

THE LITERARY TRANSCRIPT, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCER.

Vol. 1. No. 27.]

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 14TH APRIL, 1838.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

LEAVES FROM THE DIARY OF AN AGED SPINSTER.

The poet of THE ELEGY got excellence,
hath written two lines which run thus—

"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

Now, I never can think of those lines, but they remind me of the tender, delicate, living breathing, and neglected flowers that bud, blossom, shed their leaves, and die, in cold unsmiling obscurity. Flowers that were tended to shed their fragrance round a man's feet and to charm his eye, but which, though wandering melancholy and alone in the wilderness, where they grow, he passeth by them with neglect, making a companion of his loneliness. But, to drop all metaphor, where will you find a flower more interesting than a spinster of three score and ten, of sixty, of fifty, or of forty? They have, indeed, "wasted their sweetness on the desert air." Some call them "old maids," but it is a malicious appellation, unless it can be proved that they have refused to become wives. I would always take the part of a spinster; they are a peculiar people, far more "sinued against, than sinning." Every blockhead thinks himself at liberty to crack a joke upon them; and when he says something that he conceives to be wondrous smart about Miss Such-an-one and her cat, or poodle dog, he conceives himself a marvellous clever fellow; yea, even those of her own sex, who are below what is called a "certain age," (what that age is, I cannot tell,) think themselves privileged to giggle at the expense of their sister. Now, though there may be a degree of peevishness (and it is not to be wondered at) amongst the spinsterhood, yet with them you will find the most sensitive tenderness of heart, a delicacy that quivers like the aspen leaf at a breath, and a kindness of soul, that a mother might envy—or rather for envy, shall I imitate? But ah! if their history were told, what chronicle would it exhibit of blighted affections, withered hearts, secret tears, and midnight sobs!

The first spinster of whom I have a particular remembrance, as belonging to her caste, was Diana Darling. It is now six and twenty years ago since Diana paid the debt of nature, up to which period, and for a few years before she rented a room in Cairnsie. It was only a year or two before her death that I became acquainted with her, and I was then very young. But I never shall forget her kindness towards me. She treated me as though I had been her own child, or rather grandchild, for she was then very little under seventy years of age. She had always an air of gentility about her; people called her "a betterish sort of body." And although Miss and Mistress are becoming general appellations now, twenty or thirty years ago, upon the Borders, those titles were only applied to particular persons, or on particular occasions, and whether their more frequent use now, is to be attributed to the schoolmaster being abroad, or the dancing-master being abroad, I cannot tell, but Diana Darling, although acknowledged to be a "betterish sort of body," never was spoken of by any other term but "old Diana," or "old Die."

Well do I remember her flowing white locks, with short sleeves, her snow white apron, her white cap, and old kid gloves reaching to her elbows; and as well do I remember how she took one of the common blue cakes which washerwomen use, and trying it in a piece of woolen cloth, dipped it in water, and dabbed it round and round the walls of her room, to give them the appearance of being papered. I have often heard of and seen *stenciling* since, but 't is as the attempt was, I am almost persuaded that Diana was the first who put it in practice. To keep up gentility, put up people to strange shifts, and often to ridiculous ones,—and to both of these extremities she was driven. But I have hinted that she was a kind-hearted creature; and above all, do I remember her for the fine old ballads which she sang to me; but there was one that was an especial favorite with her and a verse of which, if I remember correctly, ran thus—

"By Lazy Lindsay!
So bang in the morning ye lie,
Mae fit ye was helping your nibby
To eat, at the eyes and the eye."

Diana, however, was a woman of some education, and to a relative, she left a sort of history of her life, from which the following is an extract:—

My father died before I was eighteen, (so began Diana's narrative,) and he left five of us, that is, my mother, two sisters, a brother, and myself, five hundred pounds apiece. My sisters were both younger than me, but within six years after our father's death they both got married; and my brother, who was only a year older than myself, left the house, and took a wife, so that by the time I was but one and my mother left. Every body thought there was something very singular in this, for it was not natural that the youngest should be taken and the eldest left; and besides, it was always acknowledged, that I was the best-favored and the best tempered in the family, and there could be no dispute but that my sister was as good as theirs.

I must confess, however, that when I was but a lassie of sixteen, I had drawn up wif one James Laidlaw—but I should score out the word *wife*, and just say that I had drawn up wif James Laidlaw. He was a year, or may be three, older than me, and I kenned him when he was just a laddie at Mr. Wh-'s school in Puisse; but I took no notice of him then in particular, and indeed I never did, until one day that I was an errand down to Kimmercham, and I met James just coming out frae the garden. It was the summer season, and he had a posie in his hand, and a very bonny posie it was. "Here's a fine day, Diana," says he. "Yes it is," says I.

So we said nae mair for some time, but he kept walking by my side, and at last he said—"What do you think of this posie?" "It is very bonny James," said I. "I think sae," quoth he, "and if ye wif acceptit, there should naebody be mair welcome to it." "O, I thank ye," said I, and I blushed in a way, "why should ye gie me it?" "Never mind," says he, "take it for our acquaintance sake—we were at the school together."

So I took the flowers, and James kept by my side, and cracked to me of the way to my mother's door, and I cracked to him—and I really wondered that the road between Kimmercham and Dunse had turned sae short. It wasna half the length that it used to be or what I thought it ought to be.

But I often saw James Laidlaw after this, and somehow or other I aye met him just as I was coming out of the kirk; and weel do I recollect, that one Sabbath in particular he said to me—"Diana, will ye no come out and take a walk after ye get your dinner?" "I dinna ken James," says I. "I doubt I daranna, for our fol' are very particular, and bairn my father and my mother are terribly against any thing like gaun about stray vaing on the Sunday." "O, they need never ken where ye're gaun," says he. "Weel I'll try," says I, for by this time I had a sort of liking for James. "Then," said he, "I'll be at the Penny Stane at four o'clock." "Very weel," quoth I.

And although bairn my father and my mother said to me as I was gaun out—Where are ye gaun lassie?—"O no very far," said I, and at four o'clock I met James at the Penny Stane. I shall never forget the grip that he gied my hand when he took it in his, and said—

"Ye have been as good as your word Diana."

We wandered away down by Wedderburn dyke till we came to the Blackadder, and then we sauntered down by the river side till we were opposite Kellae,—and O! it was a pleasant afternoon. Every thing round about us, above us, and among our feet seemed to ken it was Sunday—every thing but James and me. The lark-ock was singing in the blue lift,—the blackbirds were whistling in the hedge,—the mavis chaunted its loud sang frae the bushes on the braes,—and the len-

* Bee-looking, or, most beautiful.

nets were singing and chirping among the rhines,—and the sheffin' absolutely seemed to follow ye wif its three notes owre again, in order that ye might learn them."

It was the happiest afternoon I ever spent, James said, and I grat. I got a scolding frae my father and my mother, when I gaed James, and they demanded to ken where I had been; but the words that James had spoken to me, bore me up against their reproaches.

Weel it was very shortly, (I dare say not six months after my father's death,) that James called at my mother's, and as he said, to bid us farewell! He took my mother's hand,—I mind I saw him raise it to his lips while the tears were on his cheeks; and he was also greatly put about to part wif my sisters; but to me he said—

"We'll set me down a bit Diana."

He was to take the coach for Liverpool,—or at least a coach to take him on the road to that town, the next day, and from there he was to proceed to the West Indies, to meet an uncle who was to make him his heir.

I went out wif him, and we wandered away down by our old walks, but O! he said little and he sighed often, and his heart was sad.

But mine was as sad as his, and I could say as little as him. I wined, I canna write a' the words and the vows that passed. He took the chain frae his watch, and it was of the best gold, and he also took a pair of bibbles from his pocket, and he put the watch chain and the bibbles into my hand, and—"Diana, sae ye, take these dear—keep them for the sake of your poor James, and as often as ye see them, think on him." I took them, and wif the tears running down my cheeks—"O James," cried I, "this is hard!—hard!"

Twice, ye thrice, we bade each other "good-bye," and thrice after he had parted frae me, he came running back again, and throwing his arms round my neck, cried—

"Diana! I canna leave ye!—promise me that ye will never marry any body else!"

But thrice I promised him that I wouldna. And he gaed awa', and my only consolation was looking at the bibbles, on one of the white leaves of the first volume of which I found written by his own hand, "James Laidlaw and Diana Darling vowed that if they were spared, they would become man and wife; and that neither time, distance, nor circumstances should absolve their plighted troth. Dated May 25th, 17—"

These were cheering words to me, and I lived on them for years even after my younger sisters were married, and I had ceased to hear from him. And during that time for his sake I had declined offers, which my friends said I was waur than foolish to reject. At least half a dozen good matches I let slip through my hands, and a' for the love of James Laidlaw who was far awa', and the vows he had plighted to me by the side of the Blackadder. And although he hadna written to me for some years, I couldna think that any man could be so wicked, as to write words of falsehood, and bind them up in the volume of everlasting troth.

But about ten years after he had gaed awa' James Laidlaw came back to our neighbourhood; but he wasna the same lad he left—for he was now a dark-complexioned man, and he had wif him a mulatto woman and three bairns that called him father! He was no longer my James!

My mother was by this time dead, and I expected naething but that the knowledge of his faithlessness would kill me too—for I had clung to hope till the last straw was broken.

I met him once during his stay in the country, and strange to tell, it was within a hundred yards of the very spot where I first got acquainted wif him, when he offered me the posie.

"Ha! Die!" said he, "my old girl, are you still alive? I'm glad to see you. Is the old woman your mother living yet?" I was ready to faint, my heart throbed as though it would have burst. A' the trials I had ever had were naething to this; and he continued—"Why if I remember right, there was once something like an old flame between you and

* Linnets,

† Chaffinch,

me." "O James! James!" said I, "do ye remember the worse ye wrote in the bible, and the vows that ye made me by the side of the Blackadder?" "Ha! ha!" said he, and he laughed, "you are there are you! I do mind something of it. But Die, I did not think that a girl like you would have been such a fool as to remember what a boy said to her."

I would have spoken to him again, but I remembered that he was the husband of another woman—though she was a mulatto,—and I hurried awa' as fast as my fainting heart would permit. I had but one consolation, and that was, that though he had married another, nobody could compare her face wif mine.

But it was long before I felt the better of this sad sight—aye I may say it was ten years and more; and I had to try to pingle and find a living upon the interest of my five hundred pounds, wif any other thing that I could find my hand to in a genteel sort of way.

I was now getting on the wrong side of thirty eight, and that is an age when it isna prudent in a spinster to be thinking the pouty side of her lip to any decent lad that hands out his hand, and says—"Jenny will ye tak' me?" Oten, and oten, both by day and by night, did I think of the good bairns I had lost, for the sake of my true James Laidlaw, and often when I saw some of them that had come plying to me, pass me on a Sunday, wif th'ir wives wif their bairns half round their waist on the horse behind them—"O James!—false James!" I have said, "but for trusting to you, and that it would have been me who would this day be riding behind Dr.—"

But I had still my five hundred pounds, and sae fine as I could make, to help what they brought to me. And about this time, there was one that had the character of being a very respectable sort of lad, one Walter Sanderson; he was a farmer, very near about my own age, and altogether a most possessing and intelligent young man. I first met wif him at my youngest sister's, and I must say a better, or a more graceful dancer I never saw upon a floor. He had neither the jumping of the mount-bank, nor the sliding of the play actor, but there was an ease in his carriage which I never saw equalled. I was particularly struck wif him, and especially his dancing!—and it so happened that he was no less struck wif me. I thought he looked even better than James Laidlaw used to be,—but at times I had my doubts about it. However, he had stepped all the night at my brother-in-law's as well as myself, and when I got up to gang home the next day, he said he would bear me company. I thanked him, and said I was obliged to him never thinking that he would attempt such a thing. But just as the poyney was brought out for me to ride on, Mr. Walter Sanderson mounted his horse, and says he—

"Now wif your permission Miss Darling, I will see ye home."

It could have been very rude in me to have said—"No I thank you sir," and especially at my time of life, wif two younger sister's married that had families; so I blushed as it were, and gien' my poyney a twitch, he sprang on to his saddle, and came trotting by my side. He was a very agreeable company; and when he said "I shall be most happy to pay you a visit Miss Darling," I didna think of what I had said, until after that I had answered him, "I shall be very happy to see ye sir," and when I thought of it, my very cheek tones burned wif shame.

But howsoever Mr. Sanderson was not long in calling again,—and often he did call, and my sisters and their good men began to jeer me about him. Weel he called and calter' for I dress'd as good as three quarters of a year; and he was sae backward and modest a' the time that I thought him a very remarkable man; indeed I begun to think him every way superior to James Laidlaw.

But at last he made proposals—I consented—the wedding day was set, and we had been cried in the kirk. It was the fair day, but two days before we were to be married,

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and he came into the house, and after he had been seated awhile, and cracked in his usual kind way—

"O, my dear," said he, "what a bargain I have missed the day. There are four lots of cattle in the market, and I might have cleared four hundred pounds—cent per cent by them."

"Losh me! Walter, then," says I, "why didna ye do it? How did ye let such a bargain slip through your fingers?"

"Woman!" said he, "I dianna ken, but a man that is to be married within eight and forty hours is excusable. I came to the Fair without any of either buying or selling,—but just to see you Diana,—and I kenned there wasna meikle siller necessary for that."

"Losh, Walter man," said I, "but that is a pity,—and ye say ye could make cent per cent, by the beast?"

"Dodd could I," quoth he, "I am sure o' that."

"Then Walter," says I, "what is mine the day is to be yours the morn I may say, and it would be a pity to lose such a bargain."

Therefore I put into his hands an order on a Branch Bank that had been established at Danes, for every farthing that I was worth in the world, and Walter kissed me, and went out to get the money free the Ben's, and buy the cattle.

But he hadna been out an hour, when one o' my brotner-in-law's calves, and I thought he looked unweel down. So I began to tell him about the excellent bargain that Walter had made, and what I had done. But the man started (rae his seat as if he were crazed)—"Gracious! Diana! has ye been an idiot?" and rushing out o' the house ran to the Bank.

He left me in a state that I canna describe; I neither kenned what to do nor what to think. But within half an hour he returned, and cried out as he entered—"Diana ye are ruined! He has taken in you and every body else. The villain took yesterday. He is off! Ye may had kenned it to your siller!"

"Wha is off?" cried I, and I was in such a state I was hardly able to speak. "Walter Sanderson?" answered my brotner-in-law.

"He has! I went into his byres; for the first thing I said o', after his saying so, was a dozen people standing round about me,—some stopping at the palms of my hands, and other leaving water on my breast and temples, until they had me as wet as if they had doused me in Pollock's Well."

"I canna tell how I stood up against this clap o' misery. It was near getting the better o' me. For a time I really held the sight o' my, and I said as the song says, that

"Men are all deceivers."

But this was not the worst o' it—I had lost my all, and I was now forced into the acquaintance of poverty and dependence. I first went to live under the roof of my youngest sister, who had always been my favorite; but before six months were run, I found that she began to treat me just as though I had been a servant, ordering me to do this and to do the other; and I sometimes my dinner was sent down to me into the kitchen. And the servantesses, seeing how their mistress treated me, considered that they would be justified in doing the same—and they did the same. Many a weary time have I lain down upon my bed and wished never to rise again, for my spirit was weary of this world. But I put up my insult after insult, until flesh and blood could endure it no longer. There did I go to my other sister, and she hardly opened her mouth to me as I entered her house. Saw that I might gang were I liked, I wassa welcome there. Before I had been a week under her roof, I was forced to leave her too.

And as a sort o' last alternative, just to keep me in existence, I began a bit shop in a neighbouring town, and took in sewing and washing; and after I had tried them awhile and found that they would hardly do, I commenced a bit school, at the advice o' the minister's wife, and learned bairns their letters and the catechism, and knitting and sewing. I also taught them (for they were a' girls) how to work their sampers, and to write and cast accounts. But what vexed and humbled me more than all I had suffered, was that one night,—just after I had let my scholars away, as usual heger and dit her body, about sixty years o' age, came into the house, and "How's a' wi' ye the night?" says he, though I had never spoken a word to him before. But he took off his bonnet, and pulling in a chair drew a seat to the fire. I was thunder-struck! But I was yet mar astonished and amazed, when the old body sleeking down his hair and his chin, had the assurance to make love to me!

"There is the door sir!" cried I, and when he didna seem willing to understand me, I gripped him by the shoulders and shoved him with a momentum.

Yet quite composedly he turned round to me and said, "diana see what is the use o' the like o' this—it is true I am a stranger than you, but ye are at a time o' life now that ye canna expect any young man to look at ye. Therefore ye had better think twice before ye turn to the door. Ye will find it just as easy a life being the wife o' heidger as keeping a school—rather ma' sae I apprehend and ma' profitable too." I had no patience wi' the man; I thought my sisters had sinned more than all they had done.

"O James Landlaw!" cried I, when I was left to myself, "what has ye brought me to! My sisters dianna look after me. My parting wi' them has given them an excuse to forget that I exist. My brother is far frae me, and he is ruled by a wife; and I had been robbed by another o' the little that I had. I am a withered tree in a wilderness, standing by its lane—I will not let nobody will miss me. I am sick, and there are none to hand my head. My throat is parched, and my lips dry, and there are none to bring me a cup o' water! There is nae thing that I can do o' mine! And some day I shall be found a stiffened corpse in my bed, with no one near me to close my eyes in death, or perform the last office in humanity! For I am alone—I am by myself—I am forgotten in the world; and my latter years, if I have a long life, will be a burden to strangers."

But Diana Darning did not so die. Her goodness, her kindness, caused her to be beloved by many who knew not her history, and when the last stern messenger came to call her hence, many watched with tears around her bed of death, and many more in sorrow followed her to the grave. So ran a few leaves in the diary of a sinner, and the reader will forgive our interpretations.

UNITED KINGDOM.

The subscription to the Metropolitan Churches' Fund amounts to nearly £400,000. The committee state that this fund is now pledged to the erection of twenty-five churches in London, of which twenty-one is completed, seven are approaching to completion, and the plans of three others agreed upon.

A man named Chives has been apprehended in Liverpool for the murder of an individual named Wilson, in the Isle of Man. A more dreadful act could scarcely have been committed, the ruffian having murdered the unfortunate man (with whom he was on terms of friendship) for the sake of rifling his pockets of a sum of about fifty-five shillings.

Her Majesty's government has given consent to the merchants of London to make use of the Quadrangle of the Excise Office, as a substitution for the Royal Exchange, until the edifice shall have been completed.

The Edinburgh Evening Courant of the 20th of February, contains a report of the trial in the Sheriff's Court, of five students of the Edinburgh college, charged "with mobbing and rioting, and various cases of assault at the College, and on the South Bridge, on the 11th and 12th of January last. After a trial of three days before the Sheriff, the students were acquitted.

The Tunnel under the Middlesex shore, which have a new style of letter paper in London, which purchasers can have stamped in gold and silver with their initials, coronets, arms, &c., without any extra charge.

Mr. Bulwer assisted by a number of eminent men, is about to bring out a Magazine, which it is expected will be of more permanent interest than any similar periodical which has ever been published in this country. It will be entitled "The Monthly Chronicle; a National Journal of Politics, Literature, Science and Art." The principle contributors will be—in the Literary Department, E. L. Bulwer, Esq., M. P.; in Physical and Experimental Science, Sir David Brewster, Dr. Lardner, &c.; in Natural History, Professor Henslow, and Phillips, N. A. Vigors, Esq. &c.; in the familiar illustration of the Useful Arts and Manufactures, Dr. Lardner.—Metropolitan.

PROSPERITY OF TRADE.—No London bankruptcy or insolvency appeared in *The Gazette* of the last Friday in February. This has occurred several times of late.

THE LAW'S DELAY.—A notice appears in the *Gazette* of Tuesday, the 13th inst. to the officers and company of her Majesty's ship

Sparrow, that those who were actually on board at the capture of the French privateers, La Resource and La Resou, on the 20th of June, 1797, (upwards of forty years) may receive their respective proportions of head money on the 1st of February. First class, £24915s; fifth class, the same number of shillings, but no pence!

The Temps remarks that a sort of matrimonial mania is now prevalent in Paris, a greater number of marriages having been recently contracted than during any former given period of the same extent.

UNITED STATES.

The Sub Treasury Bill of the Senate provides for the keeping the public money separate from the banks, but allows the receiving of the bills of specie paying banks. It is said the Senate's bill was not in favour in the House.

A CHARACTER.—The Detroit papers say that General Sutherland has taken into the hands of the British, by whom he was tried and sentenced to be hung on the 5th inst. If the hanging of any body is required, as a finale to the border war, we doubt whether a better subject could be found—Sutherland has been equipping with the gallows long before the Canada war broke out. He has merits of a general character which command him strongly to the luxury of a halter execution.—*Albany Evening Journal.*

WARD MITT FUR.—The Captain of the brig Fenwick applied for aid to a pump handle, similar to those of a wind mill, and pumped his vessel by their aid on the whole passage from Philadelphia to Rio. A model has been exhibited in the Philadelphia Exchange.

DO TELL!—A Down East Editor reiterates the old story of Capt. Murray's paying his addresses to some of our New Orleans business. This is all a mistake. From present indications, we don't think Peter Simple intends to Murray at all—at least, not at any of the bellies of this place.—*New Orleans Pheonix.*

The Louisville Journal states that the four brothers Jones, accused of murdering their uncle, Col. John Ward, have engaged Clay and Webster to defend their cause, at a fee of five thousand dollars each.

A CITY OF SHOEMAKERS.—The town of Lynn, Mass., according to the last census, contained a population of 93,33, including men, women and children. The number of persons residing there engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes, is stated in a late official document at 5,187, or more than one half of the entire population of the place. The annual production of boots is 2,225 pairs, and of shoes 2,343,929 pairs.

A POWER OF BROTHERS.—The Hudson River Chronicle says that Dr. Brandteth has a large factory at Sing-Sing, in which a number of people are employed in grinding up cloes and crab apples to physic tonic wine.

UPPER CANADA.

Toronto, 3rd April.—Yesterday took place the trial of John Montgomery, which was the first on the list, and occupied the Court till 11 o'clock at night, including nearly three hours which it took the Chief Justice to sum up the evidence. The Jury found him guilty, but recommended him to mercy, on what ground was not stated. The house of this man has for many years been notorious as the rendezvous of the whisky-bibbling ruffian-mongers and radicals of Yonge street. It was literally the Revolutionary recruiting station. To this discreditable and dangerous avocation was this man lured by the hope of riches from dealing out potations of inflammability. He has amassed more than four hundred pounds per annum, and never till now had a grievance, except the racking pain of imagining that he was not gathering up the root of all evil quite fast enough.—He was a Director in the People's Bank—this had he honors as well as riches, yet all have turned to bitterness. His relatives are, and always have been, loyal, and whatever mercy may be shown, will, of course, be shown to them.

The Brigand Chief Sutherland, on entering on his defence yesterday, abandoned his project of conducting the case for the Crown by counter evidence, and trusted his case wholly to points of law. The Court re-assembled today, and we believe have sent their verdict to the Governor, which, together with the sentence, will in due time be known.

At Hamilton, the following prisoners were tried and convicted of High Treason—P.

Malcolm, Ephraim Cook, Elias Snider, Charles P. Walrath, Stephen Smith, Horatio Hill, Nathan Towns, (recommended by the jury to favourable consideration,) William Webb and John Tufford.

The following were acquitted—James Buchanan, James Buchanan, James F. Jackson, Calvin Lyman, Wm. Armstrong, and Hiram Dawson.

The following prisoners have petitioned the Government, for pardon, according to the late Statute, viz.—Duncan S. Buchanan, Robert Eaton, Charles Chapin, Malcolm Brown, Adam Winegarder, Lovewellington Winegarder, William Thompson, Lynn Chapman, Philip Henry, George Roberts, Robert Elliott, William Winegarder, and Henry Winegarder.

On the 24 inst. the election for the County of Grenville, in Upper Canada, terminated in the return of Henry Burritt, Esq., the other candidates, Messrs. Jessup and Phillips, having retired.

MEETING OF FISHERMEN IN HAMILTON.—At a Meeting of Fishermen, held on Friday evening, the 20th inst. at Mr. Stanley's Hotel, for the purpose of signing an Address to the Queen, B. O. Duggan, Esquire, being called to the chair, and Mr. J. N. Hogan appointed Secretary, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted—

Moved by Mr. J. N. Hogan, and seconded by Mr. George P. Bull, that the address passed at the great meeting of fishermen, lately held at Toronto, is, from the spirit in which it was conceived, and the loyal and patriotic sentiments it contains, as honourable to themselves as it is noble and gratifying to their Sovereign; and that this meeting not only approves of the address, but will send every expression to have it signed by every fisherman in Upper Canada; and thus show that what our countrymen have already proved by their acts in war, they have now come forward to seal, by that address, in peace.

LOWER CANADA.

Montreal, 12th April, 1838. A deputation from the County of Shelburne, consisting of Messrs. Samuel Wood, P. H. Knowlton, and Jacob Cook, waited upon His Excellency Sir John Colborne, on the 22d inst., with an Address from the inhabitants of that County, congratulating His Excellency upon his accession to the Administration of the Government and thanking His Excellency for the prompt and able manner in which his high military command was exercised in the late unhappy conjuncture.

A lamentable death occurred in this city yesterday, under the following circumstances. A man was found sitting on the side walk of the street, and from the manner in which his body was evidently couched up he was presumed to be in great pain. He was carried to the General Hospital, where he was received and taken care of till the visiting physician arrived. When from the symptoms of his case, or from some cause which we have not yet been able to ascertain, it was found that the rules of that establishment most rigidly precluded him from its further hospitality. He was furnished with some medicine, and a catheter provided to take him to Mr. Duclou's Hotel where he stated he had been boarding. Mr. Duclou knew nothing of the man, and of course did not receive him—he resumed his place at the side of the street, and died shortly afterwards. No one has yet appeared to identify him, and from the unusual swelling of the body immediately after death we are almost induced to suppose he had taken poison.

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 14th APRIL, 1838.

LATEST DATES.
London, - - Feb. 20. New-York, - - Mar. 20.
Liverpool, - Feb. 24. Halifax, - - Mar. 22.
Havre, - - Feb. 28. Toronto, - - Mar. 20.

The Montreal mail had not arrived at eleven o'clock, the hour at which our paper went to press.

Yesterday's mail brought New-York papers of the 6th inst. They contain no later news from Europe.

The steamer Canada, which started yesterday morning for Three-Rivers, was obliged to return to Quebec, after proceeding as far as the foot of the Richelieu Rapids, where the quantity of floating ice was so great as to render her further progress impossible. The Canada lost an anchor opposite to St. Antoine,

THE LITERARY TRANSCRIPT

PROSPECTUS

OF THE
QUEBEC PRICES CURRENT,
To be published weekly during the Summer,
commencing on the 5th May.

BESIDES a complete and carefully corrected Prices Current of Imports and Exports, with the Imperial and Provincial duties, it will contain a faithful report of Auction Sales for each week; the arrivals and clearances of vessels; ships entered outwards, with their tonnage, ports of destination, and shippers' names; a comparative statement of arrivals; rate of freight to the principal ports, and some other useful information connected with the trade of the country.

THE QUEBEC PRICES CURRENT will be neatly printed on a large sheet of good folio-post, with a blank page for remarks.
The first number will be printed on Saturday morning, the 5th May, at eleven o'clock, and continued every succeeding Saturday at the same hour. To be had at the different Book Stores.
Price—Twelve shillings per quire. The series (which will comprise about twenty-six numbers) will be delivered for 12s. 6d. each set.
Quebec, April, 1838.

SAMUEL TOZER,

BUTCHER,
STALL No. 1, UPPER TOWN MARKET.
BEGS respectfully to return thanks to his friends and the public for the liberal support he has hitherto received; and takes this opportunity of informing them that he has always on hand Corned Beef, Baked Beans, &c.; also, Mutton for Saddles and Hamlets, all of the very best quality.
Quebec, 13th January, 1838.

NEW PARTNERSHIP.

PIANO FORTE, CABINET, CHAIR & SOFA MANUFACTORY,
Carving, Turning, Designing, Model Making, &c.,
No. 27, SAINT JOHN STREET.

The premises formerly occupied by J. J. Thornton JAMES M'KENZIE returns cordial thanks to his friends and the public for the liberal encouragement that he has now entered into Partnership with THOMAS BOWLES, an experienced Musical Instrument and Cabinet Maker, from New-York.
M'KENZIE & BOWLES beg to express their hope, that from the excellence of their materials (which are workmen, and the very general nature of their establishment, they will be able promptly to execute all orders with which they may be favoured in the above mentioned, and in the FANCY line, in such a manner as to meet the unqualified approbation and increasing preference and patronage of their employers.
Piano Fortes and other Instruments carefully repaired.
Quebec, 29th January, 1838.

GEORGE HANN, FURRIER,

ST. JOSEPH STREET, UPPER TOWN.
BEGS to inform his friends and the public, that in his intention shortly to leave Quebec for England, and he would that those who are indebted to him to settle their accounts without delay; and those to whom he is indebted are requested to present their accounts for payment.
Quebec, 17th February, 1838.

WANTED.

A GARDENER.—Apply at the Office of this Paper.
Quebec, 31st March, 1838.

AUCTIONS.

BY E. COLE.

On WEDNESDAY, the 25th April, and following days, at the residence of Mrs. Hoogs, St. Anne Street, near the Goal:

THE WHOLE OF HER HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, consisting of—Mahogany Dining, Card, and other Tables, Sideboard, Sofa, Chests of Drawers, Bedsteads, Beds and Bedding, Carpets, Pier and other Looking-Glasses, double and single Stoves, China, Glass and Earthenware, Kitchen Utensils, with a variety of other articles.
2^d Conditions—CASH, on delivery.
Quebec, 12th March, 1838.

EXTENSIVE FURNITURE SALE.

BY E. COLE.

On MONDAY, the 16th day of April, and following days, at the Castle of St. Lewis, the property of Lord Gosford:

THE WHOLE OF THE FURNITURE, Plate, Wines, Carriages, &c. &c. &c. of that large establishment.—Particulars and order of the sale will be given in Catalogues, 10 days previous to the day of Sale.
2^d Conditions—CASH, on delivery.
N. B.—The whole of the property will be on show from THURSDAY, the 12th, until day of Sale.
Quebec, 12th March, 1838.

where she came to during a heavy snow storm. The steamer *Three-Rivers*, which left yesterday for the same destination was also compelled to put back.

Messrs. W. B. Lindsay, Faribault, De Lery and Ryland, officers of the Executive and Legislative Councils, proceeded up by land immediately after the steamer returned. John Neilson, and William Walker, Esqrs., Special Councils, left this morning.

We understand that Colonel Couper K. H. has been appointed Civil Secretary to the Earl of Durham. Colonel Couper, it will be remembered, was Military Secretary to Sir James Kempt while administering the government in the Province; and A. D. C. to his Excellency when Governor of Nova-Scotia.

The telegraphs on Cape Diamond, Island of Orleans, St. Michel, St. Valieres, and Grosjean Is., will be in full operation from Monday next.

The Quarantine Establishment at Grosse Ile, will be continued the ensuing summer, as in the last two years. Captain Swinburn, of the 53rd Regt., has been appointed commandant; and we understand that the medical officers will be the same as last year. It is not known what regiment will furnish the detachment for this service.

The show of wheat in the Upper Town Market this morning was very large and of superior quality. The number of purchases was great, and high prices were obtained.

On Thursday afternoon, after the usual drill of the Royal Volunteer Artillery, on the ground in front of the House of Assembly, an interesting ceremony took place, which must have been as gratifying as it was unexpected to the gentleman whom it was designed to honor. Capt. Lindsay, being on the eve of his departure from Quebec on public business, this opportunity was taken by his company of giving expression to those sentiments of respect and gratitude towards him, which are sincerely felt, and which have been well warranted. Accordingly, the company being formed in line, and presenting arms, Lieut. Dupont delivered an address to Capt. Lindsay expressive of these their "golden opinions," which was replied to in a manly and feeling speech. The band then played "Auld lang syne," and other appropriate airs; and a chair was produced, decorated with ribbons and inscriptions, in which Capt. Lindsay being seated, was mounted on the shoulders of several men, was paraded through the ranks, the company opening right and left. The ceremony was concluded by a collation, of which they all partook.

We understand that Mr. Scott, of Montreal, has been appointed agent for the St. Lawrence and Town-Boat Companies at Quebec, in the place of Mr. Dyd, who has been named an inspector of ashes at Montreal.

(From the Montreal Gazette.)

The following table with which we have been favoured, exhibits a statement of the different periods, during the last nine years, at which the ice broke up in front of this city, at which the first steamboat arrived in this harbour, and at which the first vessel from sea came into Quebec and our own port.

Ice broke up opposite Montreal	Steamboat arrived at harbour	First Vessel from Quebec	First Vessel from Sea
1829 28th April	16th April	23d May	16th May
1830 1st do	8th do	26th April	14th do
1831 30th Mar	10th do	16th do	20th April
1832 14th April	23d do	14th May	11th May
1833 24 do	11th do	9th do	13th May
1834 30th Mar	10th do	6th do	13th do
1835 30th April	20th do	21 do	13th do
1836 22d do	3d do	11th do	14th do
1837 17th do	23d do	27th April	15th do

THE ARMY.

[From the United Service Gazette of Feb. 24.]
It is in the event of a Regiment of the line being withdrawn from Ireland to do duty at Windsor, in place of the battalion of Guards ordered to Canada, the probability is, that the 1st battalion of the Regiment, now at Athlone, will be selected. The Royals have given 69 men to the 2d battalion, in Canada, which has reduced them considerably below the establishment; and, having at present a number of recruits, it is supposed they will not be equal to the duties of the Dublin garrison for some time to come.

Royal Artillery—Four companies, under orders for Canada, are expected to leave Woolwich in the beginning of next week.

Royal Engineers—Captain Oakshott has received orders for the party under his command, at Brompton barracks, to march to Woolwich, to embark for Canada.

The Service Companies of the 23d and 71st Regiments, which are ordered to be held in readiness for embarkation for Canada, are to be augmented to 600 rank in file. The second battalion of the Coldstream Guards also under orders for Canada, are to be armed with muskets with percussion locks. We are informed that carbines with percussion locks, are about to be issued to the cavalry generally.

War Office, Feb. 23.

24th Foot—Captain H. Deeds to be Major by purchase, vice Airey, promoted; Lieutenant R. de la Roche to be Captain by purchase, vice Deeds.

30th do—Lieutenant A. G. Grant, from 5th Light Dragoons, to be Lieut vice Rowley, who exchanges; Ensign T. E. Knox, from 18th Foot, to be Ensign vice Lord J. Butler, promoted in the 7th Foot.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

The wind is fresh at N. E., and a squall came up this morning from the Bay. Fair.

FIRST LAUNCH THIS MORNING.—On Wednesday morning last, Mr. George Black indicated a fine vessel of 500 tons register, new measurement, from his ship-yard at the Cove. The day was fine, and a large number of persons were present. The vessel went off the stocks in fine style, and glided into her anchorage amidst the cheers of the spectators. She was named the *Europa*.

The brig *Montpelier*, which wharfed in the Calde-Dee, has been taken on the Slip at Pointe Levy for repairs. The vessel got advice on the Montserrat shoals, on her outward voyage from Barbadoes, just off.

WRECK OF THE *SAN FRANCISCO*.—An accident occurred in this Bay within the last six hours. A small schooner was driven ashore, and a large ship was seen to drift before the wind and take into the southeast angle of Ardmore Bay. She heaved side foremost almost instantly upon the sandy bottom. The crew at this time cut away the fore-mast, which went overboard with the top of the main-mast. This was the time for the crew to have made some effort to save themselves by rats, spars, or boats. In about half an hour after drifting, she became embroiled in the sand, and rapidly filled with water; the crew now were all on deck lashed to the timber near the stern, and they appeared the so many inanimate beings. The tide at this time receding, it was hoped by those on shore that at low water the vessel might be reached, but in vain; all efforts were useless, as boats could go against wind and tide; besides, the surf ran mountains high. It was now evident all help from shore was out of the question; signals were now made to the crew to leave the vessel at all risks; but no, they seemed unheeding. All the time spars were every moment leaving the ship and floating on shore, and even the ship's boat from off the deck; still the crew sent no spurs on shore, or ventured upon the spars, the deep water only continued for one hundred yards from the vessel; there was only one deep, and that one to the windward side, with the aid of the wind, he crossed in five minutes; the crew, in fact, appeared surprised, and made not one effort to save themselves. It was dreadfully painful to witness the return of the tide, as it was evident the crew would be driven from the deck and cast into the rigging; at four o'clock the crew got into the rigging, and the sea washed over the deck. A little after one of the masts fell, and all were crowded on the only remaining one; there they hung, a most melancholy object to contemplate; their number appeared about twelve. Night closed, and left these beings in their awful situation, on a single plank, amidst a raging sea and a howling tempest. About six o'clock the vessel broke up, hogheads, boxes, &c., floated on shore; the shore, in fact, was covered with the wreck and cargo, but not a human being came to land. All must have perished when the ship broke up. Several respectable persons in the neighbourhood were on the shore the entire time, waiting to afford every aid in their power to the unhappy persons on board. The vessel-guard are at present protecting the wreck.

EXTRACT FROM THE LOG-BOOK OF THE *RISELEY*, FROM CANTON—Liverpool, Feb. 1. Wind west northwest, fresh breeze, fair weather, saw a strange sail ahead. At eight we made the stranger out to be a wreck, and at nine we steered for her, shortened sail, and ran under her stern. She proved to be the *Majestic*, E. Tear, master, from St. John's, N. B., for Liverpool, timber laden, with jibs of various-mast, main-mast, all her yards, jillocks, &c., in a hurricane on the 21st of the mury. The heavy sea broke over her, carried away long-boat, spars, water-casks, several of her stanchions, the covering board &c., and she shortly became water-logged. We were employed during the forenoon, up to eleven o'clock, in receiving the crew, twenty-five in number, and such provisions as could be got at. Captain Tear came on board in the last boat, the vessel was freshening and the sea rising. At 12 o'clock, FEBRUARY 23.—The *Mermaid*, from St. John's, N. B., was obliged to throw her deck-load overboard. Fresh accounts of wrecks are being received every moment. Part of the stern of vessel, marked John Harvey, has come ashore on the coast. A schooner with 26 on board, was lost at Cable Head on Friday. Two boats of the *Penny Veat* have been washed on shore, and a great deal of wreck, supposed from her.

MARRIED.

At Montreal, on Monday last, H. I. Routh, Esq., third son of John Routh, Esq., of Regent's Park, London, to Mary Sophia, eldest daughter of the late W. J. Routh, Esq., of Woodford, England.

At Toronto, on the 27th March, by the Rev. H. J. Grassie, Lieutenant John Wright, of Amherstburgh, Western District, to Elizabeth Ann, third daughter of Mr. Thomas Bell, Royal Engineer Department, Toronto City.

At Toronto, on the 16th instant, by the Rev. Mr. Leach, Mr. James Dixon, Baker, of that City, to Miss Catherine Carfrae, niece to Hugh Carfrae, Esq., also of that City.

DIED.

On the 11th inst., Emily youngest daughter of Mr. John Brown, St. Peter street, aged 1 year and 10 months.

The circulation of THE TRANSCRIPT, which is daily increasing, already amounts to upwards of **Eleven Hundred of each Publication!** and it consequently offers decided advantages to persons desirous of giving publicity to their advertisements.

FOR SALE,

No. 11, Notre Dame Street,
THIRTY barrels sherry wine,
100 dozen flasks,
6 cases black lead,
10 bags pimento,
4 hds. loaf sugar,
10 boxes hyson tea,
3 barrels mustard, (5/6 Jan.)
4 hds. black salt.

Twanak, Bona, Hyson Skin, &c., &c., &c.
JOHN FISHER.
Quebec, 9th April, 1838.

WANTED,

AN APPRENTICE to an Ornamental and Sign Painter. Apply at the Office of this Paper.
Quebec, 14th April, 1838.

ICE!

ICE in large or small quantities may be had during the whole Summer at the GERMAN HOTEL, Notre Dame Street.
Quebec, 7th April, 1838.

MORRISON'S UNIVERSAL MEDICINE.

NOTICE.

The subscribers, general Agents for Morrison's Pills, have appointed WILLIAM WHITEFAX, Sub-Agent for the Upper Town, No. 27, St. John Street.

LEGGE & Co.

That the public may be able to form some idea of Morrison's Pills by their great consumption, the following calculation was made by Mr. W. Legge, Clerk to the Stamp Office, Somerset House, in a period of six years, (part only of the time that Morrison's Pills have been before the public); the number of stamps delivered for that medicine amounted to three million, one hundred, and one thousand.

The object in placing the foregoing before the public is to deduce therefrom the following powerful argument in favour of Mr. Morrison's system, and to which the public attention is directed, namely, that it was only by trying an innocuous purgative medicine to such an extent that the truth of the Hygeian system could possibly have been established. It is clear that all the medical men in England, or the world, put together, have not tried a system of vegetable purgation to the extent and in manner prescribed by the Hygeians. How, therefore, can they (much less individually) know any thing about the extent of its properties?

TO LET,

AN EXCELLENT OFFICE, & FIRE PROOF VAULTS, most advantageously situated nearly opposite to the Quebec Bank, St. Peter Street. The above Vaults are admirably adapted for the storage of Mediterranean and West Indian produce.
Apply to
JAMES S. MILLER,
Hunt's Wharf.
Quebec, 21st March, 1838.

ROYAL VICTORIA BONNET.

MRS. BROWN, Straw and Tuscan Bonnet Maker, No. 9, St. John's Street, Suburbs, next door to the Clothing Establishment—respectfully intimates the arrival of the new shape, by stage this morning, as also a quantity of Flax suitable for making up and altering Bonnets.
In order to prevent disappointment, Ladies are requested to send their work early.
Quebec, 21st March, 1838.

SUPERIOR LONDON HATS.

The Subscriber has for Sale a Choice Assortment of the newest shape Gentlemen's Black Beaver Hats, imported late last Autumn.
H. ORATIO CARWELL,
12th March 1838. Palace Street,

