning for silence, he listened for some moments with great attention. Jumping up, he said,

"'Tis coming. Off with your coat and vest, and tie a handkerchief round your head. Do not hurry. They must walk up the hill, and we shall catch them at the top. When I whistle, run to the horse's head and do not quit it for your life. Should the driver have a companion, we may have sharp work. Here is a bludgeon, but remember, strike not at those in white."

The pit pat of a horse's feet broke the silence of the night. The smuggler gave Etherington the flask, after using it himself, and suddenly vanished in the gloom. Draining the contents to the last drop, Etherington threw the flask away, and proceeded immediately to doff his coat and vest, and tie a kerchief round his hot and throbbing brow. Scarcely had he finished when the horse rounded the top of the hill, slowly dragging after him the small, heavy cart then used for carrying the cross country mail. The driver was cheering the animal in his arduous task, when a low sharp whistle was heard, and two men jumped from opposite sides of the road, dashing simultaneously to the sides of the vehicle. Etherington rushed to his post, and seized the horse's rein just as the driver received a blow on the back part of the head, and fell senseless on the horse's back. One of the ruffians seized him by the collar, and hurled him into the road, close to Etherington's feet, who, frenzied with unnatural excitement, struck the unresisting driver a violent blow with his bludgeon.

"Hold hard, Lawyer; he's quiet enough," said Johnson. Look sharp and light the lantern, Bite. Let us get the box and be off."

Etherington shuddered as he recognised in the man thus addressed, a notorious villain who had twice broken jail, and for whose apprehension a reward had long been offered. He received his peculiar cognomen from the fact of having caused the death of a police officer by the many and severe bites he had inflicted on the man when arrested by him in the very act of robbing. On the present occasion, he was, like Johnson, efficiently disguised by wearing his shirt outside his other clothes.

Bite mounted the cart; a small lantern was lighted and search made for the expected treasure.

"It is not here," said Bite.

"I know better. He never deceived me yet. Perhaps it is locked up in one of the mul-bags. Draw the cart out of the road, tumble the bags overboard, and we will soon overhaul them. Lawyer drag that fellow out of the way."

Etherington passively did as he was told. Raising the body by the clothes, he was hauling it on to the greensward, when the light of the small lamp fell upon the face, and disclosed a deep gash on the side of the head, from whence the blood was flowing profusely—evidently the effects of the blow struck by Etherington when the unfortunate driver was on the ground. Etherington let the body fall; large clammy drops of perspiration stood upon his ashy cheek, and he stood gazing on the wound as a man entranced. He was roused from this lethargy of horror by the smuggler, who said, in his usual clear, low tone,

"Lawyer, have you a penknife with you? if so, hand it here for my sharp jack makes that bad work of this man's big leather. That's it. Here's the box, and now for business."

The small cash box was forced open, and a huge roll of notes given into the hands of Bite; the gold was transferred to the smuggler's pockets, the light was extinguished, the horse fastened to the gibbet post, and the body of the maimed driver lifted into the cart.

"Is he dead?" whispered Etherington.

"Not yet," said Bite, with a grin, "but I'm afraid

that he'll have the headache, as long as he lives."

"Lawyer, we must have your horse. Bite must be in London, and change these notes before the hue and cry is given. Then over to Franco, you know, Bite; get to Churbourg, and wait the arrival of the bushy Sue. Off with you, and don't let the grass grow beneath your feet, unless you wish to swing upon the vacant stick here."

Bite walked off towards the fire close, and in a few seconds the rapid gallop of a horse was heard proceeding down one of the obscure cross-roads.

"Now, then for a short cut over the Downs, Lawyer; we have done the job well, and may defy detection. We have enough here for our purposes till we get our share of Bite's notes. What is he matter with you, you have not spoken for an hour."

"Is he dead?" said Etherington, fearfully.

"Let us hope for the best. I wish it had been otherwise. But we must now part—it would be dangerous to be seen together."

Without any division of the booty, or a word in explanation, the smuggler darted across the fields, and was soon lost to Etherington's sight. Jaded and heart smitten the young man reached his own house, and betook himself to bed—but not to sleep.

#### CHAPTER THIRD.

"My conscience hath a thousand several tongues,  
 And every tongue brings in a several tale,  
 And every tale condemns me for a villain."

Shakspeare.

The next morning as Etherington was sitting at the breakfast table, gazing with bloodshot eyes at the untasted meal, the principal partner in the banking-house was announced. Etherington jumped up wildly from his chair, and throwing open the window, evidently meditated escape; but, actuated by second thoughts, a faint smile overspread his ghastly features, and he returned to the chair. The gentleman entered the room.

"Mr Etherington," said he, "I suppose you heard of our double misfortune—robbery and consequent failure. I have called upon you as an active lawyer to solicit your co-operation with the magistrates in attempting every thing in the power of man to discover the scoundrels who last night robbed the mail. I am more interested in this affair than regards the actual loss. Our bank experienced a partial pressure, I had written on for funds, and this morning we could have met every demand with instant payment. I am now a ruined and disgraced old man. The people will not believe but that the robbery was planned by the bankers; and after a long life of honourable industry, my gray hairs are tinged with sorrow and with shame. Mr Etherington, I care not for my sudden fall from eminence, could I have preserved my honour, but ruin is spread around—hundreds will point at me as the robber of the poor; and I shall descend to the grave with the burning execrations of the ruined tradesman, the impoverished widow, and the beggared orphan, ringing in my ears."

The old man leaned his head upon the table and wept like a child. Etherington attempted to speak, but was frightened at the unearthly tones of his own voice. The banker, ashamed of his weakness, shortly rose and left the house, earnestly requesting Etherington, to use his utmost endeavours to bring the criminals to justice. After swallowing a larger stimulant than usual in a vain attempt to still the first sharp gnawings of the worm that never dies, Etherington was about to leave the house, when his aged and infirm parent tottered into the room, and with the painful sorrow of extreme old age, garrulously lamented the ruin which the failure of the bank had brought upon her few remaining days. More falsehoods were used to quiet her fears. As he quitted the house his servant requested to know what he had done with his horse. He had lent it to a friend. The man retired with an expression of surprise, and Etherington felt that he was unable to look his servant in the face.

Crowds were collected in the usually quiet streets of that little town. Agitation and excitement sat on every face, and knots of whisperers met at every corner, or opposite the doors of the principal tradesmen, who were all, more or less, sufferers by the banker's failure. Surmises, doubts, and open allegations were freely bandied about, and the expressions of vengeance and despair that broke from the various sufferers struck deeply into Etherington's heart as he walked through the excited throng. He wished to enquire how much they knew, where their suspicions pointed, and, above all, to ascertain the life or death of the driver—but he did not dare to trust himself with speech.

He found his Ellen in tears. Her father had lost heavily—in fact all he possessed, except the house he lived in, and a life interest, of little value, in some property in the adjoining county. Mr Norris met Etherington with evident embarrassment; he wished

the match to be broken off—his pride would not allow his daughter to go a beggar to that man's arms, who, when she was rich, had been refused consent unless he could command a certain sum. Etherington expostulated; absolved Mr Norris from this part of his contract, but insisted upon its full performance as regarded his immediate marriage. The old gentleman's reserve instantly vanished; he seized the lawyer by the hand, and said that he regarded the loss of the money as nothing compared to the satisfaction of having found so honourable and generous a son-in-law. Etherington endeavoured to smile, but was unable to return the cordial grasp of the man he had ruined.

Several days elapsed, but the excitement did not subside. Etherington suffered the worst of tortures in being obliged to hear the hourly statements of the wretchedness and suffering which the robbery had produced. Many of the small tradesmen declared themselves insolvent, factories were stopped for want of money, and hundreds of workmen were discharged; panic and desolation ruled the day. The indignation of the working people assumed so threatening a shape that the bankers were obliged to fly the country. Etherington had been busily employed in drawing out depositions in evidence, and attending to the surmises of every thick headed, officious fellow who thought he could see farther into the affair than his neighbours. The young man's soul sickened at this daily practice of foul hypocrisy.

Johnson was not forthcoming, nor had the smallest appropriation of the booty been forwarded to the wretched Etherington, who now felt too late that his participation in the fatal deed had not only destroyed his own prospects, but had ruined the happiness of all around.

The servant again enquired for the safety of the horse, a valuable and favourite animal. Etherington repeated his former statement, that he had lent him to a friend. The servant asked if he knew where this friend had taken the horse, and when was he expected back; for Bill, the old ostler at the Red Lion, had gone to live at K—, a town some forty miles across the country, and he had sent word by the stage, that lawyer Etherington's horse had been left there quite knocked up and over-worked. An ill-looking fellow rode him into the town, and had gone off by the early morning's coach to London. He knew the horse by the star on his forehead.

Etherington was unable to conceal his confusion. The servant was ordered down stairs; but the story spread from mouth to mouth, and at the next meeting of magistrates, Etherington was questioned as to the truth of the report. Lu succeeded lie—he tried to spread probability over the story he had coined about selling his horse to a stranger, but it was evidently disbelieved. Mr Strust was aroused; there was no definite charge, but although he continued to attend, he was not again requested to assist in the mail-robbery investigation.

The marriage day arrived, and Ellen, who had insisted upon the performance of the ceremony in private, never looked more lovely than in the simple white dress she wore to grace this humble festival. The father's broken fortune admitted not of display, and Etherington, who had ruined a whole community to put himself in funds, had scarcely been able to raise the bare expenses of the day. Still he hoped that Johnson would keep his word, and though his soul loathed the crime he had committed, and he abhorred the soul train of consequences it had engendered, he could not give up his claim to the profits of his guilt.

The sun was gilding the fading leaves of the graveyard trees as Etherington left the village church, his young bride hanging upon his arm. He had bought her at an awful price; but when he saw her animated countenance beaming with delight at their expected happiness, he felt that her smiles dissipated somewhat of the gloom of guilt, and the load of crime sat lighter on his heart in the presence of his beloved. He made an effort to be cheerful, and had succeeded in forcing a laugh at one of Mr Norris's hearty sallies, when a funeral procession, of the most humble pretension, entered the gates of the church yard as the bridal party endeavored to pass out. A young widow followed the coffin; she was weeping piteously, and dragged by the hand a curly haired boy of tender age, whose round and innocent face reflected the sad impression of the place while he was unable to appreciate the severity of his loss, Ellen's sympathy was affected at the sight of this poor mourning relict, and her orphan boy and her husband found some little trouble in drying up her tears.

"It is indeed a dreadful case," said Mrs. Norris, "and the heavy difficulty which has fallen on our town prevents the possibility of doing any thing for her by subscription—although I trust that government will not forget her claims."

"Who is she? what are her claims?" said Etherington.

"Do you not know? she was the widow of poor Semple, the driver, who was murdered by the robbers of the mail."

Etherington did not fall, nor start, nor change the color in his cheek. The blow struck to his heart, and was too deeply seated for external sign. He had heard that his victim was severely hurt, but it was considered almost certain that he would recover. This sudden weight of murder on his soul stifled even the flutterings of hope; and he looked upon its development at the portal of the church, where he had just pledged his vows to the innocent cause of all his guilt; and in the presence of the father whose cautious proposition forced him to the deed of sin, as a warning not to be misunderstood—a vivid presentment of impending ill settled on his mind, and despair entered his soul.

The walk home,—the dinner,—the dessert,—all passed gloomily and sad. Ellen was pained to see her husband's melancholy; she had before observed the strange alteration in his manner, and had expostulated with him on the subject. Her enquiries were now pressed with more intensity, but they resulted in the same excuse—a headache of peculiar violence.

"Then the fresh breeze of evening will blow it away," said Mr Norris. "Do not sit there moping, and insulting your wife by looking as if you were sorry for what you have done; but jump up like a joyous bridegroom, as you ought to be; take half an hour's walk on the sands, and when you come back join with me in drinking the bride's health. I can find a bottle or two of cho-co old port, and no thanks to the scoundrels who robbed me."

The remedy was tried, but without effect. The glories of the setting sun—the quiet splendour of the calm, bright sea—the lively prattle of his young bride, or the devoted tenderness of her alarmed inquiries—all alike fell on a seared and scathed heart, occupied with but one thought of horror and despair. A young girl passed them, and Ellen, as if suddenly recollecting, stepped back to speak to her, leaving Etherington on alone upon the beach.

"It cannot be concealed," he exclaimed aloud; "nature with her thousand tongues, proclaims her hatred of the deed. The gentle waves, that break in murmuring ripples at my feet, seem to recoil in horror at my crime; the fresh breeze, that fans my burning temples in its play, appears with trumpet violence to bellow 'murder' in my ear; the orb of day is setting redly in the west—I cannot gaze upon its beauty—its rays seem tinged with blood!"

A rough-looking fisherman stopped from behind an adjacent rock, thrust a dirty ill-folded letter into Etherington's hands and immediately disappeared. The note was from Johnson, and read as follows:—

"I did not dare, for all our sakes, to trust you with money. It would breed suspicion. Now 'tis useless. We are both of us more than suspected. My flask has been found under the gallows, with my name on it in full, and your penknife has been picked up in the grass. The tradesman who sold it to you has sworn to it. A warrant is already out for me, and you are to be arrested in the morning when you attend the court. Bate has been taken in London with all in his possession. They do not know this down here, but the morning's post will bring the news.

He was soon on your horse, which the justices have sent for and have now in town. *Death is here, but life is in another land.* The Susan will be off the coast at dusk—seize any small boat from the beach—pull out beyond the floating light, and keep it in a direct line with the lights of the town. I shall be afloat, and on the look-out at the proper time of night."

Etherington had scarcely read this damning epistle ere the light and graceful form of his wife was at his side.

"My dear William can do me a favour, and as it is my wedding day request, I am sure he will not refuse me. You have some interest with the magistrates. Poor old Stillwell, the exciseman, has been superseded for neglect of duty. He has lost all the hard-earned savings of his long life, by the failure of the bank, and his family must starve unless you exert yourself in their behalf. You will try to have him reinstated, will you not?"

Etherington answered with an affirmative smile, and kissed the blooming cheek of the fair petitioner. They returned towards home. There was a fire in Etherington's eye, an elasticity in his tread, that surprised and delighted his observant wife. His conversation was cheerful and continuous, and Ellen looked upon this outburst as the re-action of his natural spirits, which had been overstrained by a too rigid observance of his profession.

Let not the reader imagine that this description of Etherington's conduct is unnatural. He had lost the withering torture of uncertainty; the dreadful truth was full before him—he felt the necessity for instant action, and at once made up his mind to the course he should pursue.

Leaving his wife at the parlor door, he desired her, with a kiss, to tell her father to prepare the wine, while he retired to his room to make some little arrangement for a short journey he had soon to perform. The happy girl did not wait to enquire the meaning of his last words; but, full of desire to acquaint her parents with the joyous change in Etherington's behaviour, bounded into the room where they were sitting, and delivered his request. Mr Norris placed the decanters upon the table, and listened to the lively chatter of his darling child, who described, in animated language, the rich delights of the conversation with her handsome and sensible husband. She depicted the beauties of the evening scene, and the objects which she imagined had been produced by nature's glories on Etherington's sensitive mind. With what eloquence did she paint the past—with what transport did she look forward to the future—with what fervour did she thank her Creator for removing the cloud which had hung over the mind of him she so devotedly adored. Her parents smiled at her enthusiasm, and her aged mother rose from her seat, and clasped her lovely daughter in her arms.

"Why, mama, your dress is splashed all over with port wine. How could papa be so careless?"

"A drop has just fallen on your shoulder, Ellen. There is another. This is not wine—it comes from above."

All present cast their eyes to the ceiling. A large red stain appeared in the white plaster, through which a dark red liquid was rapidly oozing. Ellen uttered a shriek, and a dreadful thought, sudden and searing as the lightning's flash, fell upon her brain.

"It is my husband's blood!"

This horrible anticipation proved too true. The wretched man knew that to preserve his life, he must give up all that rendered life desirable; and to shun the ignominy of the unavoidable exposure, with the certainty of meeting a violent and disgraceful death at the hands of the common hangman, if he should be caught, he retired to his own room, and on the evening of his wedding day, and on his bridal bed, he expired his short but terrible career of guilt by cutting his thro' it from ear to ear.

A hole was dug in the centre of the cross-roads, a few yards only, from the foot of the gibbet on the downs. According to the English law then in force, the body of the suicide was hurled, like a dog, into his rude unhallowed grave. The officials of the jail placed the remains of the ill-fated Etherington in his narrow house, beneath the midnight sky. Foul jests and imprecations, formed the service of the dead; and the earth closed over that once proud, ungovernable heart, without the shedding of one pitying tear—without the utterance of one sad regret.

The horror of the death scene overpowered the senses of the wretched wife; she never recovered from the shock. A few months closed the earthly sufferings of the widowed bride; and her bereaved and broken-hearted parents did not long survive.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—It is with great pleasure we announce that the state prisoners at Ham are at length released. Messrs Peyronnet and Chanteleuze first applied to the King for the remission of their sentence, which was immediately granted; M. de Ranville then followed their example, with the like result; and Prince Polignac, at the solicitation of his lady and the British minister, has had his doom changed to banishment from France, under the full weight of his condemnation and sentence of civil death.

The duke de Nemours, second son to the King, has gone to Algiers, campaigning, after the example of his elder brother.

SPAIN.—The intelligence from Madrid is to the 15th October.—The most important item is an account of the defeat of Gomez, the Carlist Chief, by the royal forces under Alaix and Espinosa, near Lucena, on the 13th. Some of the London papers express doubts, but the report is strongly confirmed by the fact that Gomez had sent a flag to Alaix, with offers to negotiate, of which there is no question. Gen. Alaix refused to hold any terms with Gomez, seized the bearer of the flag, and sent him a prisoner to Madrid. The report was, that the Carlists lost 2000 killed and prisoners in the engagement.

Espinosa had entered Cordova, where Gomez appears to have made but a very short

stay. Sanz (Carlist) was pushing on for Leon, followed by Gen. Peon's first division and the Portuguese auxiliaries.

All quiet at Madrid, and a renewal of hope and confidence. Count Latour Mauberg, the French Ambassador arrived on the 14th. Nothing important from Navarre, or the frontier. The Carlists were exerting all their energies to procure forage and provisions.

SWITZERLAND.—The Extraordinary Diet, convened for deliberation on the controversy with France, held its first Session on the 7th of October, at Berne. Nothing was done save the appointment of a committee to receive the instructions given by the several cantons to their Deputies in the Diet, and report thereupon. The Diet adjourned, to meet again when the committee should be ready to report. A majority of the committee is said to be of the radical party, and disposed to be very 'uppish' toward France.

PORTUGAL.—The latest intelligence from Lisbon is to Oct. 16. The new Ministry were yet in office, but much embarrassed for want of money, and not likely to sustain themselves much longer. They were trying to concoct a plan for changing the mode of Elections, so as to make it conform with the newly adopted constitution. A decree had been issued appointing a special committee to investigate the causes of, and suggest a remedy for, the financial difficulties of the Kingdom. The British fleet was still lying in the Tagus, with guns double shotted and every thing ready for action in case of need. A hostile feeling to England existed very largely among the people. There were rumours of Miguelite demonstrations in the Algarves.

TURKEY.—It is said that the Russians have played Sultan Mahmoud a shabby trick, in restoring to him his fortress of Silistria in a very dilapidated condition, and stripped of every gun that was good for any thing.

The insurrection in Bosnia has been completely put down. Ali Fidaui Pacha, the chief instigator has been captured and sent in chains to Constantinople.

The report of the death of Mehemet Ali, of Egypt, is not confirmed.

There is a talk of an approaching war between Turkey and Persia, in consequence of some local aggressions on both sides.

GREAT BRITAIN.

NEW YORK, Nov. 23.

This morning the packet ship Roscoe, arrived from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 25th of October. Our London papers are on the 24th and Liverpool to the 25th, both inclusive.

The conservative papers are rejoicing over a manifest increase of conservatism, in almost every part of the country.

Parliament was opened, *pro forma*, on the 20th of October, and farther prorogued to Thursday the 8th of December.

An order has been issued forbidding the committal of any prisoners to Newgate, hereafter, except only those awaiting trial.

Hay was selling at Liverpool, at 8 pounds (40 dollars) per ton.

The death of Mrs O'Connell was reported at Dublin, on the 19 of October. Ireland was still afflicted with the disturbances.

The English steamer Magnet and Red Rover came in contact with each other during a thick fog, off the north shore near London. The Rover went down in three minutes after; although there were near three hundred passengers on board of each boat, no lives were lost.

## GLEANNINGS.

## STATISTICAL VIEW OF MEXICO.

The United States of Mexico formed their Constitution in 1824, on the plan of our federal Union. The deviations were few and inconsiderable—19 States and 4 Territories formed the confederation. A president was elected every four years, and could not be re-elected. A senate of two members from each State, and a deputy for each 80,000 population.

According to that constitution, every man at 18 years of age became a voter; no other qualification was required.

Indians and Mestizoes, negroes and mulattoes were equally free citizens and voters.

The population of Mexico is at present about 8,000,000. In 1791, it was 5,000,000; in 1806 it was 5,500,000; in 1825, 6,850,000. The population is divided as follows:

1. Indians, 4,000,000.
2. Mestizoes, that is, descendants of Indians and Spanish, 2,000,000.
3. Creoles, Spanish descent, born in Mexico, 1,200,000.
4. Zambo, Indian and negro descent, and mulattoes, 600,000.
5. Negroes, 1,000,000.
6. Guachupins, or natives of Spain, 10,000.
7. Estrangeros, or strangers, American, English, French, Italian, &c., 15,000.

By the relative population we perceive that Indians and Mestizoes form the bulk of the nation, and with equal privileges are sure to rule it at a future time.

They are at present, however, regarded with extreme contempt, and are by the whites opprobriously denominated irrational. The number of Indians remain nearly the same as when first discovered by the Spaniards, three centuries ago, and their manners and religion have been little affected by their white intruders.

The land in Mexico is generally much superior to that of the United States. Almost all the productions of other climes grow there in rich luxuriance.

The produce of maize is wonderful—an acre has been known to produce 200 bushels, and some stems are 20 feet high, with 5 or 6 large ears.

Wheat grows well only on table land, but there it commonly yields 25 to one. In the irrigated lands of Mexico, it has even yielded 50 to one; while in Europe, only 10 or 12 to one. It is considered the average production; and the best lands in Kentucky yield only 22 to 1.

To produce 1,000,000 pounds of sugar, only 150 labourers are required, while 300 are requisite in Cuba and Louisiana.

The production of Coffee is still easier in Mexico; 20 men can attend 200,000 trees, which on an average, produce 500,000 pounds.

Cotton also, of a quality far superior to ours, can be purchased in many parts of Mexico, in greater quantities by one third, than can be obtained from the best lands in Louisiana.

The silver mines in Mexico are perhaps inexhaustible; \$3,000,000,000 of silver have been drawn from them during 300 years past, averaging \$10,000,000 per annum.

The first English mining company was established in 1823; there are now 10; English 7; North American 2; German 1. The business however has been unprofitable.

The great source of wealth in Mexico, is her eminently productive soil. All the productions of southern Europe abound there in the greatest state of luxuriance and perfection.

Horses, cattle, sheep, &c. of the finest quality can be raised at a trifling expense, the climate being remarkably congenial to their nature. The expense of winter feeding is avoided, there being no winter there; horses of the

best quality can be obtained for 15 or 20 dollars per head.

The Mexicans have 1,000,000,000 acres of good land to be sold to colonists on six years' credit, at a few cents per acre. Any poor man therefore, without a cent in his pocket, can purchase his thousand acres of the very best land in the world, and from the productions of that land, if he be industrious, at the expiration of six years, find his payments all made, and himself independently rich.

Agricultural labor can be obtained throughout Mexico, at the average rate of 25 cents per day. These low rates operate eminently to the advantage of the enterprising agriculturalist; but the consequence is, nine-tenths of the natives for ever remain in the most abject poverty and servitude. Like the ancient Israelites, they sell themselves to pay their debts; a small debt of a few dollars often forces them into a servitude which, in consequence of the high price of clothing and the low rates of labor, they are never able to extricate themselves from.

Mechanical labor is performed mostly by foreigners, at \$2 to \$4 per day.—Soldiers of infantry have \$1.25 per day, and of cavalry \$2, but they have no rations allowed; they must therefore clothe and feed themselves, the government furnishing nothing but arms and ammunition. Their pay however is always in arrears, and very difficult to collect. They seldom receive any thing but clothing, charged to them at an extravagant rate, and that only when reduced to the last extremity. As to their food, they are often compelled to borrow, beg, or levy it by military contributions. The Mexican forces are at this time in a very disorganized and turbulent condition, reduced to rags and beggary, without resources—their pay several months in arrears, and the national treasury exhausted.

Such is the nation with whom the brave Texans are at war, and such the country they possess.

**EXPLOSION EXTRAORDINARY AT THE LIVERPOOL POST OFFICE.**—Several letters, weighing about two ounces, or two ounces and a half each, were some days ago put into the Post Office, Liverpool, addressed to the Havana. As the postage had not been paid on them they were detained, and on Saturday evening were made up into two parcels—four in one parcel, & three in the other—to be transmitted, to the Dead Letter office in London, where they would have been opened by the proper officer, and then returned to the writers. About half-past nine the parcel containing the four letters was stamped in the usual manner and put into the London bag; but at the moment the other parcel was stamped, a tremendous explosion took place from the letters, which were blown to atoms and Barnard, the stamper, was knocked down with great violence to the ground, and the heavy stamp which he had in his hand driven to the farther end of the office. A clerk at the next window, about 10 yards from Barnard, was also knocked down, and several of the office windows were blown into the street. Mr Banning, the postmaster, sitting in one of the back offices, felt as if he had received a violent blow at the side of his head. The moment he recovered he rushed into the office where the explosion took place, and found Barnard on the floor, bleeding from the head, and insensible. Mr Banning at first supposed that somebody had fired a pistol from outside of the office, and hastened into the street to secure the murderer. He soon returned to Barnard's assistance, and medical aid having been obtained, it was then discovered that Barnard's hands were shockingly lacerated; the finger-nails were blown off, and in some parts the flesh was torn away

and the bone left bare. His face was scorched and cut, and one eye so much injured that the surgeons stated on Sunday he would lose the use of it. A copper sprig (a sort of small nail) was extracted from his face, and pieces of paper were taken from his eyelids. It is not expected he will again be able to attend to his business. The letters were addressed in Spanish, to persons holding official situations at the Havana. It is supposed that the writers had prepared the letters with detonating powder, intending to injure those persons they were addressed to when opened there. In the confusion, the other parcel, containing the four letters, was afterwards sent off in the mail from Liverpool that night. Between twelve and one o'clock Mr Banning was apprised of it, and he instantly dispatched an express to the post office in London. It is hoped that means may be found to identify the hand writing of the letters, and lead to the discovery of the writers. A similar circumstance took place a few years ago, when the stamper was very much hurt. The individual who sent the letter then, intended to alarm the person to whom it was addressed, but he paid dearly for his folly, he was proceeded against criminally, and the stamper recovered damages for the injury.—*Liverpool paper.*

The monster who deposited in the Liverpool post office letters which exploded, has been discovered and arrested. He is a Portuguese named Josef Gomez Pelayo, and went from this city as a steerage passenger, in the Virginian. His object was to cause the death of several persons living in Havana, to whom the letters were addressed. A number of packets likewise charged with fulminating silver, and addressed to persons in Havana and Matanzas were found in his trunk. A chemist who was examined, stated that they contained powder enough to blow up the whole post office.—*New York Paper.*

**RAIL ROAD ACROSS THE Isthmus of DARIEN.**

—The prospect of opening a channel of communication across the Isthmus of Darien, which has for many years been a subject of newspaper comment and conjecture, appears now in a train at no very distant period to be realized. It appears by recent intelligence, that the congress of New Grenada, during its last session, which terminated in May, passed an act making a large appropriation of land for a Rail and McAdamised road, and granting the same, with the privilege for forty-five years, to Col. Charles Biddle, a Citizen of the United States, who it is said has acted in soliciting the contract as the agent of several large capitalists in this country. The distance across the Isthmus, from Porto Bello to Panama, is only 37 miles;—but it is interrupted by a considerable rocky elevation, forming a part of the chain of the Andes.

The advantages to commerce, should this project finally succeed and be carried into operation are thus alluded to in the N. Y. Com. Advertiser:—"The voyage to the Pacific, by the way of Cape Horn, will be in a great measure done away with; and the teas and silks of China, the spices of Polynesia, the furs of the North West coast, and the valuable products of the whale fishery, will reach us by a navigation abbreviated to half its present length and consequent expense. The commerce of other nations, too, will of necessity be directed into this new channel of communication. The capes of Good Hope and Horn will no longer be the trial-points of weather beaten mariners; monsoons and trade winds will lose mightily in interest; a vast city will spring into existence with unexampled celerity at either extremity of the road, proudly standing like the citadels of trade, one upon the margin of the Pacific and the other upon that of the Atlantic,



gathering toll from every box of tea, every bundle of skins and every barrel of blubber that finds its way to this country or to Europe; and for any thing we know to the contrary, in the course of centuries, a vast system of lateral rail roads may be created, extending to diverging lines, like the rays of the sun, from the great road between the oceans, to the remotest borders of North and South America, serving as a medium of transportation for all the inland and oriental trade, and so far as this whole western continent is concerned, entirely supplanting all navigation except that of rivers by innumerable steamboats. Political consequences of no less magnitude may perhaps be in like manner produced, but we have not time or space at the present for writing even a random conjecture of their extent and nature.—*New Bedford Mercury.*

**TANNING**—A few years since we alluded in general terms to a new mode of tanning, lately invented by Dr E. S. Bell, and Mr Daniel Bell, of Virginia. From one of the Patentees, now in this place, we have been informed that the system has been well received, and the leather has well sustained the test of use. Some have supposed that the operation is effected by the use of heat, acid steam, &c.; this, however, we are assured is not true, the leading principle being to free the hide from all foreign substances, as grease, &c., together with the weakened liquor from which the tannin has been absorbed, and thus leave the hide free to receive a fresh charge of the tanning principle, which being unobstructed in its operation by grease or other foreign substance, is left free to act immediately upon the gelatine of the hide; and very soon the tannin having combined with the hide, the weakened liquor may be again made to give way to a fresh charge of stronger. The operation of freeing the hide from these foreign and detrimental substances is effected by mechanical pressure, by means of rollers passing over the hides when drawn from the vats and laid upon platforms adapted for the purpose. In order to effect this compression conveniently, the vats and platform are so arranged as to enable the workmen to pass them through the operation with great rapidity and ease. In order too, that the ooze may act as freely as possible, the hides are suspended in the vats, which adds likewise to the convenience of passing them successfully under the roller.

While the steaming and heating process which had been heretofore proposed, and in some instances reduced to practice, injures the leather, by cooking it so as to make it harsh and unfit for use, we can see nothing in the above calculated to produce that effect; and we are assured that the process differs from all that can now be found in the patent office or in practice. We learn, also, that a more perfect union, appears to take place between the material of the hide and the tannin, than under the old method, which has been proved by submitting it to the action of chemical agents. The time necessary for the perfect tanning of a hide, varies from two to eight weeks, as has been proved by repeated experiments; it is then at the option of the tanner to permit it to lie longer, or to finish it immediately for sale.

We have not attempted to detail the plan of these gentlemen, or even allude to many parts of their process; we only desire to call the attention of tanners and others interested, to the fact that good leather can be made by a much shorter course than some have thought practicable: and to impress the distinction between tanning by steam and the mode here proposed. We know there is a mountain of prejudice against innovation to be overcome, but whilst improvements are being made in every branch of husbandry, why should this important opera-

tion remain stationary? Here is a plan proposed by which labor is to be saved—time is to be saved, (and time is money, especially to the man of small capital)—a good article is to be produced—and the experiment is not expensive. It is surely worth an attentive investigation; and the patentees say they ask no more. If they cannot effect all that they propose, they ask no man to adopt their system. Mr Daniel Bell will remain in Zanesville a few days, and will give full satisfaction on the subject; and at any time a letter addressed to Dr Edward S. Bell, Middleway, Jefferson county, will receive prompt attention.—*Zanesville Gazette.*

**IRON ROOFS.**—The N. Y. Star speaks in terms of high admiration of a plan recently invented in that city for covering houses with sheet iron. The editor has examined the roof of a large warehouse constructed of iron, and asserts that for durability, strength, tightness, and lightness, it is greatly superior to roofs of any other material. It consists of seventeen convex rows of iron plates on each inclination of the roof. They are made of pieces of sheet iron riveted firmly together like the boiler of a steam engine, and form as many grooves or gutters which carry off the water. They are traversed outside and within, by iron bars, which are anchored in the walls, and thus hold the whole roof as well as the upper part of the house, compactly together, on the principle of the chain bridge. By wedges inserted in the middle junction of the bars outside, the roof may at any time be made still more firm and water tight. It will bear any weight of snow, and the whole structure is less in weight than ordinary roofs.

**LANDING**  
From Brig COMMERCE, Captain DIXON, from Newcastle, for sale by the subscriber:  
**CHAIN CABLES**, 1-2, 3-3, 3-4, 7-8 1 1-4 inches; **ANCHORS**, suited for wood, and with iron stocks, from 1 to 13 cwt.; which will be disposed of on reasonable terms.  
6th September, 1836. **GEORGE SMITH**

**FALL, 1836.**  
**THE** Subscriber has received per the ANN from Liverpool, and the ACADIAN from Greenock *A very complete Assortment OF IRON-VOGGERY, HARDWARE, AND CUTLERY &c.*  
*Very superior half-bleached COTTONS, fine yd. wide SHIRTINGS, Checks and Stripes and Woolens—suitable to the season. Fur Caps.*  
Also ON HAND—A small assortment of **SADDLERY**, Mill Saws, Plough and Fanner Mountings, a variety of Mirrors, a few sets Tea and Coffee Chms, Groceries, Shoe Leather, Stone ware, Powder and Shot, &c. No. 1 Herring and Mackerel:  
Which will be sold, on the most moderate terms; and the highest price will be given, either in exchange for Goods or in Cash or Flour, Meal, Pork, and Butter.  
**R. DAWSON.**  
Water street, Pictou, 1st Nov'r, 1836.

**BY THE GARLAND, FROM LIVERPOOL**  
AND JEAN DUN, FROM SUNDERLAND,  
**AND** for sale on the subscriber's wharf:  
1000 hds Liverpool salt,  
75 tons well assorted bar and bolt IRON,  
Hemp cables, hawsers and small cordage,  
Cavass No 1 & 2,  
Nets, lines, twine, & other fishing stores,  
1 Caplin scow,  
Chain Cables, 1 1-4 & 1-2 inches, and  
40, 60, & 100 fathoms each,  
Anchors of all descriptions,  
which will be disposed of on reasonable terms.  
**GEO. SMITH.**  
25th May, 1836.

**OATS.**—Cash will be given by Ross and Primrose for OATS, during the winter.  
November 30. **tt**

**NOTICE.**  
**A**S the subscriber is called upon to leave the Province, all those duo him either by Note of hand or Book accounts, are requested to pay the same on or before the 15th of April ensuing, to save further trouble.  
He also offers for Sale, under the same date, his standing property at New Glasgow, and 200 ACRES OF LAND fronting on the road leading to the Garden of Eden, so called.  
**COLIN MCKAY.**  
New Glasgow, 28th Nov. 1836.

**FOR SALE,**  
**AT A LOW PRICE,**  
**A Valuable tract of LAND,** belonging to the heirs of the late John Tulles, lying on the Northern side of the East Branch of River John, bounded by Lands granted to Robert Patterson and others, and containing **FIVE HUNDRED ACRES.**  
Apply to Abram Patterson, Esquire, Pictou, or to Messrs Young, Halifax.  
October 5, 1836. **if**

**THE SUBSCRIBER**  
**K**EEPS constantly for SALE, a large assortment of  
**DRUGS AND MEDICINES,**  
Chemical preparations, Dye Stuffs, oil and water Colours, Apothecaries' Glassware, Perfumery, &c. Every article usually kept for sale by Druggists may be had at his shop, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.  
**JAMES D. B. FRASER,**  
September 21. **tt** Druggist.

**NOTICE.**  
**T**HE Co-partnership heretofore existing under the firm of Hockin & Sons was this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons indebted to the said firm, are requested to make immediate payment to ROBERT or DANIEL HOCKIN; and all persons having demands, will send in their accounts for adjustment.  
**ROBERT HOCKIN,**  
**JAMES HOCKIN,**  
**DANIEL HOCKIN.**  
Pictou, September 27th, 1836. **m-m**

**FINAL NOTICE.**  
**A**LL persons indebted to the Estate of the late WILLIAM MORTIMER, Esq., will please to take notice that unless they make immediate payment to the subscriber, legal proceedings will be instituted against them without distinction.  
Nov. 4 **MARTIN J. WILKINS**

**J. JOHNSTON,**  
In addition to his former STOCK, has received FROM LONDON,  
*A neat assortment of FIFES, FLUTES, AND OCTAVES,*  
which he offers for sale very low for cash.  
Pictou, August 3. **tt**

**FOR SALE.**  
**A**LL that Tenement and building in Pictou, bounding on High Street and James Street, formerly owned by Hugh McKay deceased, and now occupied by Mr Marcus Gunn and others, with all the appurtenances and outhouses thereunto belonging. The house and premises may be viewed, and the boundaries pointed out, upon application to Mr Geo. McKay, Pictou, by whom, or the Subscriber, the terms of sale, which are liberal, may be made known.  
**JAMES BAIN.**  
Halifax, August 8th, 1836. **tt**

**NEW TIN-WARE ESTABLISHMENT.**  
**H. R. NARRAWAY,**  
*Agent for A. McGrigor,*  
**R**ESPECTFULLY intimates to the inhabitants of Pictou and its vicinity that he is ready to execute orders in Tin, Lead, sheet Iron, and Copper works in the shop opposite the store of Messrs. Ives, where by punctuality and moderate charges he hopes to merit a share of public patronage.  
*Franklin and other Stoves, Stove Pipes, &c. neatly fitted up.*  
**ON HAND—A choice assortment of Tin Ware.**  
Old Pewter, Lead, Copper, and Brass, bought October 12, 1836.

## COLONIAL.

QUEBEC, November 25.

There has been a report in town for some days past, that the Hudson's Bay Company had obtained permission to cut timber within the limits of the King's Posts, of which they have a lease for the Fur Trade, which will expire in 1841. It is said that they are about to erect saw mills at the different sites on the streams in that great extent of country for preparing lumber for shipment.—*Gazette*.

Some of our brethren of the press have become rather pugacious of late. We read of twenty thousand men hand to hand, heart to heart, shoulder to shoulder, and then another talks of the St. Lawrence running blood. We who dislike the running of any thing connected with political warfare but ink out of a goose quill, begin to feel rather alarmed, and have thought of a way to obviate honest and quiet folks being involved in cruel extremities. We propose that the writers of these articles should do all the fighting among themselves, and as it is certain that they will fight like Kilkenny cats, it will go a great way to settling the difficulties of the country.—*Id.*

**Another great fire at Quebec**—Last night, between 10 and 11 o'clock, a fire broke out at *Pres-de-Ville*, to the south-west of the Inclined Plane, in the house of Mr Kelley, tavern keeper. The wind was westerly and the tide out, and many of the houses wood, and the street narrow. Every assistance was given by the neighborhood, but the fire could not be prevented from spreading across the street, and the wooden buildings on both sides burnt so intensely that they set the stone houses that happened to be opposite on fire by the doors, windows, and eaves of the roofs. The military and some of the fire companies, attended, but little could be done to arrest the progress of the flames to the leeward. The conflagration only stopped at the Inclined Plane. A couple of houses to the westward of Kelley's were consumed. The buildings were mostly new—twenty-two of them erected on the late Mr Molson's property after the fire two years ago.

The desolation and distress is immense. Besides the loss sustained by proprietors and insurance companies, it is supposed that upwards of a hundred families are deprived of their dwellings at the setting in of winter, and have lost all that they had saved by industry for their support.

The number of houses destroyed is about 50.

Three of the Merchants of the Lower Town are now collecting subscriptions, to assist those who stand most in need, with a place of temporary resort and some immediate relief.—*Id.*

November 28.

The weather set in cold on Thursday night. At sun-rise the thermometer has been down every morning since to between 15° and 20° below zero. The first floating ice on the St. Lawrence appeared on Saturday. This morning it was sufficient to impede the navigation, which must soon close for the season. The wind has been westerly and it is probable, that all the vessels which sailed last week have got out of the river without accident.

The ground is still nearly bare of snow; the small rivers are frozen over. Some apprehensions are entertained for the potatoes not well secured against the frost. Some of them have spoiled, having frosted potatoes among them, or not being sufficiently ripe to keep in good condition.

The want of snow at this season is unfavorable to travelling and the supply of the markets, as well as to getting firewood out of the woods.—*Id.*

The Upper Canada House of Assembly voted a Supply on the 16th instant, on motion of Mr McNab.—*Id.*

St Johns, N. B., December 6.

**ARRIVAL OF THE DELEGATES.**—We have today the pleasing duty to announce the return to this City of William Crane and L. A. Wilmot, Esquires, Members of the Legislature of this Province, who were deputed by the House, last season, to proceed to Britain, and lay before his Majesty's Government the Address of the Assembly, on various matters of paramount importance to the Province.

Messrs Crane and Wilmot arrived at New York on the 23d ult. in the packet ship *Roscoe*, which sailed from Liverpool on the 25th Oct., and came to town on Friday evening in the steamer 'Maid of the Mist,' from Eastport.

Our readers are already aware that through the representations of the Deputation, several hitherto unsettled questions relative to the Casual Revenue, &c. have been adjusted on terms highly advantageous to the Province; and we have now only to add, that, generally, the Deputation has fully succeeded in accomplishing the object of their mission. In a few days the Provincial Legislature will assemble, when all the details relative to this important event will be made public.

We understand that these gentlemen express themselves highly gratified at the manifest disposition of Lord Glenelg and the other members of his Majesty's Government, to give due consideration to every subject brought under their notice, and to remove every reasonable ground of complaint.

We feel it incumbent on us to state, for the more particular information of our readers, that the **ENTIRE CASUAL REVENUE**, including the proceeds of Sales to the *Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Land Company*, are to be surrendered to the disposal of the Provincial Legislature, on a provision being made for a Civil List to the extent of £14,500 currency. The funds thus to be given up, amount to about £100,000 immediately available to the wants of the Province, exclusive of the receipts of the current year. The grant of £1200 per annum, for the commutation of Quit Rents, is likewise to be relinquished by the Crown. With respect to the Crown Land Department, we are authorized to state, that such changes have been effected as will immediately and effectually remove the causes of complaint which have been so long and so severely felt.—*Observer*.

The weather in this part of the Province still continues remarkably mild, without snow. To-day, the air has the pleasantness of an April day. At sun-rise on Friday morning last, the thermometer, in an exposed situation, stood at 13°, which is the coldest that has been experienced this season.—*Id.*

To the list of the many very fine vessels owned in this port, we have now to add the ship "*Mary*," launched last week from the ship yard of Messrs W. & J. Lawton, for Messrs McKay, Brothers & Co. She is of superior model and workmanship, and copper fastened. Measures, old tonnage 691 tons, new 722—no poop, in consequence of the late measurement Act.—*Id.*

MIRAMICHI, December 6.

**THE WEATHER.**—The river is now frozen over, and has been so from Friday morning last. Sunday, we believe was the earliest period at which an attempt was made to cross on the ice, but as the weather has been very mild the last two days, this must be attended with considerable danger. A man, in attempting to cross yesterday, got in a short distance from Messrs Cunard's wharf, but was providentially rescued from his perilous situation by timely aid from the shore.—*Gleaner*.

THE WEEK.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 14, 1836.

**THE WEATHER.**—Up to this time, the weather has been remarkably fine and mild; we have neither had frost nor snow to occasion the close housing of farm stock, and should it continue some time longer, the price of hay will fall.

The harbour remains perfectly open and free from ice, and the P. E. Island Mail Boat continues to ply as usual. The outward bound shipping have all left the port except the barque *Blessing*, and brig *Squirrel*, which are both nearly ready for sea. The coasting vessels have all arrived in safety.

**LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.**—Last Wednesday evening, Dr. Martin delivered an interesting Lecture on "Pneumatics," and performed a number of experiments illustrative of the mechanical properties of air. This evening, Dr. W. J. Anderson will lecture on "The Science of Phrenology."

The *Halifax Telegraph*, conducted by Mr J. S. Thompson, will re-appear on the first Friday in January next.

An attempt had been made to assassinate the Emperor of Russia. He was shot at by a Russian, and the ball went through an aide-de-camp by his side.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—The Lines of "J. L." about himself, could not interest any of our readers.

The Communication of John Holmes, Esq. came too late for this day's paper, but will appear in our next.

## MARRIED,

On Wednesday last, by the Rev. Charles Elliot, Mr Peter Shields, of Hull, England, to Miss Christie Smith, of the East River.

On Thursday, by the Rev. Charles Elliot, Mr John Sutherland, of New Lairg, to Miss Margaret McKay, of the same place.

## DIED,

On Thursday evening last, Mary, youngest child of Mr James Kitchin.

On the 12th ult., suddenly, Mr James Mulligan, victualler, a native of Dublin, aged 48 years,—leaving a wife and five children.

At the house of Mr John Maxwell, on Saturday morning last, Miss Mary McDonald,—formerly of P. E. Island, aged about 35 years. Her infant child was interred a few days previous.

At Sussex Vale, N. B., on the 4th inst., the Honorable George Henry Hazen, Esquire, a Member of the Legislative Council, New Brunswick—aged 52 years.

## SHIP NEWS.

CUSTOM-HOUSE—PICTOU.

## ENTERED.

Wednesday, Dec. 7.—Sloop *Triumph Cannon*, P. E. Island—ballast.

Friday.—Schr. *Isabella*, Kennedy, do.—do. King William, *Boudrot*, Halifax—gen'l cargo; *Trial*, Roberts, Bay Verte, Bets, &c.

Saturday.—*Lively*, Cummings, Halifax—general cargo.

Monday.—*Sarah*, Curtis, P. E. Island—oats.

## CLEARED.

Thursday.—Brig *Adventure*, McKinnon, Newfoundland; sloop *Triumph Cannon*, P. E. Island.

Friday.—Schr. *Waterloo*, Eisan, Halifax.

Saturday.—Barque *Blessing*, Green, Hull.

**NOTICE.**

ALL persons having any just demands against the estate of the late **JOHN RUSSELL**, chain manufacturer and blacksmith, of Pictou, deceased, are hereby requested to render the same within eighteen calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said estate, are requested to make immediate payment to Peter Grant, at the residence of the deceased, who is fully authorised to adjust the concern.

**JOHN RUSSELL, Jun'r.**, } Exrs  
**JAMES McINTYRE,** }  
**PETER GRANT,** }  
Pictou, Dec'r 7, 1836. m-m

**THE SUBSCRIBERS**

RETURN their sincere thanks to the public in general, for the liberal encouragement their late father received since his commencement in business; and now inform them, that they have **COMMENCED BUSINESS**

in their own names, in their late father's Manufactory on the wharf commonly known as the 'Deacon's wharf,' where they will always have on hand, or made at the shortest notice, the following articles, at the most moderate prices:

- CHAIN CABLES, from 3/4ths to 1 1/2 inch,
- BOB STAYS, TOPSAIL SHEETS,
- AND TIES,
- ANCHORS & HAUSE PIPES

different sizes,  
All kinds of ship work done to order, at the shortest notice.

- PLOUGHES & CARTS COMPLETE,
- with other farming utensils,
- GRIST & SAW MILL CHAINS,
- with every other kind of mill work done to order,
- BROAD & NARROW AXES,
- Britchen Chains and Hooks, Back Bands and Traces,
- Logging and Ox Chains.

**J. & A. RUSSELL.**  
December 7. m-w

**J. HOCKIN**

MOST respectfully begs to intimate to his friends and the public that he has taken that **LARGE & COMMODIOUS STORE** of Mr A. D. Gordon's, nearly opposite the Market place, where he offers for sale a general assortment of **Dry Goods, Groceries, and Hardware,** Cheap for Cash or country produce.  
(Nov'r. 22, 1836.)

**NOW IN PRESS,**  
a Work entitled

**A GUIDE TO TOWN OFFICERS,**  
SHEWING  
**THEIR APPOINTMENT, DUTIES, LIABILITIES AND PRIVILEGES,**  
According to the Laws of the Province.

BY **DANIEL DICKSON.**

One Volume, Svo. about 200 pages. Price 5s.

THE TABLE OF CONTENTS embracesthe appointment, Duties, Liabilities, emoluments and privileges, of Overseers Assessors, Collectors, Surveyors, Inspectors, and all other Town Officers who are annually appointed; with appropriate remarks upon each.

\*\* Agents to this Paper, and such others as we may send Copies of the Prospectus to, are requested to solicit Subscribers to the above Work, and forward them with the least possible delay, as the number of Copies will be regulated by the amount of Subscribers.

**ANNUALS FOR 1837.**

THE subscriber has just received a few copies of the following celebrated American Annuals:—

- The Token,
- The New-Years' B.x,
- The Gift,
- The Religious Souvenir,
- The Pearl,
- The Violot.
- The Union Annual,

Pictou, November 8th, 1836. **JAS. DAWSON.**

**ADMINISTRATION NOTICES.**

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of **JOHN DOULL**, late of Point Breuly, Merchant, deceased, are hereby requested to render the same duly attested to, at the office of Henry Blackadar, Esquire, Barrister at Law, Pictou, within eighteen calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons in any manner indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment  
**JANE DOULL, Administratrix.**  
Point Breuly, 20th October, 1836. if

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of the late **JAMES SKINNER, M. D.** now deceased, are hereby required to render the same duly attested to, within eighteen Calendar months from the date hereof, at the Office of Henry Blackadar, Esquire, Barrister at Law, and all persons in any manner indebted to the said deceased, are requested to make immediate payment to  
**KEN JNO MCKENZIE,** } Execu  
**JOHN HOLMES,** } tors.  
Pictou, 29th September, 1836. m-m

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of **DONALD McDONALD, (Glenco)** late of Scots Hill, in the District of Pictou, now deceased, are hereby required to render the same duly attested to, within eighteen Calendar months from the date hereof, at the Office of Henry Blackadar, Esquire, Barrister at Law, and all persons that are in any manner indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment  
**KEN JNO MCKENZIE,** } Execu  
**PETER CRERAR,** } tors.  
Pictou, 29th September, 1836. r-m

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of the late **ANGUS MCKAY**, of the East River of Pictou, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, within eighteen calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to  
**WILLIAM SUTHERLAND,** } Exrs.  
**DONALD MCKAY,** }  
Sept'r 7, 1836. m-m

ALL persons having any demands against the estate of the late **HUGH DENOON, Esq.,** of Pictou, will please present the same duly attested to the subscribers, for adjustment; and all persons indebted to the said estate, are requested to make immediate payment.  
**CATHARINE DENOON, Adm'r.**  
**JAMES PRIMROSE, Adm'r.**  
Pictou, 22d April, 1836. if

ALL persons having any Legal Demands against the Estate of **ROBERT BROWN**, Blacksmith, late of Middle River, deceased, are hereby notified to render their accounts duly attested, to the subscribers within the space of eighteen calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said estate, are requested to make immediate payment to  
**MARGARET BROWN, Adm'r.**  
**THOMAS KERR,** } Adm'r's.  
**THOMAS MCCOUL,** }  
4th November, 1835. ca-m

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of the late **JESSEY LOGIE**, of Pictou, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, within eighteen Calendar months from this date; and all persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the subscriber, at Halifax.  
**PETER DONALDSON,**  
13th April, 1836. Administrator

ALL persons having any demands against the estate of **EDWARD CROY, Cooper**, late of Pictou, deceased, are hereby requested to render the same duly attested; and all persons indebted to said estate, or requested to make immediate payment to the Subscriber, or to Mr. William Pottinger, Cooper, Pictou.  
**WM. J. ANDERSON, Adm'r.**  
Pictou, 5th Nov'r, 1836. t-f

**WINE.**—A few quarter casks light Madeira, for sale by **ROSS & PRIMROSE.**

**JUST RECEIVED**

Ex Schr. Greyhound from Quebec, and for Sale by the Subscriber, wholesale or retail.  
**18 CASKS** best bending cut NAILS, assorted.  
1 case MACHINE CARDS.  
ALSO—TO CLOSE CONSIGNMENTS.  
3 Casks, containing Herbert's Liquid and Paste Blacking; 20 dozen Salmon Twines, 1 hand-made Cooking Stove.  
**JAS. DAWSON.**  
Pictou, November, 1836.

**ALMANACS, FOR 1837.**

For sale by **J. DAWSON**  
12th October.

**INDIA RUBBERS.**

Just received from Boston, and for Sale at the stores of Jas. Dawson and Robert Dawson.  
A FEW pairs very best India Rubber overall Shoes  
This is an indispensable article to those who can appreciate the comfort of dry feet. [Nov. 8]

**TO FARMERS.**

CASH and a liberal price, will be paid by the Subscriber, for the following articles, of good quality, viz: BUTTER, PORK, OIL MEAL, FLOUR, and TIMOTHY SEED.  
**JAMES DAWSON**  
J. D. having many accounts due him in the country, some of them long standing, requests a settlement of the same between this and the first of January next [September 28.]

**HEALTH SECURED,**  
BY **MORISON'S PILLS.**

The Vegetable Universal Medicine of the British College of Health;  
WHICH has obtained the approbation and commendation of some thousands, in curing Consumption, Cholera Morbus, Inflammations, Bilious & all Liver Diseases, Gout, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Tick Doloruz, King's Evil, Asthma, Small Pox, Measles, Whooping Cough, Cholera, and all Cutaneous Eruptions—and keep unalterable for years in all Climates. Forming at pleasure the mildest Aperient, or by increasing the dose, the briskest and most efficacious Purgative, capable of giving relief in all cases of disease to which the human system is liable.  
The Subscriber has been appointed Agent for the Eastern Division of the Province, for the sale of the above valuable Medicines, of whom ONLY they can be had genuine, with Morison's Directions for their use.

OF WHOM ALSO MAY BE HAD,  
A few BOOKS, describing the properties, use, & almost innumerable cases of Cure, effected by this extraordinary Medicine.  
Nov'r 23, 1836 **JAMES DAWSON.**

**TO LET.**

For one or more Years,  
THE HOUSE AND LOT three Miles from the town of Pictou, on the Halifax road, formerly occupied by Benjamin Sterne. For particulars, apply to **JOHN PATERSON.**  
Pictou, 5th Nov'r, 1836.

**JUST RECEIVED,**

And for sale by the subscriber:  
**CARBOY'S OIL OF VITRIOL**, Casks Blue Vitriol, Salt Petre, Soda, Ivory black, Emery, No's 1, 2, & 3, boxes sugar candy, liquorice, Zinc, Chrome Yellow, Crucibles, Arrow root, Isinglass, Carrigehene Moss.  
**JAMES D. B. FRASER.**  
September 21. if

**To be Sold or Let.**

WHAT Farm Lot—two miles out of Town, adjoining the Farm of James Kitchen, to the West, containing 50 ACRES, 12 of which are fit for the Plough.

**ALSO,**

That handsome Lot, lying on the East side of the East River, immediately above the narrows, called Point Pleasant, and formerly the property of William Sutherland; containing **SEVENTEEN ACRES.**  
The soil is excellent, and nearly all fit for the Plough; there is on the premises a good freestone Quarry; and the water is so deep close to the shore that a Wharf is altogether unnecessary. For further particulars, apply to **JAMES DAWSON**  
Nov'r 8, 1836.



## POETRY.

## TO A WATERFOWL.

WHITEN, 'midst falling dew,  
While glow the heavens with the last steps of day,  
Far, through their rosy depths, dost thou pursue  
Thy solitary way?

Vainly the Fowler's eye  
Might mark thy distant flight to do thee wrong,  
As, darkly painted in the crimson sky,  
Thy figure floats along.

Seek'st thou the plashy brink  
Of weedy lake, or margin of river wide,  
Or where the rocking billows rise and sink  
On the chafed ocean side.

There is a Power whose care  
Teaches thy way along that pathless coast—  
The desert and illimitable air,—  
Lone wandering, but not lost.

All day thy wings have fanned,  
At that far height the cold thin atmosphere;  
Yet, stoop not, weary, to the welcome land,  
Though the dark night is near.

And soon that toil shall end;  
Soon shalt thou find a summer home and rest,  
And scream among thy fellows; reeds shall bend  
Soon o'er thy sheltered nest.

Thou'rt gone; the abyss of heaven  
Hath swallowed up thy form; yet on my heart  
Deeply hath sunk the lesson thou hast given  
And shall not soon depart.

He, who, from zone to zone  
Guides through the boundless sky thy certain flight,  
In the long way that I must tread alone,  
Will lead my steps aright.

## MISCELLANY.

From "Sketches by Boz."

## THE CRIMINAL'S LAST NIGHT ON EARTH.

WHEN the warrant for a prisoner's execution arrives at Newgate, he is immediately removed to the cells, and confined in one of them until he leaves it for the scaffold. He is at liberty to walk in the yard, but both in his walks and in his cell he is constantly attended by a turnkey, who never leaves him on any pretence whatever. We entered the first cell. It was a stone dungeon eight feet long by six wide with a bench at the further end, under which were a common horse rug, a bible and prayer book. An iron candle stick was fixed into the wall at the side; and a small high window in the back admitted as much air and light as could struggle in between a double row of heavy crossed iron bars. It contained no other furniture of any description.

Conceive the situation of a man spending his last night on earth in this cell. Buoyed up with some vague and undefined hope of reprieve, he knew not why—indulging in some wild and visionary idea of escaping, he knew not how—hour after hour of the three preceding days allowed him for preparation, has fled with a speed which no man living would deem possible, for none but this dying man can know. He has wearied his friends with entreaties, exhausted the attendants with importunities, neglected in his feverish restlessness the timely warnings of his spiritual counselor; and now that the illusion is at last dispelled, now that eternity is before him and guilt behind, now that his fears of death amount almost to madness, and an overwhelming sense of his helpless, hopeless state, rushes upon him, he is lost and stupified, and has neither thoughts to turn to, nor power to call upon, the Almighty Being from whom alone he can

seek mercy and forgiveness, and before whom his repentance can alone avail.

Hours have gleided by, and still he sits upon the same stone bench with folded arms, heedless alike of the fast decreasing time before him, and the urgent entreaties of the good man at his side. The feeble light is wasting gradually, and the deathlike stillness of the street without, broken only by the rumbling of some passing vehicle, which echoes mournfully through the empty yards warns him that the night is waning fast away. The deep bell of St Paul's strikes—one! He heard it; it has roused him. Seven hours left! and he paces the narrow limits of his cell with rapid strides, cold drops of terror starting on his forehead, and every muscle of his frame quivering with agony. Seven hours! He suffers himself to be led to his seat, mechanically takes the bible which is placed in his hand and tries to read and listen. No; his thoughts still wander. The book is torn and soiled by use—how like the book he read his lesson in at school just forty years ago! He has never bestowed a thought upon it since he left it as a child; and yet the place, the time, the room, nay, the very boys he played with, crowd as vividly before him as if they were scenes of yesterday; and some forgotten phrase, some childish word of kindness, rings in his ears like the echo of one uttered but a minute since. The deep voice of the clergyman recalls him to himself. He is reading from the sacred book its solemn promises of pardon for repentance, and its awful denunciation of obdurate men. He falls upon his knees and clasps his hands to pray. Hush! what sound was that? He starts upon his feet. It cannot be two yet! Hark! Two quarters have struck—the third—the fourth. It is! Six hours left! Tell him not of repentance or comfort. Six hours' repentance for eight times six years of guilt and sin! He turns his face in his hands, and throws himself on the bench.

Worn out with watching and excitement, he sleeps, and with the same unsettled state of mind pursues his mad dreams. An insupportable load is taken from his breast; he is walking with his wife in a pleasant field with the bright blue sky above them, and a fresh and boundless prospect on every side—how different from the stone walls of Newgate! And she is looking, not as she did when he saw her for the last time in that dreadful place, but as she used to do when he loved her long long ago, before misery and ill treatment had altered her looks, and voice had changed his nature. And she is leaning upon his arm, and looking up into his face with tenderness and affection—and he does not strike her now, nor rudely shake her from him. And oh! how glad he is to tell her all he had forgotten in that last hurried interview, and to fall on his knees before her and fervently beseech her pardon for all the unkindness and cruelty that wasted her time and broke her heart! The scene suddenly changes. He is on his trial again, there are the judge and jury, and prosecutors and witnesses, just as they were before. How full the court is—what a sea of heads—with a gallery, too, and a scaffold—and how all those people stare at him! Verdict, "Guilty." No matter; he will escape. The night is dark and cold, the gates have been left open, and in an instant he is in the street, flying from the scene of his imprisonment like the wind. The streets are cleared, the open fields are gained, and the broad wide country lies before him. Onward he dashes in the midst of darkness, over hedge and ditch, through mud and pool bounding from spot to spot with a speed and lightness astonishing even to himself. At length he pauses; he must be safe from pursuit now; he will stretch himself on that bank and sleep till sunrise.

A period of unconsciousness succeeds. He wakes cold and wretched. The dull grey light of morning is stealing into the cell, and falls upon the form of the attendant turnkey. Confused by his dreams, he starts from his uneasy bed in momentary uncertainty. It is but momentary. Every object in that narrow cell is too truthfully real to admit of doubt or mistake. He is the condemned felon again, guilty and despairing; and in two hours more he is a corpse.

APPRENTICES.—How extremely difficult it has in all ages been found, to convince the Apprentice that his own interests and prosperity are advanced exactly in proportion to the degree of faithfulness with which he discharges his duties to his employer, and the exertion he makes to promote his master's interests. This arises in a measure, from the proneness of young men to be thought only for the present. They do not generally give themselves the least anxiety about the future, and seem to forget that they too may at some period not far distant become masters and employers and called upon to occupy responsible stations in society.

We have often been pained to witness the want of respect manifested by apprentices for employers, and the degree of indifference and neglect shown by the former towards the interest of the latter. Indeed so extensive has been the mischief arising from this ruinous and mischievous course of apprentices, that the question is already agitated among employers whether the trouble and perplexity of boys at the present day, do not overbalance all the value of their services.

These things ought not so to be, and it need not be thus. Let our young friends reflect on what we have said, and each ask himself if all and more is not true; and let him resolve at once that it shall be no longer true of him. We beseech you be faithful and respectful to those under whose charge and guardianship you have been placed, for by so doing you will not only secure the confidence and respect of all around you, but it will prepare you for a course of faithfulness to yourselves in after life, and place within your reach important advantages when you come to act for yourself.

The whole human race, if collected in one spot, would not occupy a space equal to that in which London now stands. For supposing the population of the globe to amount to 1,000,000,000 souls, and the average space occupied by each individual to be one square foot, the whole of the human race collected together in one column would cover a square of 31,620 feet, or of about six miles. They would all easily be contained within the circumference of London.

Marriage is considered the *bridle* state; and indeed, it puts a *curb* upon most persons.

Why are the majority of women like facts? Because they are "stubborn things."

BAREFACED ATTEMPT.—A man was discovered in Middle street, on Saturday morning picking his own pockets, but as he had found nothing to speak of, he was suffered to escape.

The sword of wit is like the scythe of time; cuts friend and foe, and attacks every thing that accidentally lies in its way.

## AGENTS

## FOR THE BEE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.—MR. DENNIS REDDIE  
 Miramichi—Rev. JOHN McCURDY.  
 St. John, N. B.—MR. A. R. TRURO.  
 Halifax—Messrs. A. & W. MCKINLAY.  
 Truro—MR. CHARLES BLANCHARD.  
 Antigonish—MR. ROBERT PURVIS.  
 Guysboro'—ROBERT HARTSMORNE, Esq.  
 Tatmagouche—MR. JAMES CAMPBELL.  
 Wallace—DANIEL MCFARLANE, Esq.  
 Arichet—JOHN S. BALLAINE, Esq.