

# The Weekly Observer.

BEING A CONTINUATION OF THE STAR.

SAINT JOHN, TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1830.

Vol. II. No. 35.

## THE FIRST GRAY HAIR.

From *Blackwood's Magazine*, for January, 1830.

The morning at her mirror, with her hand upon her brow,  
Sits gazing on her lovely face—aye lovely even now,  
Why doth she lean upon her hand, with such a look of care,  
And why she looks across her cheek, she sees her first gray hair.

Time from her form hath taken away but little of its grace,  
His touch of thought hath dignified the beauty of her face,  
Yet she might mingle in the dance where maidens gaily trip,  
So bright, it still her hazel eye, so beautiful her lip.

The faded form is "blanched" by sorrow more than years,  
The wrinkles on the cheek may be the course of secret tears,  
The mournful lip may mirror of a love no'er confessed,  
And the dimness of the eye betray the heart that cannot rest.

But she has/had a happy wife—the lover of her youth,  
Who proudly claims the smile that proves the trial of his truth,  
A sense of slight-of-loveliness—had never banished,  
Her life hath been a gladder one—then, wherefore doth she weep?

She looks upon her raven locks—what thoughts did they recall?  
Oh! not of nights when they were deck'd for banquet hall,  
For her to wear the jewels of the first gray hair,  
With artificial wealth, the curls that sported o'er her neck.

She seems to feel her mother's hand pass lightly through her hair,  
And draw it from her brow, to leave a kiss of kindness there,  
She seems to view her father's smile, and feel the playful touch,  
That sometimes reach'd to steal away the curls she prized so much.

And now she sees her first gray hair, oh! seem it mark of age,  
For her to wear the jewels of the first gray hair,  
She leaves that, one by one, these morn'g melancholy will  
Impress upon her face, and steal away, till life itself shall cease.

'Tis not the tale of vanity for beauty on the wane,  
Yet though the blossom may not be so bud, and bloom in vain,  
It cannot but remember with a feeling of regret,  
The Spring forever gone—the Summer sun so warmly set.

Ah, Lady! heed the mirror! thy mirror tells the truth,  
Gone is the mirror's faded ring, resign the wreath of youth;  
Go!—blend it on thy daughter's brow, in her thou'lt still  
Look fair and young, and learn wisdom who behold the first gray hair.

## THE DIFFICULTIES OF CONVERSATION.

Various are the rules that have been given, at different times, and by diverse persons, for carrying on and regulating conversation, but there appears to me to be a general deficiency in them all. They act indeed as a chart, on which all the rocks and reefs on which you are likely to split are carefully delineated—they point out where you may put out sail, and where you must take it in—they give you excellent rules of regulating your course, but do not tell you how your course is to be commenced—they tell you (to change the metaphor,) like Mrs. Glasse's excellent work, that you are first to catch your hare and then to cook it, but they do not show you how you are to catch it, without which the subsequent directions are of very little practical utility. We will venture to say that there is not one of our readers who has not felt at one time or other the embarrassment of the situation which we are now describing, who has not experienced the extreme difficulties of commencing a conversation, and that even under the most interesting circumstances. How many unfortunate young men are there who have been compelled, after having succeeded in seating themselves beside the handsomest woman in company, to keep a stupid and most disgraceful silence, from the total impossibility of commencing a conversation, which, when commenced, they could have carried on most eloquently.

## TRIFLES LIGHT AS AIR.

There is a set of critics and philosophers who have never read any thing but what has appeared within the last ten years, and to whom every mode of expression or turn of thought extending beyond that period has a very odd effect. They cannot comprehend how people used such out-of-the-way phrases in the time of SHAKESPEARE; the style of Addison would not do now—even JUVENAL, they think, would make but a shabby, thread-bare figure in the columns of a modern newspaper—all the riches that the language has acquired in the course of time, all the idiomatic resources arising from study or accident, are utterly discarded—sink underground; and all that is admired by the weak or sought after by the vain, is a thin surface of idle affectation and glossy innovations. Even spelling and pronunciation have undergone such changes within a short time, that Pope and Swift require a little modernizing to accommodate them to "ears polite"; and that abominable "belles-lettres" would be puzzled in reading Dryden's scathing verse with its occasional barbarous old-fashioned accents, if it were not the custom to read Dryden aloud in those secure, morning circles. There is no class more liable to set up this narrow, superficial standard, than people of fashion, in their horror of what is vulgar and ignorant of what really is so, they have a jargon of their own, but scout whatever does not fall in with it, as Gothic and out-of-date; the English phrases handed down from the last age they think come down from the temple, and they perform a sedulous quarantine against them. The Times, having found it so written in some outlandish *Revue* of the *Marquis de Wellesley's*, chose as a mark of the *haute litterature* to spell the word *dispatch* with an *s*, and for a long time he was held as a notice of an affected and obsolete writer, who spelt it otherwise. The Globe, with its characteristic good sense and sturdiness of spirit, has restored the old English spelling in defiance of scandal. Some persons who were growing jealous that the author of *Waverley* had eclipsed their favorite's luminaries may make themselves easy; he himself is on the wane with those whose opinions ebb and flow with the "inconstant moon" of fashion, and has given way (if Mr. Colman's advertisements speak true, "than which what's true") to a set of titled non-entities. Nothing solid is to go down, or that is likely to last three months; instead of the standing dishes of

what is to be done? In such a situation you must either act the part of a man of sense and vigour, or be contented to pass for a blockhead: there is no middle course. The first blow is not merely half the battle, it is much more; but how is that blow to be struck? "That is the question," and a very hard question it is. In such circumstances as these one is more likely to look absurd than a modest and sensible man; for while he is "cuddling his brains" for some common place, which, as the author of *Tricklebottom Hall* says, "is not very common place," the opportunity for speaking is past. We maintain, that the best way is, soon as ever you have taken your seat, to commence with "Madam, it is a charming day," or "Madam, it rained very hard last night"; to talk about the weather in fact. We know, indeed, that this is as old as the hills, but there it is, true as that the sun shines at noon day, and it is something to be able to commence with a proposition which nobody can deny. It is a safe and modest way of breaking ground. Besides, though the plain and obvious meaning of such forms of expression is common-place enough, every one understands that they have a double meaning, and that when you say "What a charming day it is," you really mean "I should wish to have a little conversation with you, madam." Every lady understands this perfectly, and if she is disposed to talk, follows it up, by some equally sensible observation, which gives the gentleman a fair opportunity of putting in a rejoinder, by which the ice is effectually broken, and all doubt and difficulty removed; after this, good sense and good temper will be sufficient to carry you very agreeably through the evening.

If, however, you should be too modest, or too vain, to commence with such an ordinary expression as this, the difficulties of your situation are greatly increased, and indeed if you allow many moments to elapse it will never do to commence in this manner. If you sit for ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, endeavouring to hide the awkwardness of your situation by looking wise, and preserving a solemnity of countenance worthy of an undertaker at a funeral, such an observation would be quite ridiculous. After having sat looking like the Mountain in Labour, you must not bring forth a mouse. You must say something tolerably sensible, or you must look very absurd. In such a case, you would do well to consider whether nothing has happened or is likely to happen in the town that will supply you with small talk, or some other resource.

## NOTES OF A RAMBLER ON ITALY AND SWITZERLAND.

From the *London Morning Herald*.

ITALY AND SWITZERLAND.—How superior are the Italian and Swiss roads to those of France, and the posting is as swift as the roads; except in the matter of eating, too, the preference should be given to the Swiss and Italian Inns. The Swiss Inns are as cleanly and as all domestic necessities, as proper as those in England. You are always sure of finding in them excellent tea, and really boiling water; an article you cannot have for love, money, or money, or entirely in France. And, in general, the French are more quiet and better tempered than the French, and in general better French over here. In Italy, as well as in Switzerland, you are always sure of finding excellent tea; and they have, too, the copper kettle, which those who have sojournd in France know so well how to prize; not from the enjoyment, truly, but from the privations which they suffer in this regard, among the merciful sons of Clovis. Again, you have not the sand and the washed floor in Italy as in France; but glorious marble, or clean stunner-of-fact boards. There is, however, (this drawback—the *lagnu*, though a sprightly, a sentimental, a reflective, and excitable animal, is not a cooking animal; and though skilled in *cavatina* and *cantaretto*, knows no touch of the minor mysteries of the *caserole*—*anglice* *stewpan*). Then, with an ardent temperament, he is blessed with a strong stomach, and gives as much credit to his neighbour on this score as he allows himself. Hence garlic and onions, oil, and the other "rank compounds" of "villanous smells" and the pest of the *foresters* (or stranger) is assailed. But one who has travelled on the jog-trot highways of France, all equally unequal, with a neat English carriage, will forgive the Italians all this for the marvellous perfection of their roads. There is no road in England to be compared to the highroad from Brye to Venice; and the roads to Switzerland alone count the palm. Near this James McAdam, surveyor and Scott! After all, it is downright sauciness to call the system that of McAdam; for it was known in Italy centuries ago, and was introduced into Ireland about the time McAdam was born; by the late Richard Lovell Edgeworth, father of Mrs Edgeworth, who also introduced the telegraph. But to return—the question is this, whether the palm of civilisation shall be awarded to cookery or roads, and I unhesitatingly give it to the latter.

ITALIAN FARMING.—In Lombardy as well as in Berna and the Pays de Vaud the farming is excellent. Religion, therefore, it is plain, has nothing to do with the matter; for the Lombards are excellent Catholics, and the Bernese and Vaudois as prim Protestants as the

old English farmers we are to take up with the nicknacks and whist-syllabubs of modern fashions; extracts and specimens like passing figures in a *cometa obscura*, and are to be prized in a mode of new books as in the mob of new fashions, in what was formerly the narrow part of the Strand.

Nearly pity people because they are ill used. They only wait the opportunity to use others just as ill. Hate the oppression and prevent the evil if you can; but do not fancy there is any virtue in being oppressed; or any love lost between the parties. The unfortunate are not yet more amiable than their neighbours, though they give themselves out so, and our pity takes part with those who have disarmed our envy.

It is a curious speculation to take a modern belle, of some accomplished female acquaintance, and conceive what her great-grandmother was like, some centuries ago. Who was the standard of grace and elegance among eastern nations 3000 years ago, because we read accounts of them in history; but we have no more notion of, or faith in, our own ancestors, than if we never had any. We cut the connexion with the Druids and the Hephertachs; and cannot fancy ourselves (by any transformation) inmates of caves and woods, or feeders in acorns and sows. We seem engrafed on that low stem, a bright, airy, and intolerant exercise!

There is this advantage in painting, if there were no other, that it is the truest and most self-evident kind of history. (Mr. Croker said so in the House of Commons; I did not take it from him, but he took it from me.) You there see not only that there were people long ago, but you see what they were, not as in the book, darkly, but face to face. It is not the half-dressed clay, the old-fashioned dress, as we might conceive; but the living lineaments, the breathing expression. You look at a picture by Van Dyck, and there see, as in an enchanted mirror, an English woman of quality two hundred years ago, sitting in an unconscious ease with her child playing at her feet, and with all the dove-like innocences of look, the grace and refinement that it is possible for virtue and breeding to bestow. It is enough to make us proud of our nature and our country; and dissipates at once the idle, apart prejudice that all before our time was sordid and scarce civilized. If our progress does not appear so great as our presumption had suggested, what does it signify? With such models kept in view, our chief object ought to be not to degenerate; and though the future prospect is less gaily and imposing, the retrospect opens a larger and brighter vista of excellence.

The French Revolution in the Reign of Terror, with *Robespierre* at its head, made one grand mistake. They really thought, by getting rid of the patrons and abettors of the ancient regime, they should put an end to the bird of tyrants and slaves; whereas, in order to do this, it would be necessary to put an end to the whole human race.

## MODERN LITERATURE.

Mrs. Hemans's Poetry.—We have seen too much of the perisphalms of Modern Literary fame, to venture to predict so Mrs. Hemans that hers will be immortal, or even of very long duration. Since the beginning of our critical career, we have seen a vast deal of beautiful poetry pass into oblivion, in spite of our feeble efforts to recall or retain it in remembrance. The ruseful quartets of Southey are already little better than lumber; and the rich melodies of Keats and Shelley, and the fantastical emphasis of Wordsworth, and the piebald patches of Crabbe, are melting fast from the fields of our vision. The novels of Scott have put out his poetry. Even the splendid strains of Moore are fading into distance and dimness, except where they have been married to immortal music; and the blazing star of Byron himself is receding from its place of pride. We need say nothing of Milton, and Colley, and Atherton, and Hood, and a legion of others, who, with no ordinary gifts of taste and fancy, have not so properly survived their fame, been excluded by some hard fatality, from what seemed their just inheritance. The two who have the longest withstood this rapid withering of the laurel, and with the least marks of decay on their branches, are Rogers and Campbell; neither of them, it may be remarked, voluminous writers, and both distinguished rather for the fine taste and consummate elegance of their writings, than for that fiery passion, and disdainful vehemence which seemed for a time to be so much more in favor with the public.

If taste and elegance, however, be titles to enduring fame, we might venture securely to promise that rich boon to the author before us; he adds to those great merits a tenderness and loftiness of feeling, and an ethereal purity of sentiment, which could only emanate from the soul of a woman. She must beware of becoming too voluminous; and must not venture again on any thing so long as the Forest Sanctuary. But if the next generation inherits our taste for short poems, we are persuaded it will so readily allow her to be forgotten. For we do not hesitate to say, that she is beyond all comparison, the most touching and accomplished writer of occasional verse—that our literature has yet to boast of.—*Edinburgh Review*.

THE SEASONS.—Poets, aided by the general longing of human nature, have given a reputation to the Spring, that it rarely merits. Though this imaginative class of writers have said so much of its balmy airs and odoriferous gales, we find it nearly every where the most reclusive, churlish, and sickle of the four seasons. It is the youth of the year, and like that prophetic period of life, most fitted to afford the promise of better things. There is a constant struggle between reality and hope throughout the whole of this slow-moving and treacherous period, which has an unavoidable tendency to deceive. All that is said of its grateful productions is fallacious; for the earth is as little likely to yield a generous tribute without the

quietening influence of the summer heats, as man is wont to bring forth commendable fruits without the agency of a higher moral power than any he possesses in virtue of his finite propensities. On the other hand the fall of the year possesses a sweetness, a repose, and a consistency, which may be justly likened to the decline of a well-spent life. It is in all countries, and in every climate, the period when physical and moral causes unite to furnish the richest sources of enjoyment. If the Spring is the time of hope, Autumn is the season of fruition. There is just enough of change to give zest to the current of existence, while there is too little of vicissitude to be pregnant with disappointment. Succeding to the nakedness of winter, the Spring is grateful by comparison; while the glories of Autumn are enjoyed, after the genial powers of Summer have been luxuriantly expended.

In obedience to the great law of the earth, let poets sing and fancy as they may, the Spring and Autumn of America partake largely of the universally distinctive characters of the *Great Seasons*.—From *Mr. Cooper's Novel "Wagon-War"*.

THE STEAM ENGINE.—The following unfinished description of the powers of the steam engine is from the pen of Dr. Arnott, in his work on the elements of physics:—"In the present perfect state of the steam engine, it represents a thing almost endowed with intelligence. It regulates with perfect accuracy and uniformity the number of its strokes in a given time; and counts or records them, moreover, to tell how much work it has done, as a clock records the beats of its pendulum; regulates the quantity of steam admitted to work—the briskness of the fire—the supply of coals to the fire. It opens and shuts its valves with absolute precision as to the time and manner; it oils its joints; it takes out any air which may accidentally enter into parts that should be vacuous; and when any thing goes wrong which it cannot of itself rectify, it warns its attendant by ringing a bell. Yet with all these talents and qualities, and even when possessing the power of 600 horses, it is obedient to the hand of a child. An aliment is coal, wood, charcoal, or other combustible; it consumes none while idle—it never fires, and wants no help—it is not subject to malady when originally well made, and only refuses to work when worn out with age. It is equally active in all climates, and will do work of any kind—it is a water-pumper, a miner, a sailor, a printer, a cotton-spinner, a weaver, a blacksmith, a miller, &c. and a small engine, in the character of a steam-pump, may be seen dragging after it on a railroad, a hundred tons of merchandise, or a regiment of soldiers with greater speed than that of our fastest coach. It is the king of machines, and a permanent realization of the genius of eastern fables, whose supernatural powers were occasionally at the command of man."

## THE SNAKE.

All the snakes (like innocents and perilsous, seem to be riddled with horror and aversion by mankind. This horror, from the knowledge of their power of inflicting pain in countries where such kinds are found, is natural, and often preservative of life; but the aversion generally felt, and that shuddering occasionally noticed at the sight of our harmless snake, is like a deep-rooted prejudice. We impute to infancy and long retain in remembrance the impression of injuries from the wiles of the serpent; and the animosity between it and the reed of the woman, appears still in full operation, and is possibly more extensively well insensibly diffused among mankind than we are aware of. The harmless nature of our snake seems to be fully known to the little birds of the hedge, as they, in no way give intimation of its presence by any warning of avoidance to their young; or that insidious voracity so observable when any really injurious creature is perceived, but hop and sport about the basking snake without fear or notice. All the human race seem to have inherited the original antipathy against this creature; for though the capricious cruelty of man is very frequently exerted to the injury of many that his power enables him to tyrannize over, yet the serpent appears to be a peculiar object of his enmity, as if it was understood to be an absolute duty to "crush his head," whenever the opportunity should be afforded.—*Journal of a Naturalist*.

REAL DISCREPANCY OF THE OLD SERPENT.—At a place called "Pond Hollow Woods," in the township of Oysterbay, (N. Y.) two boys a few days since, while searching for rabbits, observed a couple of black snakes making their escape from them by "erawling" under the decayed stump of a tree. Curiosity, and the inherent hatred to the serpent kind, induced them to remove the stump, when to what should meet their astonished eyes but a full assembly of snakes, with their crests, spread, and forked tongues displayed? No less than one hundred and thirty thick snakes were dragged out, and forth with executed, without judge of jaw; the mark of the beast found upon their scaly sides being considered a sufficient assurance. Numbers of these measured six feet in length.—*New York paper*.

UNLUCKY TEXT.—Poor Dr. Sheridan, in an unguarded moment, but in as skillful a spirit as characterized the *Vicar of Wakefield*, chose for his text, upon the anniversary of the succession of the House of Hanover, "Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof." Although the sermon did not contain a single political allusion that could have caused noisiness, or should have given offence, yet it was regarded in judgment against him, and obstructed his professional eye after *Southey's Colloquia*.

The voice of an onion is said to be an instantaneous cure for the sting of a wasp.

Mr. J. Parkin



The British Army at the present moment, consists of 140,000 effective men, of whom 7,850 are officers, that is to say—6 Field Marshals, 110 Generals, 20 Lieut.-Generals, 240 Major Generals, 340 Colonels, 788 Lieut.-Colonels, 820 Majors, 1,699 Captains, 2,372 Lieutenants, 1,230 Cornets and Ensigns.

Table showing consumption in 1859, 1860, and 1861. Includes columns for Gross and Net consumption in various units like bags and tons.

By the last packet, we learned the amount of stocks of Cotton in Liverpool on the 30th Dec. We have now received the particulars for the Kingdom; by which we find that the consumption of Cotton in G. Britain, was in 1859, 219,200,000 lbs. 745,300 bags.

Sir Gervase Clifton, of Yorkshire, (near Leeds), was "blessed with seven wives," so the epilogue of his own writing, says.—The first three, who were maidens, he calls, "honourable;" the second three, who were widows, he calls "worshipful;" and the seventh, who was a servant maid, born under his own roof, he calls his "well-beloved."

Legislature of New-Brunswick.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY—February 24. On motion of Mr. Johnson, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to search the Journals of the Honorable the Legislative Council to ascertain what proceedings have been taken on a Bill to regulate the ungranted Fisheries in the Harbour of Saint John.

and Halifax, and as such a mode of conveyance will have a strong tendency to promote a closer and more extensive intercourse between His Majesty's North American Colonies, Resolved, that there be granted to His Honor the President or Commander-in-Chief, for the time being, the sum of £200, to be paid to the order of the Directors of the said Steam Boat Company, upon their producing a certificate from the Collector and Comptroller of Customs of the Port of Miramichi, that the said steam-boat has regularly entered at and cleared from the said port, each voyage, and that he shall make between the Ports of Quebec and Halifax, between the 1st day and 1st November, 1851, and further Resolved, that the sum of £100, each for three succeeding years, on such certificates being produced as above specified.

Mr. Ketchum gave notice, that he should introduce a Bill, at an early day in the next Session of the General Assembly, for dividing the County of York.

Monday, March 3. Mr. Partelow from the Committee appointed to wait upon His Honor the President, with an Address from this House, praying that His Honor would cause all further proceedings to be stayed on a writ of Habeas Corpus, and in the hands of the Sheriff of Saint John, against Joe Brand; Reported, that they had attended to that duty, and His Honor was pleased to say that he would comply with the wishes of the House.

The Observer.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1850.

Our London dates this week, via United States, are to the 10th January. We have made such extracts as appeared interesting.—The Report of the Committee of the United States House of Representatives, on Commerce and Navigation, will be found in the fullest shape in which it has come to hand.

WEATHER.—After a course of most delightful Spring weather, we were yesterday morning visited with heavy rains, which have laid the ice on our rivers under water to a very considerable depth. The road through the marsh contiguous to this city, together with many of the adjoining fields, are flooded to the depth of a foot in many places, thus rendering travelling exceedingly difficult, and in some cases perilous.—To-day, there is a change for the better.

The Brigantine Hiram, Nixon, which sailed from this port on Monday the 1st instant, for Montego Bay, encountered a severe gale from N. E. on Wednesday morning, which rendered it necessary to scud till 5 P. M., when a stern struck her on the quarter and broached her to, in which state she lay drifting till the following morning, when she struck on Nantuxet shoals; broke her rudder, and stove in her counter.—By great exertion, the vessel was kept above water till Saturday, when the brig Tantiy hoove in sight, and took off the master and crew, and Mr. A. BALLOCH, passenger, and brought them back to this Port yesterday.

A writer in the last Nova-Scotian, under the signature of X., after censuring the apathy with which the Quebec Resolutions on the subject of Steam Navigation between Canada and Nova-Scotia, have been received in Halifax, endeavors to prove that the speculation would not only pay, but that it would be a boat of 180 or 200 horse power (as he understands the Company propose,) she will often take sail vessels 20 days to perform.—He lays down her expenses per annum (including £960 interest on £16,000 investment) yearly from the Legislatures (including £650 per annum, on paying an interest of 6 per cent. of 23 per cent. profit, allowing the Boat to be of no value at the expiration of 8 years.)

The Quebec Mercury, of the 13th ult., states that the Special Committee of the Assembly had reported favourably on the subject of granting aid towards the support of Steam Navigation between Quebec and Halifax, and recommended that the original grant of £1500 be increased to £3000.—The Mercury adds, "I think we may now safely congratulate our readers upon the attainment of this grand object, our fellow subjects in Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick, and prove the means of increasing our intercourse with those Provinces."

SIR JAMES KEMPT, in a Message to the Legislature of Lower Canada, February 13, recommends the erection of a new Custom House at Quebec, "which the great and increasing public business of the Port now requires." Estimated cost, £40,000, to be defrayed from the Crown duties, and from the Provincial duties respectively, in proportion to their relative amount.—The Committee of the House have recommended that £6000 be appropriated for the purpose.

The Estimate of the necessary expenses of the Civil Government of Lower Canada, for the current year, laid before the House on the 10th February, amounts to £71,246:18s.

The Legislature of Upper Canada was to be prorogued on the 23d March, after rather a quiet Session of about 50 days.—A vote had passed the House of Assembly, 19 to 14, expressing dissatisfaction with York as the seat of Government.—His Excellency it is said requires no supplies this year whatever.

In the Nova-Scotia Legislature, on the 24th Feb. a Message was received from His Honor the President, containing communications from Sir Charles to His Honor, and in the President of N. Brunswick, strongly recommending the erection of a light house on the Seal Islands, off Cape Sable, &c. It is stated that the House is at present considering the matter, and that there was not an interchange of Provincial Laws and Journals, between the British American Provinces; he moved a Resolution in favour of such an interchange, which passed.—On the 25th of Feb. the House again met, and the House that they had agreed to the grant of £25,000 for the service of Roads and Bridges.

Is it not Providential that accidents similar to the following do not often occur in Saint John? The temerity of our youth in regard to their own personal safety and their utter recklessness as to the danger to which they are the means of exposing others, by their sliding and coasting on our streets and foot-paths, called forth from us some severe strictures last winter, but we are sorry to say that no real or marked improvement has yet taken place.—We must, therefore, again beseech them to consider their duty in the important particular which has thus incidentally been brought under our review.—An elderly gentleman living near Lewis's, was lately lost by the same means, and fell into the water while walking through the streets.

We have great pleasure in stating, that upon a representation made by His Honor the President, to the Legislature, on the 25th of Feb. the appointment of an Agent for the Province in London, James Rattanator, Esq., was on Friday last, nominated by the House of Assembly. This Gentleman has been engaged in his life in Commercial Interference with the British North American Colonies, possessing a thorough knowledge of their interests, and of high standing among the Merchants of London, and, in every respect, eminently qualified for the situation.—Instances have already occurred in which, though under an obligation to make them, his exertions in behalf of the Province, have been attended with every important and beneficial consequence.—Halifax Royal Gazette, March 3.

HALIFAX MARKET.—We are pleased to find, for the last few days, a good supply of fish, bringing excellent prices. This morning the following articles are about at the rate attached: Pork 4d. per lb.; mutton 3 1/2 lb; wood per cord 26s.; coal per chaldron 22s; hay per ton 27 1/2s.—Standard Recorder, Feb. 27.

From the Quebec Star, February 17. Previous to 1812, scarcely one vessel cleared from Quebec for Ireland, and during last year, 1849, the number of vessels that cleared for that port was 224, the tonnage of which amounted to nearly 70,000, exceeding one third of that of the shipping which left Quebec that year for the United Kingdom.

A large portion of the vessels thus engaged in the Irish trade have been built in the Province, and the extensive emigration to that port has materially contributed to increase the intercourse with Ireland. And as the settlement of the country is proceeding with rapidity, and the demand for the necessaries of the port and Upper Canada and the Western States, persons emigrating from the United Kingdom to any part of America will find Quebec the most desirable route.

Table showing the number of vessels, tonnage, and passengers for various ports. Columns include Vessels, Tonnage, Men, Emigrants, and Passengers.

This it appears that 514,000 tons of shipping have arrived in Halifax since the 1st of January, and that this will amount to £1,169,000. This is exclusive of a considerable sum for the inward freight of merchandise from the United Kingdom, computed in three years at £30,000. This sum, added to the £70,000 gained by the owners of the vessels, and the freightage of the cargo, will give a total for the shipping interest, engaged in trade with Quebec, of one million three hundred thousand pounds sterling, a little less than half a million annually. All this is, however, by the vessels engaged in that trade every 5 or 7 months, in a clear gain to the ship owners, and may be fairly computed last year at £200,000. This sum added to that received the two former years, cannot amount to less than £700,000. The following is a statement of the vessels that arrived during the last year with their tonnage, crews, and emigrants they conveyed.

Table showing details of vessels, tonnage, men, and emigrants for various ports.

It is a curious fact that a number of our summer birds have not migrated this season. They appear to have remained during the late cold weather constantly in a few protected bushes, never flying more than a few paces. Among them are the American Robin, the Chat, the Blackbird, &c.—Veilon's Gazette.

Major Officer, January 11.—Rifle Brigade.—To be Major: Captain Archibald Stewart, by purchase, vice Logan, promoted in the 53d Foot, dated December 17, 1829; Captain William Johnson, without purchase, vice Mitchell, promoted in the 31st Foot, dated December 24, 1829; To be Captains: Lieutenant John St. Vincent, promoted by purchase, vice Stewart, dated Dec. 17, 1829; Lieutenant James Stewart, without purchase, vice Logan, dated Dec. 17, 1829; To be Second Lieutenants: George Henry Cavendish, gent. by purchase, vice Dalgleish, Dec. 17, 1829; and Gentleman Cadet, Robert Pelley, from the Royal Military College, without purchase, vice Smith, Dec. 24, 1829.

Table of prices for various commodities such as Flour, Sugar, Coffee, etc., including quantities and prices per unit.

CARD.—The undersigned, together with the Master and Crew of the late Brigantine Hiram, respectfully offer their grateful acknowledgments to Capt. Isaac Bell, of the Brig Tantiy, and Messrs. WILLIAM LEVINGS and CHARLES HAYMOND, for their humane exertions in relieving them from the wreck on Saturday last, and their kind attention while on board. A. BALLOCH, Saint John, 25th March, 1850.

DIED.—On Saturday morning, Stephen William, infant son of Mr. Stephen Howard, At Kingston, on the 16th ult. Mr. William Writing, in the 71st year of his age. Mr. W. was a native of the State of Virginia—he came to this Province with the first settlers, and is sincerely and deservedly lamented. At St. Lucia, on the 18th January, Major-General David Stewart, of Ganth, Governor of that Island. This lamented and gallant officer served in the West Indies during the insurrection of 1795, and was subsequently actively employed throughout the last war, with the Highland Regiment, whose exploits he has so faithfully recorded in his Sketches of his Highness's General Stewart's Administration of the Government of St. Lucia. He has been very short, but he has given universal satisfaction, and he has died deeply regretted.—Saint Vincent Gazette.

PORT OF SAINT JOHN. ARRIVED. Monday, brig Tantiy, Bell, Trinidad, 23—Hazelford & Raymond, hides, &c. CLEARERS: Brig Thomas, McCready, Demerara—fish & lumber. Hiram, Nixon, Montego Bay. do. At Robert Bay, Cranke, Montego Bay, (Jam.) do. Daniel O'Connell, Gambles, Cork, timber, &c. Schar Francis, Ann, Irish, Newfoundland—Warehoused Goods.

ERIN GO BRAGH! THE "SAINT PATRICK'S SOCIETY," intend to celebrate the Anniversary of the PATRON SAINT OF IRELAND, at Masonic Hall, on Wednesday the 17th instant. Gentlemen desirous of uniting with their Countrymen at their National Festival, may obtain Tickets at the Hall, previous to Monday next the 15th instant. Dinner on the Table at 6 o'clock. By order of the President, JAMES MCLEERY, Secretary, St. John, 9th March.

FOUND This Morning—A KEY. The owner can have it by applying at this Office, and paying for the advertisement. May 9. H. DRAP HAS removed his STOCK OF GOODS to the Store lately occupied by Thomas Millidge & Co. in the Market square. March 9. TO FISHERMEN. ONE Dozen BERRING-NETS, just received, for sale very cheap by CROOKSHANK & WALKER. 9th March. BOARDERS WANTED. TWO or Three Genteel BOARDERS can be accommodated in a small private family.—The situation is pleasant, and very convenient to the business part of the city.—Inquire at this Office. March 9. LIME. THE Subscriber takes this method of returning thanks to his friends and customers for the very liberal encouragement he has received, and respectfully begs leave to inform them that he will continue to keep on hand, during the ensuing season, a supply of the best quality of LIME, which will be put up in superior order, and sold on moderate terms.—Every attention will be paid to the furnishing of Snaops, Boats, &c. He will likewise bring the LIME to the city, when requested. The Hogsheads will still bear the mark of "Samuel Chisholm." ROBERT ROBERTSON, Jr. 9th March. Lime Burner.

FOR SALE OR TO LET. THOSE Valuable Premises, at Musquito Cove, formerly occupied by the Subscribers as a Lime Kiln, &c.—There is a good House, Barn and other Out House, Lime Kiln, &c., with several acres of Land; Being well adapted for a Tavern, Cooperage, or the Manufacture of Lime.—Terms, and further particulars made known, on application to ROBERT ROBERTSON, Jr. 9th March. Lime Burner.

POST-OFFICE NOTICE.—The Mail for Halifax, &c., via Digby, will, on and after the 5th March next, be made up at 3 o'clock, P. M. on Mondays, St. John, Feb. 27.

REMOVAL. THOMAS MILLIDGE & CO. have removed to their Store on PETERS'S Wharf, facing Ward-street. 1st March, 1850.

BOARDERS WANTED. TWO or Three GENTLEMEN can be accommodated with Board in a private family.—Inquire of JOHN S. MILLER, February 9.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT.

Assistant Commissary General's Office, St. John, N. B. 9th March, 1850. SEALED Tenders will be received at this Office until Monday the 19th day of April next, at noon, from such persons as may be disposed to enter into a Contract to supply His Majesty's Troops in this Province, with 1200 BBLs. FLOUR, To be delivered into the King's Magazines at this place, at the following periods, viz: 500 Bbls. on or before the 1st June, 1850, 400 Ditto ditto 24th September, do. 300 Ditto ditto 24th October, do. The whole to be of the quality termed Scratched Superfine, free from grit or any bad taste whatsoever, and to be warranted to keep good and sweet for one year from the day of delivery. The Tenders must specify the price (per Barrel of 106 pounds) in British sterling, in words at length; and payment will be made at the respective periods of delivery, in British Silver Money, with a reservation on the part of the Commissary to pay in Bills, at the rate of a Bill for £100 for every £101 10s. due upon the Contract. No Tender will be noticed, unless accompanied by a Letter addressed to the Senior Commissariat Officer at Saint John, signed by two respectable persons, offering to become bound with the party Tending, for the faithful performance of the Contract. The Tenders to be written on the back of a Bill for £100, and persons tendering, or some persons on their behalf, are requested to attend at this Office on the 19th day of April next, at twelve o'clock, to receive their answers. Forms of the Contract and Bond of Warranty may be seen, and any further information obtained, on application at this Office.

RUM, COFFEE, &c. The Subscribers have on hand, and offer for Sale, at the lowest Market Prices: PUNCHEONS Jamaica RUM; Tierces and Barrels of COFFEE; Boxes SOAP; 100 Bbls. Prime Fall MACKEREL; Casks of NAILS and SPIKES; IRON, &c. &c.

A General Assortment of DRY GOODS. THOMAS MILLIDGE & CO. St. John, 24th March, 1850.

TO LET. And possession given on the 1st May next: THAT pleasantly situated three story HOUSE, at the corner of Union and Nelson-streets, the Property of Mr. SAMUEL BAGSHAW, with a STORE on the Lower Floor, suitable for Dry Goods or Groceries. There are six Rooms, with fire places, nine Bedrooms, a Kitchen and a front proof CELLAR, with an excellent well in the Well Room.—Particulars will be made known on application to the Subscriber. March 2. GEORGE SEARS.

TO LET. From the 1st of May next: THE STORE in Hatfield's Brick Building, fronting the Market Square, at present in the occupation of Mr. James Kirk. 24 March. D. HATFIELD & SON.

TO LET. From the 1st of May next: THE STORE in rear of the Premises of George D. Robinson, Esq., on the South Market Wharf, at present occupied by Mrs. A. Smiley.—Inquire of D. HATFIELD & SON, 24 March.

SELLING OFF. GEORGE THOMSON, Begs leave to acquaint his Friends and the Public, that he is SELLING OFF, at reduced prices, his very Extensive and Valuable STOCK IN TRADE, COMPRISING A VERY GENERAL ASSORTMENT, WHICH if not all disposed of by the 23d day of March ensuing, will on that day be offered at Auction, and Sale to continue from day to day until the whole be disposed of, February 16.

RUM & LINEN. Just Received, and for Sale by the Subscribers: 10 PUNCHEONS Demerara RUM; and One Case fine IRISH LINEN. NICHOLSON & VERNON. St. John, Feb. 25. 1850.

TO LET. And possession given first of May next: THAT pleasantly situated Cottage and Ground, near Mrs. Jeffrey's Garden, at present occupied by James Walker, Esquire, belonging to the Estate of the late John Allan, Apply to MARIA ALLAN, Adm'ca. February 9, 1850.

NOTICE. THE Subscribers respectfully inform the Public in general, that he has purchased the improvements belonging to the BREWERY in Casparthen-street, Lower Core, formerly belonging to Mr. JOHN MONAHAN, who he offers for sale the following BEERS: BURTON ALE, MILD Do. PORTER and TABLE BEER.

YEAST, GRAINS, and VINEGAR. Having employed an experienced Brewer, he flatters himself, that he will be able to give satisfaction to Customers, and respectfully solicits a share of public patronage. N. B.—Persons having Barley for sale, will please apply to Mr. JOHN MONAHAN, North Market Wharf, or to the Subscriber, Lower Core. EWEN CAMERON. St. John, N. B. 20th January, 1850.

