



# Newfoundland and Labrador

No. 609.

THURSDAY, March 28, 1839.

Sixpence.

### Notices.

#### SPENTFOUSPDLSPD.

CENTRAL DISTRICT, }  
*St. John's, to wit.* }  
 BY virtue of an order of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this District, in Sessions assembled, I the High Constable, am thereby required to collect a rate or assessment of Ten Shillings Currency in the Hundred Pounds, on the value of all Houses, Lands, and Tenements in this District—to be applied to the purposes of remunerating parties who have sustained damage under the operations of the Acts 4th Wm. 4. Cap. 4, and 5th Wm. 4, Cap. 5, commonly called the Road Acts.

Notice is therefore hereby given, to all Landlords and Tenants possessing any interest in the Houses, Lands, and Tenements, situated in the said District, forthwith to pay to me, the said High Constable, the said rate of Ten Shillings in the Hundred Pounds on the value of their respective interests.  
 Given under my hand, the 24th day of September, 1838.  
 J. FINLAY, High Constable.

#### Packet Boats

TO PLY BETWEEN PORTUGAL COVE AND CARBONEAR.

THE Subscriber begs to inform his Friends and the Public, that having now completed the new Packet

#### NATIVE LASS,

in a style hitherto unknown in this Country—being fitted up with comfortable Cabins, Sleeping Berths, &c.—he has commenced plying between Portugal Cove and Carbonear.—The *NORA CREINA* will also continue to ply as heretofore, and he will thereby be enabled to arrange so that one of the above Packets will leave Carbonear and Portugal Cove every morning while the navigation remains open.—The *NATIVE LASS* is built in a superior manner, copper-fastened and coppered, sails remarkably fast, and is decidedly superior to any Craft of her description.—The *NORA CREINA* is sufficiently known to render it unnecessary that any exposition as to her qualities should be gone into.

#### FARES:

Cabin Passengers.....	7s. 6d.
Stowage Ditto.....	5s. 0d.
Letters (single).....	0s. 6d.
———— (double).....	1s. 0d.

And Parcels in proportion to their size and weight.  
 The Subscriber will be responsible for any parcels, &c., that may be given in charge to him.  
 JAMES DOYLE.  
 Carbonear, September 25, 1838.

#### JAMES HODGE,

Of Kelly-Grews.

BEGS most respectfully to inform his friends and the public, that he has a most safe and commodious four sail Boat, capable of conveying a number of Passengers, and which he intends running the winter as long as the weather will permit, between Kelly-Grews, Brigus, and Port de Grave. The owner of the Packet will call every Wednesday morning at Mr. THOS. DOYLE'S for Letters and Packages, and then proceed across the Bay as soon as the wind and weather will allow; and in case of their being no possibility of proceeding by water, the letters will be forwarded by land by a careful person, and the utmost punctuality observed.

JAMES HODGE begs to state also that he has good and comfortable lodgings and every necessary that may be wanted on the most reasonable terms.

#### Terms of Passage—

One person or three to pay 15s., above that number 5s. each. Single Letters 1s., double do. 2s., and packages in proportion.  
 Not accountable for Cash or any other valuable property put on board.  
 January 10.

### CODES OF MANNERS AND ETIQUETTE.

(From the *New York Albion*.)

The American work is more than usually copious upon the subject of balls, and, with the exception of an occasional borrowing from the French, apparently original. The following paragraph, for example, is evidently addressed to a trading nation, for in no other would there exist so decided a wish to keep clear of the shop.

“The advantage of limiting the issue of cards to a week in advance of the appointed evening is that you are thus enabled to avoid the introduction of a numeral date, the appearance of which in any of the communications of society gives a mercantile air to it, which is mighty offensive. To be sure, you may avoid this, when the period is longer, by designating the intended evening as such an evening of next week; but the form is unusual. I have seen cards by which persons were invited to a dance, and the day fixed by the appalling phrase ‘Monday, the 10th inst.’ One felt tempted to take up a foolscap sheet and reply, ‘Madam, yours of the 1st inst. duly came to hand, &c.’”

It seems that balls are much earlier at Philadelphia than might have been supposed from a passage formerly quoted as to the dinner hour.

“According to the hours now in fashion here, ten o'clock is quite early enough to render yourself at a dance. You will even then find many coming after you. As a young man, however, on his first entrance into society, should resolve to throw himself into the most trying circumstances at once, he had better make a point of going to dances early that is, between half-past eight and nine o'clock, when there will be but few persons in the rooms. He should enter alone, and present himself to the mistress of the house with ease and calmness, not carrying a hat in his hand for the first winter, as he would feel embarrassed subsequently if he were to leave it accidentally behind him. Indeed no man should suffer himself to carry a hat, until he feels himself thoroughly at ease without it.”

There is much admirable delicacy in the following maxims:

“When a woman is standing in a quadrille, though not engaged in dancing, a man not acquainted with her partner should not converse with her. As this prevents the other from talking to her himself, it is extremely delicate, and obliges the other to feel unpleasantly, and such an one would not be censurable, if he were to interrupt the conversation, if it were long continued, and to turn his back upon the intruder.” Where this third person is known to both parties, to join for a short time in colloquy with both is obvious to no objection.

“A young man, when he goes to balls, should make a point of dancing frequently; if he does not he will not be very welcome. You may be sure you were not invited there merely to lean against the wall, and wait for supper.” When you have retired from a quadrille, you should remain with the woman you danced with until she is provided with another partner. She will probably desire you not to remain, but to dance with another; but, of course, you prefer to converse with her.

“If you ask a woman to dance with you, and she is engaged, do not prefer a request for her hand at the next set after that, because she may be engaged for that also, and for many more; and you would have to run through a long list of interrogatories, which would be absurd and awkward. If she declines for the next set, simply beg to name the earliest dance for which she is not engaged, and render yourself very punctually to fulfil your engagement.”

We recommend no one to follow this advice who is not quite sure of his ground. The best rebuff to an interrogator of the above description was given by a pretty London debutante of last season: “I can put you down for the thirteenth, but I shall only dance four more.”

The Philadelphian continues—

“When that long and anxiously desiderated hour, the hour of supper has arrived, you select some lady, and request leave to hand her up, or down, to the supper-table. You remain with her while she is at the table, seeing that she has all

that she desires, and then conduct her to the dancing-rooms. There are usually two or three dances after supper. When you have deposited her safely, you return.”

Innumerable are the topics yet remaining—letters, appointments, presents, concerts, *dejeuners*, suppers, duels, marriages, christenings, funerals, &c. &c. &c. but we have hardly space remaining to glance at one, perhaps the most comprehensive it is well possible to discuss; namely, conversation, including flattery and compliments, which, in the Italian and French works, have each subsections devoted to them. If the art of pleasing by talking were teachable by rules, M. Gioja would long ago have taught it to his countrymen, for never was a subject so discussed; but the utmost rules ever did, or ever can do, for the student of an art, is to point out the faults he is most likely to commit, and enable him to fix the true standard of excellence upon which his thoughts must incessantly be bent. For conversation, above all things, a host of natural qualifications are requisite—fancy, memory, impressibility, quickness of perception, clearness of thought, fluency of expression, manner, voice, tact—and thought each of these is improvable by study, not one amongst them can be conferred or created by it. Jekyll and Conversation Sharpe are said to have kept day-books in which, at the most active periods of their lives, they made regular entries of the good things they had heard or related during the day; yet we incline to think that the would-be humorist or *entente-monger* who should attempt to rival either of them by journalizing would find himself exceedingly mistaken in the end. Sheridan, again according to Mr. Moore, was accustomed sedulously to think over and polish the *bon-mots* which were to electrify the House of Commons or the dinner table; but no inference can be more unfair or illogical than that his brilliant sallies were all the result of labour—a sort of fire-work exhibition prepared before-hand and let off at the fitting moment for the display. The truth is, most men of genius spend half their time in day-dreaming about the art or subject in which they are interested or excel. The painter is peopling space with the forms that are to breathe on his canvas; the poet is murmuring the words that are to burn along his lines; if you meet a crack parliamentary debater in the street, it is three to one that you catch *I repeat Mr. Speaker, or, I am free to confess, Sir*, as you pass; and the gay diner-out, the sparkling conversationalist, “the man of wit and pleasure about town,” has the look of being engaged in colloquies as unreal as the supper of the Barmecide, and no doubt provides himself with rich materials for society by thus exciting his fancy and then following its flow. If he happened to be also a dramatic writer, he would simply be pursuing his vocation by setting down what Tom Paine (who adopted the same practice) used to call his “bolting thoughts as they arose.” It would seem, then, that Mr. Moore has mistaken a trick or habit common to a class, for a peculiarly characteristic of the man; and some of the authors before us, improving on his mistake and misapplying his authority, would fain lead their readers to believe that they may go and do likewise (*i. e.* like Sheridan or Jekyll) if they would. It is this doctrine we are most anxious to protest against. There may be no great harm in encouraging young ladies to kiss their hands from balconies or young gentlemen to eat gooseberry pie with a spoon, and we apprehend little danger from the threatened inroad of silverforks and napkins into regions hitherto unconscious of them; but we deprecate all attempts to extend the breed of village Jeykils, or convert our mute inglorious Sheridans into talking ones.

#### THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

By the Author of ‘Random Recollections,’ ‘the Great Metropolis,’ &c.

I have already stated that the British Museum was instituted in 1753. The library, like most of the other departments of the institution, had its commencement in the acquisition of an extensive collection of manuscripts and printed works which belonged to Sir Hans Sloane; to a suggestion in whose will the origin of the Museum is to be ascribed. From its institution up to the present time, it has been regularly increasing its stores of

manuscripts and printed books. The principal source whence it receives its constant additions to its collection, is that of the privilege it has of demanding a copy of every new work published in the United Kingdom. This privilege was conferred on it in 1757, a few years after its institution, by George II., on which occasion that monarch presented the magnificent gift of the library of the Kings of England, which included the libraries of Henry Prince of Wales, Archbishop Cranmer, and other distinguished individuals.

Since that period, the library of the British Museum has been enriched by various gifts of splendid collections of works. In 1763, George III. made it a present of a large collection of pamphlets and public papers, published during the eventful years which intervened between 1640 and 1660; which collection had been commenced by Charles I. To the gift of the library of George III., consisting of ninety thousand volumes, made to the Museum in 1823, I have already referred. Besides these large presents, a great many literary men have left their valuable though much less extensive libraries to it. The number of books purchased by the trustees is inconsiderable, compared with the number which have been derived from the sources I have mentioned. In only a few cases have private libraries been purchased. Until within the last few years the average annual amount of money expended on books for the British Museum did not exceed £200; within five or six years it has been about a 1000. This parsimony in the purchase of books for such an institution as the British Museum, is unworthy this great nation.

An impression is pretty generally entertained that the library of the British Museum is the most extensive and valuable extant. I wish, for the honour of the country, the impression were a correct one; unfortunately however, it is not so. There are no fewer than 9\* libraries in Europe more valuable and extensive than the national library of Great Britain. The King's Library, in Paris, by far the largest in the world, contains no fewer than 700,000 volumes. Even the Library of Munich, a place of which one seldom hears, can boast of its 500,000 volumes. What may appear still more surprising, Russia, barbarous and despotic as that country always has been, has its 400,000 volumes in the national library at St. Petersburg. Copenhagen too, has an equally extensive library. Vienna estimates the number of volumes in its library at 350,000; while Naples, Dresden, and Gottingen, severally lay claim to 300,000 volumes. Lastly, there is Berlin, with its 250,000 volumes; while the British Museum can boast of no more than 240,000 volumes.

This is not as it ought to be: it is discreditably to Great Britain that any other country, especially countries so far behind us in civilization, literature, population, and wealth, should so far surpass us in the article of a national library. Where, it will be asked, does the blame rest? It rests in two quarters; first, with the House of Commons, and secondly, with the trustees of the Museum. The House of Commons has always been most illiberal in its votes of money to enrich the contents of the Museum generally; while the trustees have somehow or other evinced a desire to expend the money so voted in the purchase of antiquities, curiosities, objects in natural history, &c. in preference to increasing the library. This is deeply to be regretted; for the library is undoubtedly to be regarded as by far the most important department of the institution. I have reason, however, to believe that the cause for this regret will not exist much longer. If I am not much mistaken, the legislature will henceforth be much more liberal in its votes of money for the general interests of the Museum, and that a fair share of the money thus voted will be expended in the purchase of valuable additions to the library. This is the only way in which we can ever hope to rival the other leading European libraries. They are severally supported by large sums of money by the governments of various countries; and consequently have been

\* In this number I do not include the Library of the Vatican at Rome, there being so many conflicting statements as to its extent. This difference of opinion arises from the non-existence of a catalogue. I think however, there can be little question that the Library of the Vatican is as extensive as the British Museum.

enabled even in cases where the libraries were instituted long posterior to that of the British Museum, so far to surpass us in the extent, variety, and value of their literary collections. At present we are only adding to the library of the British Museum at the rate of from 4,000 to 5,000 volumes a year, while some of the libraries to which I refer are receiving annual additions to their extent of from 20,000 to 25,000 volumes.

(From the Greenock Advertiser, Jan. 25.)

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Yesterday the Annual General Meeting of this body was held in the Town Hall; John Kerr, Esq., in the chair.

The annual report was read by Mr. Liddell, the Secretary. We regret that we have not room for its insertion to-day, but it will appear in our next, together with the list of office-bearers for the current year. The Report was unanimously approved of, on motion of William Macfie, Esq., of Langhouse, and thanks given to the Directors.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board of Directors were then read, from which it appeared that an application had been made by the Glasgow Anti-Corn Law Association to the Chamber, requesting its concurrence in the efforts now making to obtain a repeal of the Corn Laws; and that the Board had remitted the matter *simpliciter* to the general meeting.

The Chairman then enquired whether any member had aught to propose in reference to this subject? whereupon,

WALTER BAINE, junior, Esq., rose and said he had a series of resolutions to propose to the meeting, but before he did so, he wished to be allowed to make a few observations. The present Corn Laws restricted the inhabitants of this country almost exclusively to the grain grown upon our own soil; and, such being the case, the question necessarily arose—is the supply from this source adequate to meet the wants of the people? One thing was certain, and that was, that the whole amount grown in the country was consumed within it, and it was equally indisputable that large numbers of the working classes were not adequately supplied with food. It was true, as the landlords alleged, that they could draw more from the soil, if the people would pay the price requisite for its production; but as they could not do this, they regulated their supply, not by the wants of the people, but by the ability of the latter to purchase the corn at a price that would remunerate those engaged in its growth. They said they could, by cultivating inferior soils, increase the supply of grain, but the people would not pay the price, and they could not expect the agriculturist to continue the cultivation at a loss, and that therefore the deficient supply arose from the inability of the people to pay the price at which an increased quantity could be procured. He (Mr. Baine) agreed with the landlords in regard to the cause of the deficiency; but the next, and most important point, respected the remedy for the evil, the existence of which was acknowledged by all. The landlords' cure was after this fashion:—They said, give the workman better wages to pay for the additional supplies of food, which we have the means of producing, if high enough prices are offered for it. But the natural answer to this was to ask, where the employment that would afford the workman better wages was to come from? There were but two sources of profitable employment to which recourse could be had, and these were agriculture and manufactures. The agriculturists were already over-stocked with labourers, and measures had already been taken, in various agricultural districts, to have their surplus hands sent abroad. It was plain that, in such a condition of things, higher wages was altogether out of the question. Then, again, if they turned to manufactures, the case was little better. It appeared from the statements made at the meeting at Manchester, in reference to the Corn Laws, that instead of our manufactures extending, they were constantly falling off. Here, again, it was plain that the remedy of increased wages, to pay the enhanced prices for the increased supply of grain grown on inferior land, could not be brought into operation. The remedy of the landlords for the evil, acknowledged by all to exist, was clearly inapplicable; but the remedy proposed by himself and others, who held that the Corn Laws were impolitic, would be found to meet the case. They contended that, since it was seen that the landlords could not furnish a supply of corn at rates within the means of the people, they ought to be allowed to go elsewhere, where such a supply might be found. They had plenty of surplus manufactures, which they could send in exchange for food on terms mutually advantageous to both parties. Perhaps they might not even then be able to get all they wanted, but they would at least get more than they had now, and be always so much better off than at present. To this, however, the landlords say, "no! If we do not supply you, you shall go nowhere else, for by so doing, you would reduce our rents, and that is not to be thought of." Now, he (Mr. Baine) would say, that even if the landlords of this country were able to supply all its inhabitants with food, its prosperity would still be best promoted by allowing the people to go to buy food where they could get it cheapest; but, when they are confessedly unable to furnish the requisite supply, to refuse to allow the population to go elsewhere was a degree of injustice that would warrant the employment of strong language in its reprobation. One argu-

ment of the landlords in favour of their monopoly went this length, that if a country was clear of debt, and lightly taxed, it might be allowed to compete with the agricultural productions of other nations; but Britain being highly taxed, it was unjust to bring the farmers of other countries into competition with our agriculturists. But the question arises who pays the taxes? and the answer is, the very persons who suffer from the Corn Laws. The great bulk of British taxation was indirect, and of course paid by the consumers of the taxed commodities. The landowners formed a part it was true, but a very small part of the consumers, and had no more right than any other class to put forward their payments as a ground for claiming exclusive privileges. To state the amount of taxation as a reason for raising the price of food, was a most extraordinary mode of arguing. It implied that the more a man was taxed for one thing, the better he was able to pay taxes on another thing—that the more money taken out of a man's pocket, the more he had left there—in fact, that the more a man spent the richer he was. The mere statement of such an argument was enough to demonstrate its unsoundness. The supporters of the Corn Laws objected to their repeal on the ground that a free trade in grain would make the people of this country dependent, for a supply of food, upon the caprice of foreign powers, who might reduce us to starvation, whereas our own landlords were willing to grow corn for our own use exclusively. This was no doubt very kind of the landlords, but still, if they made us pay an extravagant price for their corn, our gratitude must be considerably diminished thereby. He would put it to the common sense of the meeting if it were not the fact, that the more sources of supply in grain, or any other article of merchandise, that were opened up, the more likely would those wishing to purchase be well served. It was said that foreigners would not deal with us in exchanging their corn for our manufactures. This was an assertion so inconsistent with all that experience taught us, that it should not be taken for granted without proof.—It had not yet been put to the test, and he felt persuaded, that, were the trial made, no difficulty would be felt in this respect. Some contended that, because there were other monopolies, as well as that of corn, these others should be swept away first, or at least along with the corn laws.—Now, he would admit at once, that all monopolies were alike bad in principle, but there were some not so pernicious in their consequences as others. While he would, therefore, be for abolishing the whole system of monopolies and bounties, still he would place in the front rank the giant monopoly in grain, compared with which the others were small and inconsiderable. Some had said that, although it might be true that the manufacturing labourer suffered from the corn laws, still the agricultural population benefited from them. This he regarded as a complete delusion. If there was an inadequate supply of grain the poor were always the chief sufferers. The rich man could always command enough of the necessaries of life, whatever they might cost. The labourers, however, were not so fortunate, but even they were not all alike affected. There were skilled labourers, who required a previous apprenticeship, and, of course, competition among them was also necessarily limited, and by dint of hard labour they might manage to supply themselves even during a scarcity. But the agricultural labourer required little or no skill. Health and strength were all that was required by him; and of course he was always subjected to a greater degree of competition, and, as a necessary consequence, compelled to put up with lower wages, and thereby unable to purchase an adequate supply of grain when its price was more than ordinarily high. But some had taken still higher ground, and maintained that there was not a deficiency of food in this country, but that there was a surplus of population; and that the true cure for the evils of scarcity was to get this surplus reduced. Now, he thought it no more than reasonable that all practicable means should first be taken to let in a sufficient supply of food, if such could be had; and then, should that fail, it would be time enough to tell the people that their numbers must be reduced. In fact, all the arguments brought forward in favour of the Corn Laws were merely screens to conceal the real object aimed at by them, which was to keep up the rents of the landlords. Now, really, it would be difficult to show any good grounds on which they should be allowed to tax the rest of the community for such a purpose. He wished to say nothing harsh of any body of men, but if the unjust principle must be admitted that one class should be taxed for the support of another, it would be much better that the landlords should be taxed for the benefit of the industrious, than that industry should be burdened for the advantage of the landowners. He (Mr. Baine) was against all such partial taxation, and wished all to be left to the free exercise of their own industry and skill. Some had clamorously demanded if our landowners should not be protected against the competition of other landowners? H (Mr. Baine) knew of no just grounds on which such a claim could be advanced; but he would venture to say that if the corn laws were repealed tomorrow, the landlords of Britain would continue to enjoy much higher rents, than their brethren in the other countries in the world. No one in that meeting, and he believed he might say no one anywhere, was more anxious than he (Mr. Baine) was to see all orders of the people living together in peace and harmony; but it would be quite vain to expect that the people of this country could look with kindly feelings upon a class of men who continued to tax them so severely for their own pri-

vate ends, and he thought the removal of this source of heartburning, which the repeal of the corn laws would effect, would more than compensate the landowners for any loss which they might sustain. Mr. Baine, who was repeatedly cheered during his address, sat down, by reading a series of resolutions, which will be found in our advertising columns.

Robert Steele, Esq., seconded the resolutions. He considered Mr. Baine's arguments so conclusive, that he felt it quite unnecessary for him to say more than merely express his concurrence in all which that Gentleman had said. It would be remarked, that the resolutions proposed a Repeal of the Corn Laws, but they left the mode of effecting this entirely with Parliament.

The Chamber then divided, when Mr. Baine's resolutions were carried by a large majority—we should think by about two to one.—(Great cheering.)

PROMOTIONS IN THE ARMY.—The abandonment of the system of impressment is a great revolution in our naval system. The experiment—for experiment it must still be regarded—of raising our naval force to a war establishment, by voluntary enlistment alone, is now in progress, and most earnestly do we hope, in common with every friend of humanity, that it will be completely successful. In the army too, a reformation of a very important kind appears gradually to make way—we mean the promotion of skilful and well conducted soldiers from the ranks to commissions. In the British army promotions of this kind have been hitherto, even during the war, comparatively few, and only made under special circumstances. In fact, they formed the exception to the rule. We now observe, however, that scarcely a *Gazette* appears in which some promotion from the ranks is not recorded. We do believe that this change, if acted on to a liberal extent, will still further improve the character of our military service.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have received a letter on the subject of the proposed emigration to Australia, and one signed "Conchus," in reference to the authorship of the letters of "Rhonchus," in the *Patriot*; but as we have not been furnished with the real signatures of the writers, we must decline their insertion.

The Newfoundlander.

ST. JOHN'S, (THURSDAY) March 28, 1839.

We have much pleasure in giving insertion to the proceedings of the Benevolent Irish Society, at their meeting on Sunday last,—the course of proceeding is highly creditable to the body, and the example they have thus promptly set, will, we trust, lead to much material benefit, to those on whose behalf the appeal has been made.

The condition of the poor is every day becoming worse, and evidences of this are too striking to leave room for any doubt on the subject. It is confidently asserted that numbers of young and industrious men are now in want, owing to the falling off in that demand for their labour which existed at former corresponding seasons—these are the persons whose claims on the public bounty are most particularly deserving attention. But for them we would suggest a mode of relief divested as much as may be practicable of the eleemosynary character which has hitherto been solely acted upon in this community. They are strong and able-bodied, many of them doubtless would submit to any privation rather than become applicants for relief in the accustomed way. Let, then, a system be adopted in their case, that shall go to divest the assistance rendered to them of its humiliating concomitants. Let them be called upon to furnish the *quid pro quo* in labour, of one shape or another, which they will cheerfully accede to; and such an arrangement will induce many to come forward who, though now suffering from severe privation, were a short time since in better circumstances, & are ashamed to beg. The public would also be a gainer under such a proceeding, because the produce of the returns, tho' not, perhaps, commensurate with the outlay, would go in part at least to meet the expenditure, and a fund would thus be created for future emergencies. This is what renders the Factory, the institution above all others the best calculated to minister to the wants of the industrious poor,—they there obtain employment—the panacea for the amelioration of their condition, which is universally admitted to be the best,—because habits of industry are inculcated, the relief obtained is a return for the produce of their labour, and consequently involves no sacrifice of self-respect or independence.

His Excellency the Governor has authorised the Commissioners of the Poor to expend the sum of Two Hundred Pounds a month from the Treasury,—a judicious discretion in the expenditure of this money will be necessary in order to procure essential benefit. In the disposal of the grant of the Legislature, the Commissioners, in the first instance, dispensed to the applicants in money—the evil of this soon manifested itself, and they subsequently found it necessary to abandon the original arrangement, and dispense relief in articles of food. Could not the system be acted upon by them of requiring in all possible cases, a return for what they administer, which might be disposed of for the benefit of their funds? Much additional labour and trouble would be imposed on the Commissioners, but we think the consequent advantages would be more than an equivalent. It would involve the necessity of an enquiry into the circumstances of the applicants,—but this enquiry would lead to another beneficial result, and much of that imposition now practised on charitable bodies would then be discovered, and guarded against. We particularly recommend our suggestions to the consideration of the Commissioners and others who may be concerned, and we trust they may be found to contain some hints deserving of attention.

[To the Editor of the *Newfoundlander.*]  
SIR.—On perusing the controversies sustained by several of our periodicals, respecting the self-styled *Royal Dispensary*, I cannot help remarking the ignorance of medical character manifested by all. A man possessing the degree of Doctor of Medicine, or Bachelor of Medicine, is not on that account a Physician. A physician is of that class of medical practitioners who prescribe medicines, diet, and regimen. If he dispenses medicine, notwithstanding his M. D., he descends to the rank of an apothecary. If he bleeds, draws teeth, or performs any other operative duty, he likewise ceases to be a physician. If he combines the character of an apothecary with that of surgeon, he becomes a highly useful character—a general medical practitioner, but of a rank among men considerably under that of a physician. One half of the surgeons and surgeons' mates in the army and navy are M. D., but no one thinks of ranking them with physicians. More than one half the surgeons in Edinburgh are M. D., but they rank only as surgeons; and so over the whole of the United Kingdom, without designating them physicians. Many ministers of the church of Scotland are M. D. Medical gentlemen in the army and navy have been elevated to the rank of physician in the army and navy, without the title of M. D. A physician is therefore a medical practitioner who confines himself solely to prescriptions. He cannot prove his fees as a debt in case of death or insolvency—he cannot recover them in a Court of Justice. Therefore the revolutions of fate, and the casualties of human life, have given rise to the custom of feeing the physician every visit, or lumping them at the close of attendance.  
Yours, &c.

A LOOKER ON.

Benevolent Irish Society.

AT a Special Meeting of the BENEVOLENT IRISH SOCIETY, convened on Sunday last, the 24th March, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of making an additional vote for the relief of the poor, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Resolved—That in addition to the sum of £180 voted at the last Anniversary Meeting of the Society, for the relief of the poor, a further sum of £60 be now voted for that purpose.

Resolved—That in thus voting more than their available funds for the relief of the poor, the Society regret exceedingly that all their efforts to stem the tide of misery abroad have proved unsuccessful; and that therefore the officers of the Society be requested to draw up a report of the proceedings of the Committee of Charity, for the current quarter; and to appeal strongly to the charitable and benevolent feelings of the community in an emergency so pressing.

Resolved—That the Editors of all the Public Journals of St. John's, be requested to publish the foregoing Resolutions, and the Report of the Society, gratuitously.

REPORT

BENEVOLENT IRISH SOCIETY.

On the 17th February the Anniversary Meeting of our Society took place, when the extensive distress pervading the humbler classes of society having been brought under the consideration of the Body, the sum of £180 was voted for the relief of the poor, to be disposed of by the Committee of Charity—a sum nearly double to any vote of the Society since the period of the Institution.

In discharging the duty of distribution, the committee of charity were overwhelmed with the number and pressing calls of a multitude of claimants, whose persons bore too clear an evidence of the miseries under which they suffered. The cries for food of the widowed mother, of the wretched orphan—the squalid countenance of the aged, compelled the committee to abandon that course hitherto pursued, of extending the sum voted over the whole space of the quarter, commencing on the day above mentioned, even to the 17th May; and although now scarcely a month of that term has elapsed has every shilling of the original vote been expended, and still the misery, still the want, and still the wretchedness remains—and poverty the most extensive, and, what is worse, poverty rapidly increasing, continues abroad to an extent calculated not only to awaken the tear of sympathy upon the lid of the Christian, but also to excite the alarm of the lover of social order.

The number of persons relieved by the vote before mentioned may be estimated by considering the fact, that rations of food consisting exclusively of bread and oatmeal were distributed to no fewer than 560 families!!! but the original vote was exceeded by £16, advanced by Mr. MULLOWNEY, the Chairman; and yet let it only be considered how miserably deficient the relief to so many must have been, when 560 families were to be supplied for an entire month from the bread and oatmeal purchased for even £196.

Under these circumstances the Committee of Charity appealed to the Society on this day, (Sunday,) praying that an exertion may be made to meet the great emergency; upon which occasion the Society immediately voted a sum something greater than that distributed every week since the 17th February, in addition to the sum above mentioned, advanced by the Chairman of Charity—that is, they voted an additional sum of £60; but then it was a sum even exceeding the amount of monies in their hands available to the present uses of the Body.

One week's supply!—and oh! what a supply to meet the wants of 560 famishing families, including an immense number of children for the space of an entire week! Gracious Heaven! And has St. John's to this day remained coldly contemplat-

ing this torrent of wretchedness without making a single effort to assuage the sufferings of thousands of their fellow-citizens!

The Benevolent Irish Society feel they have discharged their duty; but still are they sensible of the extreme insufficiency of the sum voted, being anything like relief to the vast number of applicants; and then, even as far as they have gone, they have judged themselves obliged to confine themselves to the distribution of food alone—they could not think themselves justified in expending a shilling upon the various other wants that at such a season as the present press around the hearth of the Poor.

The means of the Society have now been completely exhausted. They pretend not that their votes could have stemmed the tide of pauperism abroad. Poverty is rapidly advancing; the suitors for charity are now of a class superior to the ordinary applicants for relief. The public are aware that at this season there are no means available to the poor man to provide food for his family from the resources of his industry. The high price of provisions has drained off the little remnant of savings which his sobriety enabled him to lay by after the toils of a year distinguished for a bad Seal fishery and an unsuccessful Cod fishery. A sickly wife and starving children are crying to him for that bread which he is unable to give them, for he has divided among them that morsel which was his last, and which his own wants imperatively demanded.

Fellow citizens! this picture is not overcharged. The instances of this are numerous in the extreme. The mass of human misery around you is all but incredible. Will you suffer this to continue? Will those to whom God has given worldly wealth remain forgetful that He who has given much "expecteth much in return"? Will those in the middle classes remain callous to the claims of their brethren when they reflect that even from those to whom little is given, that Being to whose mercy they owe the absence of poverty and suffering "expecteth something even from that little." Let us all, then, remember that those who are now suffering are our fellow-men—our fellow-Christians—our fellow-countrymen—our fellow-citizens! There is existing among the community of St. John's a spirit of charity that has never failed. There is a fountain of benevolence in the bosom of the mercantile body that has never been found wanting. There is among the shopkeepers and agriculturists and the comfortable planers a stream of Alms that never ceases flowing. Let all, then, unite—let the means of all be combined, and their intelligence united to soften the rigours of a calamitous winter to thousands of miserable paupers.

LAWRENCE O'BRIEN, President.  
WILLIAM POWER, Secretary.

Sales by Auction.

On Saturday next,  
The 30th instant. At 11 o'clock,  
AT THE STORE OF  
THE SUBSCRIBER,

- 35 Very Prime Westphalia Hams (15 to 25lb ea.)
- 3 Qr.-Casks Port Wine
- 5 Do. do. Sherry do.
- 6 Do. French Port
- 1 Do. Benedict Red.
- 1 Do. Teneriff
- 1 Do. Marsella
- 1 Do. Prime Cognac Brandy
- And in Bottles—
- 6 Dozen Gold colour Sherry
- 3 Do. Old Brown do.
- 5 Do. Champagne, in quarts. } Imported from
- 5 Do. do. in pints } London, and is
- 4 Cases Arrow Root } very prime.

JOHN HOWLEY

N. B.—The above articles are this day taken out of Bond, and may be sampled any time previous to the day of Sale.  
March 28.

Estate of ROBERT BRINE & Co.

FOR SALE, BY PUBLIC AUCTION,  
On SATURDAY next,  
The 30th Inst., at 12 o'clock,  
On the Premises,

- 500 Hogsheads Newcastle & Bridgeport COALS
- 200 Ditto Smiths ditto
- 100 Tons LIMESTONE
- 10 M. ASH BILLETS.

The COALS will be sold in Lots of 5 or more Hogsheads and Carted to the House of the Purchaser in Town.  
March 28.

PRIME UPLAND  
HAY,

AT THE COTTAGE.  
PATRICK MORRIS.

January 10.

Amateur Theatre.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR.  
On MONDAY EVENING next,  
WILL BE REPEATED,  
The much-admired Comedy of  
**JOHN BULL;**  
OR,  
THE ENGLISHMAN'S FIRESIDE;  
With the very Laughable Farce of

THE DAY AFTER THE FAIR.

Doors to be opened at half past 6 o'clock.—  
Performance to commence precisely at 7. Tickets to be had at Messrs. Perchard & Boag's; Box, 3s. Pit, 2s. March 28.

TO BE LET,

THE  
HOUSE and GARDEN  
In Water Street, lately occupied by Mr. COOKE; ALSO,  
GROUND at River Head, and on the Signal Hill Road, and on Building Leases—Apply to  
HUGH W. HOYLES.  
March 21.

On or before the 1st May next—

WHAT Eligibly situated HOUSE in Water Street lately in the occupancy of Mr. Maurice Cummins. For further particulars apply to  
PATRICK MORRIS.  
March 21.

NOTICES.

CHARITY BALL.

THE Annual PUBLIC BALL (for the benefit of the Orphan Asylum School) will be held there on Easter Tuesday Evening, (the 2nd April.)  
LADIES TICKETS, 5s.—GENTLEMEN'S 10s.  
STEWARDS,  
Officers of the Benevolent Irish Society, and  
Committee of Orphan Asylum School,  
From whom Tickets may be obtained.  
March 14.

THE Partnership subsisting between the undersigned, since the First day of January 1837, under the Firm of JAMES FERGUS & Co. has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, JAMES FERGUS having withdrawn. All debts due to and by the above late firm will be received and paid by THOMAS GLEN and EUGENIUS HARVEY, who will continue the Business on the same Premises, under the firm of GLEN & HARVEY.

(Signed.) JAMES FERGUS,  
THOMAS GLEN,  
EUGENIUS HARVEY.

Witnesses,  
KENNETH MCLEA,  
WALTER GRIEVE,  
St. John's, New foundland,  
17th December, 1838.

PROSPECTUS

OF THE  
SELF-SUPPORTING  
ROYAL DISPENSARY,

Which will be opened to the Public on the 1st April. To be attended by a Physician and Surgeon; and to maintain a Resident Assistant, professionally qualified.

SUSPENDED ANIMATION.

For recovery in such cases, the usual apparatus will be kept in an apartment fitted up on purpose, ready for instant use, night and day—as at the Humane Institution in Great Britain. Stomach Pumps and Antidotes for Poison also at hand.

VACCINATION.—Gratis to all applicants.

Attendance daily, at 11 o'clock, (Sundays excepted) when advice will be given, and medicine as prescribed—the smaller Surgical operations performed, and Surgical Dressings.

FEES.—(Payable in advance.)

- Unmarried Persons—annually..... £0 5 0
- Families..... 0 10 0
- Visits to Subscribers in Town, including Medicine each..... 0 1 6
- until amounting to 10s. after which gratis.
- Visits to any Out Harbours at 2s. per mile, when the number of subscribers in one place amounts to 30.
- Seamen and Strangers, for each application 2s. 6d. including Medicine.
- Out Harbour Consultations, by Letter, including Medicine, from 5s. and not exceeding 10s.

Donations and Subscriptions from the wealthier classes, besides assisting in the establishment of a useful Public Institution, confer the right of send-

ing objects of charity, ad libitum, to the Dispensary for relief, or of procuring medical attendance at 1s. 6d. a visit, to the amount of the sums prescribed.

The dispensary offers immediate resource in case of accidents; a Ward containing several beds will be set apart for the purpose. In all serious cases, the subscribers will have the benefit of a consultation, when it is possible; which, together with the other advantages to be obtained, must render it obvious that nothing short of general support can enable the Institution to become permanent.

The Medical Attendants pledge themselves to perform all Operations, and to reduce Luxations and Fractures, gratis, in the event of the permanent establishment of the Royal Dispensary.

Persons wishing to subscribe will have the goodness to send communications to either of the Medical Attendants.

HENRY HUNT STABB, M. D.  
MICHAEL O'DWYER, Surgeon

St. John's, Newfoundland, 1839.

LIST OF HONORARY SUBSCRIBERS.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR	£5 5 0
His Honor the Chief Justice	3 3 0
Mr Justice Des Barres	2 2 0
Mr Justice Lilly	2 2 0
The Right Rev. Dr. Fleming	3 3 0
The Rev. F. H. Carrington	1 1 0
The Rev. D. S. Ward	1 1 0
The Rev. W. Faulkner	1 1 0
The Hon. the Attorney-General	1 1 0
The Hon. W. Thomas	2 2 0
The Hon. J. B. Bland	2 0 0
The High Sheriff	1 1 0
Mr. Kent, M. H. A.	1 1 0
" Henry Thomas	1 1 0
" Kielley	1 1 0
" Milroy	1 1 0
" Alsop	2 2 0
" John Stuart	2 2 0
" Weston Hunt	2 2 0
" N. W. Hoyles	1 1 0
Newman Hunt & Co.	1 1 0
Mr. Richards	1 1 0
The Rev. E. Troy	1 10 0
" Rev. Mr. Ivers	1 1 0
" Rev. Mr. Waldron	1 1 0
" Rev Mr. Forrestal	1 1 0
Mr. O'Mara	1 1 0
" E. Rendell	1 1 0
" Dillon	1 1 0
" Daniel	1 1 0
" Prowse	1 1 0
" W. Rendell	1 1 0
&c. &c. &c.	

N. B.—A Subscription List will be published occasionally in the Royal Gazette.

TO THE FISHERMEN AND LABOURING CLASSES.

A few remarks explanatory of the objects of the Dispensary, as set forth in the prospectus, are offered by the founders of the Institution.

In Great Britain and Ireland, Dispensaries for the Poor are established by the Rich; and as in this country that cannot be done, the present plan of a Dispensary to be supported by yourselves, by small annual subscriptions, is offered to you. For the sum of Ten Shillings a-year, a Family may have the benefit of receiving Advice from a Physician and a Surgeon, every day, by application at the Dispensary at 11 o'clock in the forenoon; and an unmarried person can obtain the same advice for Five Shillings a-year: the money to be paid in advance. If you require a Medical man to attend at your Houses, each visit cost Eighteen Pence until you have paid Ten Shillings; but after that you may have as many visits during the year as you wish for nothing.

Besides this, if any one of you should unfortunately require a leg or an arm to be cut off; or any other surgical operation for the preservation of life; it will be performed without further charge.—Should one of you break a limb, there is the Dispensary to receive you, and humane Surgeons to assist you until your friends have time to come and take you home. And if one of you fall overboard, in the night for instance, and is taken out of the water senseless and nearly dead, a bed and fire await you, with every requisite, under the hand of Providence, to prevent life escaping by exposure and neglect.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE OUT-PORTS.

(In the District of St. John's.)

It is unnecessary to remind you of the extreme difficulty with which you now obtain a Doctor's advice when sick; your lamentable condition in such a case was one of the first inducements to establish the Dispensary; by subscribing to which you can get Medicine whenever you apply, and a Doctor to visit you for a very small sum; for instance, to Portugal Cove and Petty Harbour, 18s. to Logy Bay 8s.—and at the same rate of 2s. a mile, to all the other Outports.—It is necessary however, that thirty persons subscribe in one place.

TO SERVANTS.

The dispensary offers a certain resource in time of sickness, at an expense suited to their means.

ON SALE.

Prime Irish  
POTATOES,

[MINIONS]  
NOW LANDING FROM THE MARY,  
And for Sale by  
PATRICK MORRIS:

Who has also on Hand,

- 10 Coils Bank Line
- Roping and Salmon Twine
- Bar and Bolt Iron
- Sheet and Sheathing do
- Iron Hooping
- Six and Seven Inch English Hawsers
- Nails, Window Glass in Boxes
- Shoes, Barrels
- Fire Brick's, Lime, &c. &c.

A Quantity of Prime  
Upland Hay.

March 14.

BY THE SUBSCRIBER.

- 12 FIRKINS Prime Cumberland Butter
- 20 Baskets Onions
- 16 Boxes Lemons
- 10 Baskets Almonds and Walnuts
- 250 Bushels Oats, in 16 Bushel Casks
- 90 Bags Family Biscuit.
- 21 Kegs Gunpowder
- 50 Pair Deck Boots

Also, to realize first cost

- 30 Table and Piano Oil Covers
- 6 Dozen Sparkling Champagne
- 6 Ditto Sherry Wine
- 1 Hogshead Brandy
- 1 Qr.-Cask Red Wine.

W. E. TAYLOR.

February 14.

AT THE STORES OF

JOHN NICHOLS,

- 200 Barrels CORN MEAL
- 100 Firkins BUTTER
- 100 Qr.-Chests Souchong TEA.
- 40 Puncheons MOLASSES
- 500 Hhds. Sydney COALS
- 100 M. Pine and Spruce BOARD.

February 7.

New Provisions.

JUST ARRIVED

Per Brig Kingalock, from Cork in 13 days,

AND FOR SAUE AT THE STORES OF

Lawrence O'Brien,

- 50 Barrels prime Irish PORK
- 20 Half do. do. do.
- 60 Firkins first quality Irish BUTTER
- 100 Barrels BACON CUTTINGS
- 102 Do. PIGS HEADS.

January 31.

Provisions.

JUST RECEIVED

Per Brigs MARY and PORCIA from Hamburg's

And for Sale at the Stores of  
Lawrence O'Brien,

- Bread, 1st 2d and 3d quality
- Pork, Butter, Flour
- Oatmeal, Gritts

Also,

25,000 Brick which will be sold reasonable from the above Vessels.

January 3.

A FEW HUNDRED POUNDS  
Exchange on London

For Sale by  
LAWRENCE O'BRIEN

January 3.

BY  
EWEN STABB,

- 100 Sacks prime Hamburg Barley & Oats.
- 50 Firkins do. do. Butter
- 100 Barrels Oatmeal & Pease
- 12 Do. English Hams 1 cwt, in each
- Superfine Flour
- Souchong Tea
- 4000 Lbs. Butt & Shoulder Leather
- Deck Boots, Shoes
- Tar, Tinware
- Paints, Red Lead, Blue &c. &c.

January 2



Ports' Corner.

A MOTHER'S LOVE.

Hast thou sounded the depth of yonder sea,  
And counted the sands that under it be?  
Hast thou measured the height of heaven above?  
Then may'st thou mete a mother's love.

Hast thou talk'd with the blessed of leading on  
To the throne of God some wandering son?  
Hast thou witness'd the angels' bright employ?  
Then may'st thou speak of a mother's joy.

Evening and morn hast thou watched the bee  
Go forth on her errands of industry?  
The bee for herself hath gather'd and toil'd;  
But a mother's cares are all for her child.

Hast thou gone with the traveller, though afar,  
From pole to pole, and from star to star?  
Thou hast; but in ocean, earth, or sea,  
The heart of a mother has gone with thee.

There is not a grand inspiring thought,  
There is not a truth by wisdom taught,  
There is not a feeling pure and high,  
That may not be read in a mother's eye.

And ever since earth began, that look  
Has been to the wise an open book,  
To win them back from the love they prize,  
To the holier love that edifies.

There are teachings on earth, in sky, in air:  
The heavens the glory of God declare;  
But more loud than the voice beneath, above,  
He is heard to speak in a mother's love.

THE PARISIAN MONEY-LENDER,  
A TALE.

It would be difficult for one accustomed to see the open unwall'd towns of this peaceful country, to have a correct idea of Custrin and its warlike environs. Custrin is acknowledged to be one of the strongest fortifications in Europe. Entirely surrounded by water, it is approached only by a succession of long, narrow, wooden bridges, which extend nearly round the town, and, after numerous windings, at length land you within the massy gates. Its interest is chiefly derived from its historical recollections. It is the state prison of Prussia, and has had within its dungeons many an unhappy victim. I had an opportunity of inspecting those dismal receptacles, being accompanied in my inspection by a physician of the town, to whom I had a letter of introduction. He pointed out to me the room in which Frederick the Great was incarcerated two years by his father, and the courtyard in which his friend was hanged, whose execution he was forced, by the express orders of his barbaric parent, to witness, until he swooned away in the excess of his agony.

After going through the various chambers of the castle, my friend the physician led me to his own house, situated without the principal gate, and forming one of a straggling row of mansions of transparent whiteness, and surrounded by pleasant shrubberies. He insisted upon my staying to dine with him, which I the more readily agreed to do, since I discovered in him a tinge of that intellectual melancholy which is so frequent in Germany, but which often breaks out in a brilliant burst of the imagination, the more delightful since it is so unexpected. His tone of voice, his manners, were those of a man of deep feeling, and of great sensibility. After we had partaken of dinner, and whilst we sat enjoying the evening breeze in an arbour of honeysuckle, where we served with coffee, he said to me, "I regret my wife is not at home; I should have wished to have introduced you to her. She is a native of France, and our first acquaintance sprang from a strange circumstance. You may think it odd that a young Parisian beauty should have followed me so far, and to so secluded a habitation. It is a thing to wonder at!" continued he, musing.

Having my curiosity excited by these remarks, I entreated him to relate the event he alluded to, and after some delay, seeming to spring into animation, he thus proceeded:—"In my youth I studied medicine at Paris for some years, and as my finances were low, I led a very secluded life. The only friend I had in that modern Babylon, was a personage of whom it will be difficult for you to form an idea: he was a money-lender. Can you picture such a character to yourself? He was of a complexion pale and leaden, or if it may be allowed me to say so, of a saffron silver. His hair was straight, and of an ashy grey—his countenance as indefinable as that of a diplomatist; his features seemed as if cut in bronze. His eye, yellow as the ferret's, had no lashes; his nose was peaked, and his lips contracted. He was a man who spoke low in a small voice, and allowed of no excitement. He assisted his sunken eyes with a pair of old green spectacles. His dress black: his age a mystery. The apartment of this strange being was chilly and disconsolate. In winter I never saw his grate filled; the fire emitted smoke but no flame, since it was smothered beneath a load of cinders.

This man moved through life as noiseless and silent as the sand of an ancient horologe. His actions were all regular—his hour of rising was

not more fixed than that at which his fit of coughing came on. After the fashion of Fontenelle, he sought to economise the vital action, and concentrate all feelings and sentiments in self. Sometimes his victims protested and exclaimed against him; but he was unprovoked, and beheld such excitement in calm indifference.

Up till seven o'clock in the evening he was grave, but towards eight, the man of bills was changed into an ordinary being: it was the mystery of the transmutation of metals exemplified in the human heart. It was then he rubbed his hands, and indulged in a species of gaiety, extending even to a thin and withering smile; but in his greatest joy, his conversation seldom mounted above the monosyllable. Such was the neighbour whom chance afforded me in the Rue des Grès. It was a dreary and damp house, which, having no court, was supplied with light only from the narrow street. The division of the building into chambers of an equal size, with a single opening leading into a long corridor, where the sun never penetrated, showed sufficiently that it had formerly been part of a convent. The appearance was sad and gloomy enough to chill the heart of an aspirant for discounts, even before he entered the apartment of the usurer himself. There he sat, dark and inexorable. The only being with whom he held any intercourse, socially speaking, was myself. He came to seek fire from me; he borrowed a book, a newspaper; and in return for these small courtesies, in the evening I was the only one whom he permitted to enter his place of abode, and to whom he talked of his own accord: these proofs of confidence were the result of a five years' neighbourhood. Had he relations, friends? I knew not. I have never seen him with a penny. All his money was in the cellars of the bank. He carried none upon his person. In the morning he prepared his own coffee, in an old utensil which never stirred from the corner of his chimney. His dinner was brought him from an eating-house. An old woman ascended at an hour fixed to arrange his apartment. In fine, the name of this individual was Gosbeck.

One evening I entered the chamber of this man, whose being was gold. I found him seated in his chair, motionless as a statue, his eyes fixed upon the chimney-piece, where he seemed to read the rates of discount. A small smoky lamp, the body of which had once been green, cast a glare upon his death-like face. He raised his eyes as I advanced, but he said nothing; my chair was placed near him, prepared for me, for I was expected. "Does this being think?" said I to myself. "Does he know if there be a God? Has he feelings, hope? Can he taste happiness? Is he dead to sentiment, to passion?" I pitied him as I would a person in illness, though I was perfectly aware he had millions at the bank, and that his imagination grasped the possession of the wealth of worlds.

"Good evening, Father Gosbeck," said I to him. He turned his head towards me, and his shaggy eyebrows were slightly moved. This characteristic motion was equal to the gayest smile of a son of the gay south. I continued—"You are as gloomy as the day when the failure of the great publisher was announced to you. Have you sustained some losses to-day?" This was the first time that I had spoken to him of money matters. He looked at me, and with a half sneering, half chuckling voice, said, "I am amusing myself." "You amuse yourself, then, sometimes?" He shrugged his shoulders, regarding me with a look of pity. "Do you believe there are no poets but those who publish verses?" said he. Poetry in that head! thought I. "There is no life more brilliant than mine," continued he. His eye grew animated. "Listen to me: By the recital of the events of the morning, you shall understand my pleasures." He arose, and bolting the door, drew close a curtain of old tapestry, and returned to his seat.

"This morning," resumed he, "I had only two drafts to receive, for all the others had been given the evening before as cash to my bankers. I had received the first bill from a young man, handsome, and in the first ranks of fashion. He came here in a tilbury. The paper, signed by one of the most beautiful women in Paris, the wife of a rich landowner, had been obtained, I know not how or wherefore, although it was in all likelihood for a gambling debt, and was for the sum of a thousand francs. The other bill, for the same amount, was to be also paid by a female, for it was signed 'Fanny Malvert.' It had been passed to me by a linendraper. The countess resided in the Rue du Helder, and Fanny in the Rue Montmartre. If you could know the romantic conjectures which I formed in going out this morning! What joy I felt in reflecting, that if these two fair dames were not in funds, I should be received with more respect and attention than their own father! How many things would not the countess do for a thousand francs! She would assume an air of affection; would address me in that sweet tone which she reserves for her most particular friends; would actually supplicate me! and I—"

Here the old man knit his brows, and continued, with a demoniac chuckle, "And I—I am the avenger: I bring remorse. But let us quit conjecture. I arrive. 'The countess has not yet risen,' lisped a femme-de-chambre. 'When can she be seen?' 'At twelve.' 'The countess is ill?' 'No, sir, but she did not return before three from a ball.' 'My name is Gosbeck. Tell her my name. I shall be here at twelve.' I proceeded to the Rue Montmartre, to a house of modest appearance. I pushed open an old door, and saw one of those obscure courts where the sun never penetrates. I found the porter in his lodge. 'Mademoiselle

Fanny Malvert, is she at home?' 'She is gone out; but if it be for a bill, the money is here.' 'I will return,' said I; for the moment that I heard the sum was ready, I felt inclined to know the fair debtor. I passed the morning on the Boulevards, and as mid-day sounded, I was traversing the saloon which adjoined the chamber of the countess. 'Madame has this moment rung her bell,' said the femme-de-chambre; 'I do not believe she can be seen yet.' 'I will wait'—and I seated myself upon an embroidered ottoman. In a few minutes the femme-de-chambre approached, and said, 'Please to enter, sir.'

"By the polite tone in which she addressed to me these words, I was sure her mistress was not prepared. But what a beautiful woman I saw! She had hastily thrown over her shoulders a Cashmere shawl. Her black hair escaped in dishevelled ringlets, from beneath a beautiful cap, perched capriciously, or at random, on her head. Upon a large bearskin, stretched at the feet of lions chiselled in the mahogany of the bed, lay two shoes of white satin, thrown there with all the carelessness which the lassitude of a ball produces. Upon a chair lay a rumpled dress, the sleeves of which trailed upon the floor. Stockings, which a Zephyr might have worn, lay at the foot of a couch. Flowers, diamonds, gloves, a bouquet of flowers, a sash, were thrown in confusion around. I felt a vague odour of perfumes. A rich fan, half spread out, was on the chimney-piece. The drawers of her wardrobe were open. All was luxury and disorder, beauty without harmony, richness and misery. The jaded figure of the countess suited well with a chamber covered with the wrecks of a fête. I viewed these scattered ornaments with scorn; the night before they had, on the person of the countess, drawn homage and admiration. Here was the life of dissipation, of luxury, of disquiet; the idle efforts to seize phantom pleasures! A slight blush upon her cheeks attested the fineness of the skin of the countess, yet the brown circle beneath her eyes was more distinctly marked than usual. But nature had sufficient energy to prevent these marks of exhaustion trenching much upon her appearance, and her eyes had not yet lost their brilliancy.

"Sir," said she, presenting me a chair, 'pray have the goodness to wait a little.' 'Until tomorrow at noon, madam,' answered I, folding up the bill which I had shown to her; 'I have no right to protest before that hour.' But I said within myself, 'Pay for thy luxury, pay for thy folly, pay for the monopoly which thou enjoyest. There are tribunals, judges, and scaffolds, for wretches without dread of consequences. But for you, who sleep on silk and tread on satin, there is remorse, and the anguish which tears the heart!' 'A protest! What are you thinking of?' exclaimed she. 'You would not surely have so little regard for me?' 'If the king owed me money, madam, and did not pay me, I would not delay—no, not an instant.'

"At this moment a gentle rap was heard at the door of the chamber. 'I am not here!' exclaimed the young countess, in an imperious tone. 'Louisa, I wish much to see you,' answered the voice. 'Not at this moment, my dear,' answered she, in a tone less severe, but far from sweet. 'You joke, for you are speaking to some one.' So saying, a gentleman, who could be none other than the count, the husband of the lady, entered the room. The countess looked at me. I understood her: she was become my slave. 'What is your business?' said the count, addressing me. I saw the wife tremble. The pure whiteness of her neck grew freckled. I—I laughed, without moving a muscle. 'Oh, he is one of my tradesmen,' said she. The count turned his back, but did not retire, and I drew the bill half out of my pocket. At this inexorable movement, she came to me and presented a diamond. 'Take it,' said she, 'and leave us.'

"We exchanged the two securities: I retired. The diamond was worth twelve hundred francs. I observed in the court two sumptuous equipages, valets brushing their liveries, and others cleaning boots. 'There!' said I to myself, 'that's what brings these people to me!' But precisely at this moment the great gate was thrown open, and gave entrance to the elegant tilbury of the young man who had passed me the bill of exchange. 'Sir,' said I, as he descended, 'here are two hundred francs, which I beg the favour of your restoring to the countess; and you will also inform her that I shall hold at her disposal, for eight days, the pledge which she placed with me this morning.' He took the two hundred francs, with a smile of irony, as if he would have said, 'Ah, ha!—she has paid it!—so much the better.'

"I now proceeded to the Rue Montmartre, to the house of Fanny Malvert. I ascended a small rude staircase, and on the fourth floor I was introduced into an apartment where every thing was simple and clean. I did not perceive the least trace of dust upon the unpretending furniture. Fanny was a young Parisian girl, of elegant and fresh appearance, a bewitching air, with her hair collected in two bows upon her temples, which gave an arch expression to her blue eyes, pure as crystal. She was dressed with great simplicity. The sun, passing through the blinds, cast a gentle light upon her beautiful features. Pieces of linen around her announced to me her habitual occupation. She offered to me the image of laborious solitude. When I presented her with the bill of exchange, I said that I had not succeeded in finding her at home in the morning, and that it appeared she went early out. 'Oh, I am very seldom from home,' said she; 'but when one works all night, it is necessary sometimes to take a bath.'

I scrutinised her, and in a moment comprehended her history. She was the daughter of a family formerly rich, whom misfortune had condemned to labour. I cannot describe the air of virtue and modesty, joined to a native nobleness, which I remarked in her. All around her was in unison with her manners. It appeared to me that I was in an atmosphere of sincerity and candour. I breathed at my ease. I perceived a simple bed of painted wood, with a crucifix on the top of it. I was touched. I felt disposed to leave her not only the money which was due to me, but also the diamond of the countess; but I thought that such a present might be fatal to her, and upon further reflection I retained both, especially as the diamond would readily sell for fifteen hundred francs to an actress or to a newly married lady. And then, thought I, she has perhaps some admirer who would make a breastpin of my diamond, and would soon devour the thousand francs. As you entered this evening I was thinking what an excellent wife this Fanny Malvert would make. I shall not easily forget the impression made upon me by the comparison between her pure and solitary life, and the career of the countess, who has already made a plunge towards vice.

"Well," he resumed, after a pause of profound silence, during which I sat in mute astonishment, "do you think it nothing thus to penetrate into the most secret workings of the human heart, to lay bare the life of others, to have all opened to you? I have perpetually varying scenes; I look upon hideous misery, upon cankering cares, upon woes that are solaced in the waters of the Seine, upon the follies of youth which lead to crime. I behold the scenes of suffering virtue, and I hear the laugh of despair. Yesterday, a tragedy: a father who destroyed himself because he could no longer support his family—in extravagance; tomorrow, a comedy: a youth, inured to sumptuousness, saps his barley broth in the alms-house. The eloquence of Mirabeau has been lauded; I have often heard him; he never moved me. But often a young unsophisticated girl, an old merchant on the eve of bankruptcy, a mother who would conceal the faults of a favourite son, a beggar without bread, a noble without honour, have made me feel the power of words! Sublime actors! but they have never deceived me. Pleasure! where have I want? I possess everything. We who have the key of wealth, are lords of all. Those who sneer at avarice, and pretend to describe its folly, do not comprehend us. It is not the mere coin which we love, but the power which it confers. We can move the passions of a world. We buy ministers and consciences, and therein lies our power. Kings reign only by our permission. Their ambition and their folly make them our slaves. We are, in short the unseen monarchs of life; for money is life. Here," continued he, showing me his cold and naked room, "here, the most passionate lover who takes fire at a word, and draws his sword for a look, prays with clasped hands; here, beseeches the proudest merchant; here, the most vain and beautiful of women entreat; here, the proud and fiery soldier humbles himself; here, stand the artist and the author whose names are promised to posterity, but whose bodies in the meantime are craving for food! Do you now believe that there is no enjoyment beneath the mask, the inflexibility of which has so often surprised you?" said he, stretching towards me a visage wherein a love of money—nought but money—was the only expression.

I returned to my own room stupefied. This cold-blooded old man had become a new being. I viewed him as a fantastic image: I saw in him the monster GOLD, personified! Life, mankind, horrified me! "Thus every thing is resolved into money!" said I to myself. It was long before I could sleep. I saw heaps of gold around me. The figure of the beautiful countess haunted me, and I confess with shame that she eclipsed entirely the sweet and charming creature consigned to labour and obscurity.

But the following morning through the clouds of my reveries, the pure and homely Fanny appeared to me in all her beauty, and I thought of nothing but her. Gosbeck's words haunted me: "I was thinking what an excellent wife she would make." It is needless for me to tell you how I sought and won her. But our fortunes were narrow, and my prospects held out little. I announced to Gosbeck my intended marriage. "You are a prudent young man," said he; "Fanny Malvert is my ward; I have taken a deep interest in her fate, and her fortune shall be twenty thousand francs, to be paid on your marriage day." It was thus that this singular being helped my fortunes. Fanny is now my wife, and I have found in her a treasure. Gosbeck yet lives and corresponds with me. He announces to me in his last letter that the countess has ruined her husband, who has died insolvent, and that the wretch who helped to plunder her has sunk into the misery and degradation which sooner or later attend a departure from virtue and honourable principle.

The physician finished his recital, and my chief regret at leaving Custrin arose from my not being permitted to kiss the hand of his interesting wife.