



Newfoundlander

No. 621.

THURSDAY, June 20, 1839.

Sixpence.

ON SALE.**SAMUEL CODNER**HAS JUST RECEIVED,
And offers for Sale,

36 CASKS (M. Cock's) ALE, in Hhds, & Half-hhds.
80 Boxes SOAP,
30 Boxes Dipped CANDLES (8's and 10's)
20 Cwt. BAR LEAD
WHITE LEAD in 28 and 56lb Kegs
Lead Colour and Black PAINTS
ALSO ON HAND,

A new Lumber Boat,

May 2.

BY

HUNTERS & Co.

Hamburgh and American Pork

Butter, Flour, Bread
Oatmeal, Peas, Barley
American and Hamburgh Beef
Paints of all kinds
Paint Oil, Olive Oil
6 M. Deck Plank
6 M. Hardwood do.

40 M. best Shingles
Spars from 9 to 16 inches
20 M. Scotch and Hamburgh Bricks
100 Barrels No. 1 Herring;

With their usual **SUPPLY** of
Manufactured GOODS

(OF THE NEWEST FASHIONS)

From London, Manchester, and Glasgow, now ready for inspection.

May 9.

By the Subscriber,Deliverable at his Farm, on the Torbay road,
30 TONS PRIME UPLAND**HAY,**

PATRICK GLEESON.

April 4.

BY

JOHN CUSACK,**900 BAGS BREAD**, 2d and 3d quality

200 Firkins BUTTER
140 Barrels Superfine FLOUR
50 Do. OATMEAL
55 Chests Congo and Green TEAS
100 HAMS
A few Tierces Archangel BEEF

April 11.

BY

Baine, Johnston, & Co.,

Ex Brig OLINDA, from Greenock,
24 Barrels PORK
7 Tierces BEEF;

IN STORE.

60 Puncheons Scotch OATS
30 Kegs Negrohead TOBACCO
BREAD, FLOUR
PORK, BUTTER, MOLASSES
PITCH, TAR, &c. &c.

April 4.

BY

Wm. E. TAYLOR,

16 Ancient

Oil Paintings,

principally adapted for places of devotion.

BY PRIVATE BARGAIN,
THE WELL-KNOWN**Mercantile Establishment,**

Situated at CATALINA, and belonging to the Estate of the late JOHN THOMSON; at present in the occupancy of Mr. JOHN THOMSON, Jr.—For further particulars apply to

JAMES TUBRID,
Agent for the Estate

April 25.

The following Documents in reference to Steam Navigation between Great Britain and this Colony, have been transmitted to the House of Assembly by his Excellency the Governor.

(Copy.)

London, January 1st, 1839.

Sir,—Having communicated to the several Steam Navigation Companies on this side the contents of your letter relative to the running of Steamers between the United Kingdom and your Island, and being put into possession of the reply of the General Steam Navigation Company, we lose no time in transmitting to you a copy of the Letter of their Secretary, for the information of His Excellency Governor Prescott.

We are, Sir, &c.,

(Signed) ROBINSON, BROOKING, GARLAND & Co.
Hon. James Crowdy, &c. &c.

General Steam Navigation
Company, Chief Office,
69, Lombard-street, London,
29th Dec., 1838.

Gentlemen,—I have to acknowledge, and am desired by the Directors of this Company to thank you for your favour of the 15th inst., handing copy of a Letter from the Colonial Secretary of Newfoundland, stating that a Grant had been made by the House of Assembly of £500 per annum for three years, for the purpose of encouraging the establishment of a regular Steam communication with England.

The Directors have given this subject their consideration, and are of opinion it would not suit the views of this Company to employ a vessel on this undertaking.

I am, Gentlemen, &c.,

(Signed—for Charles Russell, Secretary)

CHARLETON BAILY.

Messrs. Robinson, Brooking, Garland & Co.

(Copy—No. 10.)

Government House, St. John's,
Newfd., 19th January, 1839.

My Lord,—I have had the honor to receive your Lordship's Circular of the 24th of October, 1838, and I lose no time in stating to your Lordship, that the only way in which this Colony can benefit by the proposed substitution of Steam for Sailing Packets between England and Halifax, is by the establishment of a Post Office at St. John's, and a direction that the Steamers shall call here on their way to and fro, delivering and receiving our Mail Bag.

Your Lordship will at once perceive that the direct and speedy conveyance between the Mother Country and Halifax could in no degree facilitate our correspondence unless a Steamer were employed to pass continually between Halifax and St. John's, a measure too expensive to be imposed upon this Colony, and which could not, I presume, be reasonably expected from the Post Office Department at Home.

A reference to my despatch of the 4th January, 1836, No. 2, which induced your Lordship to change the route of official communication here, will show the extreme uncertainty of intercourse between St. John's and Halifax by means of trading vessels; and at this moment, while I am in possession of your Lordship's commands of the 8th of December, the November Mail via Halifax has not been received.

It is true that our Port may be occasionally closed by ice,—and within my experience it has generally been so in the month of March,—but the Captain of the Packet would at such times use his discretion and proceed direct to his ultimate destination; we should be then no worse off than we are now, and at all other periods the benefit of the arrangement would be great, and such as could not fail to prove highly satisfactory to this community.

I have transmitted a Copy of your Lordship's letter to the Chamber of Commerce, and I shall not fail to lay another before the Legislature on

its next meeting, which will take place in the middle of May. In the mean time I request your Lordship's attention to my Despatch of the 12th inst., No. 6, in connexion with this subject.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. PRESCOTT.

The Right Hon. Lord GLENELG, &c.

(Copy—No. 12.)

Government House, St. John's,
Newfoundland, 2d Feb. 1839.

My Lord,—With reference to my despatches of the 12th and 19th of January (Nos. 6 and 10), I have the honor to inform your Lordship that a Merchant Brig arrived here from Cork on the 30th ult., after a passage of only thirteen days, and had no difficulty in entering the Port and sailing up to the owner's wharf.

(Signed) H. PRESCOTT.

The Right Hon. Lord GLENELG, &c.

(Copy—No. 4.)

Downing-street, 15th March, 1839.

Sir,—Having referred for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury your despatch of the 19th January last on the subject of the establishment of a regular communication by Steam between this Country and Her Majesty's Possessions in North America, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of the letter addressed to this Department by their Lordships directions. I have to request that you will furnish me with the particulars which their Lordships require respecting the state of the Post in Newfoundland.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) NORMANBY.

Governor PRESCOTT, &c.

(Copy)

Treasury Chambers,
11th March, 1839.

Sir,—The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury having had under their consideration your letter of the 6th inst., with the Despatch therein enclosed from the Governor of Newfoundland, pointing out that the only mode in which he conceives that Colony can benefit by the substitution of Steam for Sailing Packets between England and Halifax, would be by the Steamers calling at St. John's on their way to and fro, to deliver and receive the Mail Bag—I have it in command to acquaint you, for the information of Lord Normanby, that my Lords do not conceive it would be expedient that the Halifax and London communication should be directed via Newfoundland, but that they cannot but think that the more certain, frequent, and rapid communication between Europe and Halifax will benefit the inhabitants of Newfoundland; and that my Lords will be prepared, as soon as the arrangements for the Halifax line have been matured, to take into their consideration the communication between Halifax and Newfoundland.

With this view my Lords would request Lord Normanby to obtain for this Board information as to the state of the Post in Newfoundland, both as to the internal arrangements, and the making up and sending the Mails for other Countries.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) G. F. PENNINGTON,
Pro Sec'y.

JAMES STEPHEN, Esq.

(Copy—No. 27.)

Government House, St. John's
Newfoundland, 11th May, 1839.

My Lord,—I have the honor to state in reply to your Lordship's despatch of March 15, (No. 4) that in the year 1805, the then Governor, Sir Erasmus Gower, appointed Mr. Solomon to act as Postmaster, and that Sir Francis Freeling, on being made acquainted with that appointment, promised that every facility should be given in England to the conveyance of Bags from thence to this Island by vessels coming direct, as well as by the Halifax Packets, and that corresponding orders should be sent to the Postmaster at Halifax.

Since that time letters have been regularly forwarded for Newfoundland by the Halifax Mail, and sent on from Halifax to St. John's by any accidental opportunity either of Ships of War or Traders.

The correspondence so conveyed is principally official, the merchants naturally preferring the more speedy as well as inexpensive mode of direct conveyance,—by which mode, however, no Bag is ever dispatched from the London Post Office.

By such vessels as leave this place bound to Halifax Mr. Solomon sends letters confided to him, very few of which are of a private description. By the Governor's arrangement Mr. Solomon is remunerated for his trouble by a payment of six pence upon all letters, and two pence upon all newspapers received; of two pence upon letters sent, and the same sum upon all letters of soldiers and men-of-war sailors.

This remuneration amounts to £30 or £40 per annum.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. PRESCOTT.

The Most Noble the Marquis of Normanby.

(Copy—No. 6.)

Government House, St. John's,
Newfoundland, 12th Jany., 1839.

My Lord,—I have the honor to forward a letter addressed to your Lordship by the Chamber of Commerce, upon which I have to observe, that if a Steam Packet were established between Falmouth and Halifax, she could without inconvenience to those places, and with very little loss of time, take Newfoundland in her way out and home; but I imagine that in such a case a regular Post Office Agent should be fixed here, so that, while deriving great benefit from the arrangement, we should also in some degree contribute to defray the charge consequent upon it.

I have &c.,

(Signed) H. PRESCOTT.

The Right Hon. Lord GLENELG, &c.

(Copy—Circular.)

Downing Street, 24th Oct. 1838.

Sir,—The attention of Her Majesty's Government having been directed to the great importance both to Great Britain and to Her Majesty's Possessions in North America of establishing a direct communication by Steam between the two Countries, it is in contemplation to substitute Steam Packets for the sailing vessels now employed in the conveyance of the Mails between this Country and Halifax. The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have accordingly been instructed to advertize for Tenders for this Service.

The arrangement, if it can be concluded, will probably take effect about the commencement of next Spring. The Post Master General will in the mean time direct the local Post Office authorities to turn their attention to the line of communication between Quebec and Halifax, with a view to increased expedition, and also to make the requisite preparations for supplying (when the alteration is to be carried into operation) every facility, and using every proper caution, in order to give effect to the proposed arrangement.

Her Majesty's Government trust that the contemplated measures—involving as they do considerable additional expenditure—will prove beneficial to the public and give satisfaction to these Colonies.

The co-operation of the respective Legislatures is essential to the complete attainment of the advantages anticipated; I have therefore to desire that you will on the opening of the next Session of your Government submit the matter for their consideration, and invite them to co-operate in improving the communication with Halifax, and to afford such other facilities as may depend on those Bodies. I have further to request that you will endeavour before their meeting to collect the necessary information for the guidance of the Legislature, and that you will render every assistance in your power to further the views of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GLENELG.

Governor PRESCOTT, &c.

(From the Boston Daily Advertiser, June 4.)

EXPLANATIONS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, MAY 13, ON THE FAILURE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A NEW MINISTRY.

SPEECH OF SIR ROBERT PEELE.

I did not think it would be advisable to follow the course pursued in 1834, and have a dissolution of parliament. On considering the state of the country, notwithstanding the balance of parties in the house, I thought it my duty in the first place to try the present House of Commons. (Hear.) But what is my condition in the present parliament? I should begin the government with a minority. (Cheers and counter-cheers.) I did not shrink from the functions that were proposed to me, but could I be insensible of the difficulties with which I must have to contend, or overlook this fact, that in the House of Commons I did not commence with a majority? (Cheers, and counter-cheers.) If, then, I began the administration of public affairs without the confidence of the House of Commons, could I ask for less than I should have, the entire and unqualified confidence of the Crown? (Cheers, and counter-cheers.) Her Majesty's Ministers retired on the question of Jamaica, with a majority of five: I should have had to undertake the settlement of the affairs of Jamaica with a minority of five; and that minority consisting, amongst others, of ten gentlemen on whose support most probably, I could not place much dependence in future. (Cheers and laughter.)

The first conflict I should have had to fight would have been the selection of a Speaker. On the very first day on which I took my seat as Prime Minister of this great country, and as a member of the House of Commons, I should have had perhaps to risk the fate of the government, or been driven to a dissolution of parliament, on the choice of Speaker. (Hear.) Sir, all these considerations impressed me with the deepest convictions that it was my public duty, that it was an indispensable duty on my part, a duty I owed to the Queen, to seek for every possible demonstration that I possessed her Majesty's entire confidence; and I confess to you, sir, without reserve or hesitation, that it did appear to me that if some of the chief officers of the household were held by relatives of those ministers whom I had displaced, [vociferous cheering from the opposition, returned by the ministerial side,] and who are my rivals for political power—(continued cheering)—I say, Sir, it did appear to me that I never could impress the country with a conviction that I possessed her Majesty's confidence. (Cheers and counter-cheers.)

Let me take that particular question on which my difficulty would particularly rest. Who can disguise from himself the conviction that my difficulty would not be the state of Canada—not the state of Jamaica; but that it really would be the question of Ireland? (Cheers and counter-cheers.) No, Sir, I admit it fully. What would have been the facts? I should have undertaken the office of Prime Minister, wishing to carry on public affairs through the intervention of this House of Commons, if possible, in order to save this country from the agitation, and, perhaps, perils of a dissolution; and on the question of Ireland, I should have begun with a minority against a majority of 22, who decided in favour of the policy of the present Irish government. The principal members of the present Irish Government, whose policy was approved by a majority of this House, were the Marquis of Normanby and the noble Lord opposite, the Secretary for Ireland. Sir, the two chief offices of the household that are filled by ladies are held by the sister of the noble lord and the wife of Lord Normanby (cheers.) I say not a word in reference to those ladies that is not prompted by every feeling of respect, for they are persons who cast the highest lustre on the Court, less by their rank than their eminent merits (cheers); but I ask any one whether they think it would be possible that I could safely undertake the conduct of an administration and the management of Irish affairs in this House, consenting as a previous stipulation that the whole of the ladies who now form part of the household should continue to fill their present offices? (Great cheering and counter-cheering.) Sir, the policy of these things depends not upon precedents, not upon what was done at other times, but mainly rests upon the consideration of the present period. (Hear, hear.)

The household has assumed a political character, (cheers from the opposition), on account of the appointments that have been made to it by her Majesty. I do not complain of it; it may have been wise to place in the immediate offices of the household ladies connected with the members of the government; but when a change of that government takes place, it does embarrass the government if those ladies are to remain (cheers.) I do not mean to say that any unfair use have been made of such opportunities; those ladies may have attended only to the duties of their office; but does not that question equally apply to the Lords of the bedchamber? (Cheers.) The true question is, whether, in point of public impression, it would be considered that a minister had the confidence of the Crown when the near relatives of his immediate political opponents were in the highest offices of the household. (Cheers.)

My impression was, that according to public opinion I should not have the confidence of her Majesty. It has been said, moreover, that in the event of any change in the government the Marquis of Normanby is a candidate for the office of

Prime Minister—(hear, hear)—and the noble lord has been designated as the leader of the House of Lords, (hear, hear, and a laugh from the opposition); and I know not whether the talents of the noble marquis might not justify his holding that position (cheers); but, sir, I ask you to look to former times—take Mr. Pitt, Mr. Fox, or any other Minister, and let me ask this question—during the severity of contest should you, being Prime Minister, not object to the wife of your chief political opponent holding an office that placed her in immediate contact with her Majesty? (Cheers, and counter-cheers.) I felt, sir, it was impossible that I could contend successfully with all the difficulties by which I was surrounded, unless I had a proof of the entire confidence of the Crown.

As I said before, I should begin without any certainty of a majority in the House of Commons, and I should have to rely on an appeal to the good sense of many members for their support, and to the forbearance of others, to enable me to carry on the government, being perfectly prepared on the failure of my attempts to govern with the present House of Commons, to advise her Majesty to resort to the only means which might enable me to retain my post.—But if the agreement, if the understanding upon which I was to enter upon my office was, that I should encounter all those difficulties yet, and that the ladies of those who preceded me, of those with whom I was to be in daily contact, were to be in immediate contact with the Queen, and considering the political character given to the household, that I was to acquiesce in that, there was something still stronger than any personal consideration, and it was this, sir, that although the public would lose nothing by my abandonment, although the public would perhaps lose nothing by my eternal exclusion from power—yet the public would lose, and I should be abandoning my duty to myself, to the country, and above all, to the Queen, if I permitted as an understanding on my acceptance of office, that the ladies connected with my warmest political opponents, should continue to retain offices in the household—there was something that told me I must not undertake the office of prime Minister of this country. (Cheers.) Sir, I have endeavoured to give the explanation in as fair and unexceptionable a manner as I can, and I owe it to truth to state that intervening reflections have only confirmed my previous impressions. (The right honorable baronet resumed his seat amidst loud cheering.)

In the House of Lords, May 14th, after the despatch of some unimportant business, Viscount Melbourne rose and said,—

My Lords I feel that I owe your lordships—I feel that I have to throw myself upon the consideration of your lordships, for having delayed even for a single night, after the announcement which I made last Tuesday night, of having tendered to her Majesty my resignation, and of her having been graciously pleased to accept it, as well as that of all my colleagues, and that her Majesty had also been graciously pleased to request that we should continue in office until her Majesty had made such arrangements as might be necessary for the appointment of our successors—I feel, I repeat that I owe an apology to your lordships, as a minister of the crown, for having delayed seizing an opportunity of explaining what had taken place, and the grounds upon which I departed from my original intention. But, my lords, it appeared to me not unnatural that the negotiations having been conducted by others, and I being necessarily ignorant of them—that they being known to two persons, both of whom, as had been well expressed, being in parliament—it was not unnatural to expect that those who had been engaged in the negotiations, or some person on their part, should have explained the nature of the transactions, in which they had been engaged. I had, indeed, some expectation that such a course would have been pursued in this house. I was almost certain from the communications which had taken place, that it would be pursued here, as it had been in another place, and I thought it would tend to a more calm, deliberate, comprehensive, and dispassionate consideration of the subject, that the statement of those parts of the transaction that had been carried on should be made by those who were best conversant with them; and that then, from the statements and the documents produced, it would be seen how far it might be necessary for me to make a supplementary statement, or consider what was requisite to be done in order to place the matter before your lordships' house in the fullest and most satisfactory manner.—These are the reasons, my lords, which have induced me to delay an explanation on a former night, and for so doing I humbly beg your lordships' pardon.—Your lordships are aware that permission was given by her Majesty to Sir Robert Peel and the noble Duke opposite, to release them from the obligation of the oaths they had taken, and to lay the whole of the proceedings before either house of parliament; and to make use of the documents which were in their possession. I beg leave now, my lords, to state very succinctly, and as briefly as possible, the part I have taken in this matter. On Tuesday morning the vote of the House of Commons on the Jamaica Bill was given, and, as I stated on that day in this house, that in consequence of the vote I and my colleagues had come to the determination of tendering our resignations to her Majesty. On Wednesday I had again an audience of her Majesty, which I thought was to be my last. I learned that the noble Duke opposite had been sent for, and had waited on her Majesty, and that afterwards Sir Robert Peel had al-

so been sent for, and had had an interview with her Majesty. On Thursday evening, about six o'clock, I was again summoned to attend her Majesty, and on being admitted into the presence of the Sovereign, her Majesty informed me that the negotiations with Sir Robert Peel were in fact terminated. Her Majesty stated that she had had two audiences with Sir Robert Peel; that in the audience of that morning the principal arrangements had been made for the formation of the ministry; but that towards the close of that audience, Sir Robert Peel had made a proposal to her Majesty that he should have the power of dismissing the ladies of the bed chamber—not stating to what extent—not stating how many or whom it was his intention to remove—and her Majesty entertained a very strong impression that it was intended to use that power to remove all the ladies of the bed chamber, as well as the ladies who held inferior situations. [Some expressions of dissent from noble lords on the opposition side of the house were manifested.] Such might not be the intention of Sir Robert Peel, but such was the impression upon her Majesty's mind. But from what had last night transpired in the other house, it appeared that this impression on her Majesty's mind was erroneous. Her Majesty was mistaken then, in that impression; for, as it was distinctly stated last night that there was no intention of removing any ladies of the household beneath that of ladies of the bed chamber there can be no doubt whatever that no such intention existed—(hear, hear.) When I then saw her Majesty, she stated that the negotiation was at an end, and that she would have a final answer sent to Sir Robert Peel. The subject was too grave for me to decide upon, and I, therefore, summoned the rest of my colleagues. We had a meeting upon it, and we came to the conclusion—upon which there was but one opinion amongst us—that it was not advisable, that it was not fitting, either for her Majesty's comfort, or her future happiness during her reign, that either by her Majesty's present ministers, or by any future cabinet, the ladies of her Majesty's household should be subjected to the changes of political movements—(hear, hear); and therefore, in accordance with her Majesty's advice, the following letter was sent to Sir Robert Peel. It is dated

Buckingham Palace, May 10, 1839.

[Here follows the letter of the Queen, and the answer of Sir Robert Peel thereto.]

My lords, entirely agreeing with the principle laid down by her Majesty, entirely agreeing in the opinion that it is not well to apply the power to which Sir Robert Peel adverts, I say, my lords, I entirely concur with her Majesty that it would be personally inconvenient to her, that it would be productive of much unpleasantness, to remove at every change of an administration the ladies of the household. We having come on that occasion to the determination of supporting her Majesty on the present occasion—(hear, hear)—I well know, my lords, that in coming to that determination, I and my colleagues (myself more particularly,) are exposed to every kind of insinuation: I know that we are exposed to the charge of intrigue, of being actuated by personal considerations, of a preconceived plan, of taking advantage of that objection in order to render abortive any plan, or attempt to form another administration. I know also that men in such a situation as I am in are exposed to such insinuations; not that I expect any such charges to be made here, as they have not been made in the other House of Parliament, but they are made in other quarters of considerable weight and influence, and I cannot allow them to pass without observation, though it is a bad situation to be placed in in which you have to oppose insinuations of that nature by your own personal assertion only. When I parted with her Majesty, on Wednesday, I tendered to her such advice as I felt it my duty to offer, considering the novel and difficult situation in which her Majesty was placed; but I do distinctly assert and affirm, and assure your lordships, not using assertion or protestation—because I am one who think that the man using protestations and asseverations, and probably your lordships will agree with me, causes doubts to be raised by using them—I do, I repeat, distinctly assert and affirm, that with respect to the ladies of her Majesty's household, I gave no advice whatever; because, I candidly confess, I did not expect, I did not anticipate, and I could not foresee that the proposition about them would be raised—(hear, hear.) Unquestionably I did not anticipate any such proposition, and consequently made no mention of the subject to her Majesty. There are many reasons why that proposition should not have been made. I say nothing of the prudence, of the policy, of the expediency of such a proposition. It is not for me to instruct such persons as the noble duke opposite, or the right hon. bart., or the noble men and gentlemen who were associated with them on the occasion. They have had much experience of political proceedings: I have had some experience, too, in such matters; and, from the experience which I had in his late Majesty's court, I could bring it to bear upon other matters. I can assure your lordships from my own personal experience, that these strokes of force are never worth while, they never can be productive of good; they give a character at the beginning, and produce an alienation and irritation, and a feeling, which are ten times worse than the evil intended to be obviated. I have had some experience in these matters, and I declare such is my impression, I do not deny that among some of the supporters of your lordships a suspicion might be felt, and there might appear difficulties to accoun-

ter by taking a contrary course; but depend upon it, the inconveniences are light, almost imaginary, and they are invariably exaggerated, and as nothing compared with such sort of force as that to which I have alluded—(hear.) But, as nothing unpleasant on this subject has occurred here, I will abstain from arguing any further on the present occasion respecting it. If any observations should be made, I shall reserve the right of replying to them. My lords, there are many accusations made, such as are of the most general and usual character, to which I am, I must say, exceedingly callous; but there are likewise others, upon which, I confess, I am sensitive and feel deeply. Of the former class are such as these—charges of a tenacity of Office, of being actuated by ambition or avarice. I deny the truth of them, and care little or nothing about such charges. But if I were, with justice, accused of running away from my post in hours of difficulty and danger—if I abandoned any party in the country with which I have acted—I own I have a very strong feeling upon those subjects and should, indeed, be sorry if any charge like that could with a show of justice be substantiated against me. When I took office in 1835, and addressed my fellow subjects, I dwelt upon the necessity of union for the purpose of power; and when I perceived the other day that the seeds of disunion appeared to have been sown in the party who supported my government, I thought it was impossible to hope to carry on the affairs of the country; and produce those measures which were essential, with advantage. I resigned accordingly (I will not use the harsh expression that I was abandoned by any supporters) when I found that there was that difference of opinion in the House of Commons, that I could not longer, with honour to myself and with advantage to the country conduct the affairs of government. I have, my lords, returned to office, because I will not abandon my Sovereign when placed in a situation of difficulty and distress—(hear, hear)—when demands have been made which, if acquiesced in would render her domestic life, at every change of an administration, a life of unhappiness and discomfort—(hear, hear.)

The Newfoundland.

ST. JOHN'S, (THURSDAY), JUNE 20, 1839.

By the arrival of the Attention on Friday last from Boston, after a passage of 7 days, English dates to the 19th ult. have been received, being only 26 days old, by this circuitous route. The previous information advised the resignation of Lord Melbourne and his colleagues, and the expected installation of Sir R. Peel and his followers. The conditions on which alone the Tory party would assume the reins of government required the dismissal of her Majesty's household—a stipulation which was indignantly rejected by her Majesty, who has consequently called upon the Whig Cabinet to re-assume their functions.

We are far from feeling any surprise at the conditions urged by Sir R. Peel, and which led to his dismissal, because the difficulties he would have to encounter were of abundant magnitude, and would render necessary for carrying on the government, all that support which is derived from the concurrence of the Sovereign, and her acquiescence in the views of the Ministry. With those about her person, and in full possession of her youthful confidence, whose known political sentiments owned no affinity with his, he could not have calculated on the concurrence of the Queen in the measures, and the policy under which, consistently with his principles, he would desire to shape the proceedings of his administration. We do not, then, entertain any degree of astonishment at the course which the noble baronet has pursued; but we cannot divest our mind of the impression that Mr. Peel was not unwilling to seize upon any plausible pretext under cover of which he might without compromise retire from a station which he well knows to be encompassed by numberless difficulties, and with the chances fearfully against his successful or permanent administration.

For ourselves we think the difference between a Whig or a Tory administration not a matter of vital importance to the country. The time has now arrived when the wishes, wants, and general well being of the people must be kept prominently in the foreground, and with a view to their promotion must the conduct of the Cabinet be directed—the British Government must not fall behind the spirit of the age, nor can old and obsolete usages again be associated in the policy by which the country would consent to be governed; abuses, where they exist, must be removed, and reform, steady and progressive, taken up as a standing toast by any set of men who may now come into office. We do not by any means desire organic change or such reforms as would involve levelling and annihilation; but some change is assuredly needed where institutions theoretically perfect are found in their working to be capable of being made to minister to the most profligate abuses, which they never could have been intended to subvert. We deem reform necessary in institutions founded in a state of society, and under circumstances foreign to those which now exist; but reform to be effectual, must be temperate—to be permanent, it must be effected by easy and progressive steps. Violent political changes have often led to incalculable mischief, and may often supplant evils by the establishment in their stead of those of larger magnitude; but it is undeniable that to many British institutions the pruning hand might be beneficially applied—and the time has now gone by when the old clap-net of the danger to the constitution can be made longer to avail—the constitution is more likely to be endangered by the retention of the excrescences which by lapse of time and change of circumstances have grown upon it, than by the adoption of such measures for their removal as the prudent reformer would suggest. We might produce a long catalogue of important questions, which imperatively demand a change; Ireland, for instance, professedly governed by the same laws, has been denied participation in many of the benefits now enjoyed by the sister countries; it is now idle to talk of excluding any portion of the empire from the possession of equal rights and advantages with all—and any ministry hostile to such views cannot, we think, long retain possession of the direction of affairs.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, MONDAY, June 17.

The Solicitor General presented Bill to amend Nuisance Act.—Mr. Nugent presented a petition from Edward Midlin, praying compensation for his services as Poll Clerk at Bonavista in 1836.—Mr. Solicitor General gave notice of a motion for a Committee to enquire into the working of the Police Departments throughout the Island.

On Tuesday, Mr. Kent presented a petition from John Morrison and others, inhabitants of Queen's Street, praying an additional sum to repair said street.—Mr. Kent also presented a petition from Christopher Ayre and others, praying for a grant to repair road from Fort Townshend to Government House.—Mr. Kent also presented a petition from the Committee of the Saint John's Factory, praying for a grant in aid of that Institution.—The Hon. Mr. Crowdy brought down a message from His Excellency the Governor, pointing out the necessity of early provision being made for certain applications from sick paupers.—Mr. Nugent moved a further conference with Her Majesty's Council on the Supply Bill, which was agreed to, and instructions ordered to be prepared, in which some progress was made.—Mr. Nugent gave notice of address to his Excellency the Governor for a return of Civil and Criminal Prosecutions for year ending 30th June, 1839, whereof the expenses have been paid out of the sum voted under this head, and a statement of expenses under head of Gaol Expenses, &c.

On Wednesday, Mr. Winsor presented a petition from Patrick Cleary and other Inhabitants of Bay Bulls, praying for a grant for the roads of that place.—Mr. Nugent, from the committee, presented Instructions for Conference with the Council on the Supply Bill, which were received and adopted.—A resolution was entered into in accordance with the terms of Mr. Nugent's notice of motion for address to his Excellency, in reference to returns of Civil and Criminal Prosecutions, &c., and address presented and adopted.—Mr. Godfrey presented a petition from Patrick Ward and others, inhabitants of Harbor Main and Holy-wood, praying a charge of appropriation of the sum voted last year for road from Brigus to Holy-wood.—Mr. Solicitor General gave notice of motion in reference to 2d reading of Poor House Bill, and for Bills to amend Harbor Grace Light House Act, and Act for raising loan for making roads.

Arrivals.—From Sydney, Mr. T. D. Archibald, from Halifax, Miss Mary Piers, Mr. Temple Piers.

Departures.—For Liverpool, Mr. J. B. Bulley for Sydney, Mr. George Dunscomb.

Died, on Monday evening last, at Harbor Grace at the advanced age of 75, Mr. THOMAS FOLEY, Merchant, a man of unquestioned integrity, and who died universally regretted.

Shipping Intelligence

Custom-House
Part of St. John's.

ENTERED.

June 6.—George Sutton, Archer, Dartmouth and Piquira—47 tons salt, 200 barrels oatmeal.—Mary and Dorothy, Beverly, Hamburgh—2153 bags bread, 429 bls. flour, 99 bls. pork, 380 firkins butter, 500 bags barley.—7. Abena, Jennett Cadiz—70 tons salt.—Palmetto, Pearman, Bermuda 300 cedar posts, 71 puncheons.—President, Odell, Halifax—100 brl. flour, 20 M. Shingles.—Jabez, Tuzo, Porto Rico—20 puns, rum, 50 puns, molasses, 200 cwt. sugar.—Hibernia, Mutch, P. E. Island—600 bls potatoes, 800 bushels oats.—Alexander, Keating, P. E. Island—600 bls. potatoes.—Shannon, Pike, Bridgeport—96 tons coals Terry, Hollis, Cadiz—250 tons salt.

10.—Trit, Murphy, Bridgeport—62 chalds. coal American Schooner P. Nora, Knight, Philadelphia—600 bls flour, 100 bags bread.—Collector, Phelan, Halifax—500 brls. flour.

18.—Brig Shaw, Scott, Cadiz—251 tons salt.—Schr. Margaret, Mungah, Sydney—50 tons coal: Brig Blandford, Hutchings, Sydney—130 tons coal.

19.—Schr. Ranger, Pitts, Halifax—35 bls. flour, 20 boxes raisins, and sundries.

LOADING.

June 18.—Schr. Victoria, Doane, Halifax.—Schr. Intrepid, Elder, St. John, N. B.—Schr. Jubilee, Percy, Halifax.—Schr. Annandale, Irving, P. E. Island.

CLEARED

June 6.—Neptune, Larkin, Buctush—50 bls. herrings.—Lord Ravensworth, Newman, Bathurst, ballast.

7.—Hope, Symonds, Miramichi—ballast.
8.—Orion, Hartily, P. E. Island—111 brls. herring.—Ranger, Carroll, Sydney—ballast.—Charlotte, Ferneux, Miramichi—ballast.—Nimrod, Martin, Sydney—ballast.—Bell, Nicholson, Quebec—ballast.—Euphemia, Butt, London—119 tons oil, 12 M. seal skins.—Iconi, Steele, Cork—140 tons seal oil.

10.—Scipio, Greggs, Quebec—300 bls. herrings. Margaret Helen, Willis, Liverpool—19 M. galls. oil, 43 M. seal skins.

18.—Brig Johns, Fox, Quebec—40 hhds. sugar 10 hhds, 9 qr. casks, and 14 sixths wine, 85 bls. seal oil, 42 tierces and 728 bls. herring, & sundries.

Packet, Graham, Antigonish—10 bags bread and sundries.—Schr Ellen, Kielly, Cape Breton—25 bls flour and sundries.—Schr Joseph Howe, Frazer, Halifax—300 qtls fish.—American Schr Lexington, Crowell, Sydney, C. B.—ballast.

19.—Schooner United Brothers, Bryan, New Brunswick—20 bls herring.—Schr. Ben, Forrest, Gaspe—30 bls beef and pork, 100 bls flour, 56 bags bread, 14 kegs lard, 4 bags coffee, 15 kegs tobacco, 10 boxes raisins, and sundries.—Schooner Alexander, Keating, Guysborough—14 bls. flour, and sundries.

Sales by Auction.

JEWELRY, &c.

THIS DAY

(Thursday) At 12 o'Clock.

By JAMES CLIFT,

(Without reserve.)

AN Elegant assortment of Brooches, Eardrops Band Buckles, Ornamental Combs Chains, Watch Chains and Keys Finger Rings. Silver Watches, &c. &c. 2 Doz. Silver Table Spoons, 2 Do. do. Table and Dessert Forks.

Also, A quantity Scissors, Penknives, Pocket Knives, Tooth Brushes, &c. June 20.

TO-MORROW,

(Friday) At 11 o'Clock,

ON THE WHARF OF

Messrs. Job, Brothers & Co.

20 Barrels Rum
4 Puncheons Molasses
150 Barrels Superfine American Flour
50 Dits Mouldings do. do.
50 Kegs Tobacco
5 Hogsheads Sugar
100 Boxes Chocolate
30 Bags Rice
20 Barrels Tar
10 Do. Pitch.

R. LANGLEY, Auctioneer.

June 20.

TO-MORROW

(Friday) At 11 o'Clock,

ON THE WHARF OF

G. & R. CLAPP,

20 Firkins Butter
50 Cr. Boxes Cigars
200 Pair Yarn Hose, 200 Pair assorted Shoes
A Quantity Cootons and Trowsers' Stuffs
2 Hhds. R. M. Wine, 5 Barrels Strong Beer.
June 20.

Unreserved Sale.

On SATURDAY next,

At 12 o'clock,

ON THE WHARF OF

R. HOWLEY,

4 Qr. Casks Superior London Particular
8 Octaves Madeira WINE, in Bond.
25 Barrels Paste and Liquid Blacking.
N. B.—The above being to close sales will be sold for whatever they fetch.
June 20.

THE Subscriber, grateful to his Friends and the Public, for their kindness and support, begs to intimate his intention of leaving the Country in a few weeks, and would be thankful to those indebted to him to settle as soon as possible.—Persons to whom he may be indebted will please send in for payment.
WILLIAM L. WHITE.
Saint John's, June 20.

TENDERS will be received by the Subscriber until FRIDAY, the 21st June, at Noon.

For repairing part of the Torbay Road.
For repairing part of the Outer Cove Road.

For repairing part of the Upper Long Pond Road.

For repairing part of the Newtown Road.

For repairing part of the Old Placentia Road.

For repairing part of the Friendly Hall Road.

For repairing the Road from Blockmaker's Hall to the South River and onwards, to meet the Bay of Bulls New Road.

For making and repairing that part of the Petty Harbour Road situate between the part already made by Mr. Fithavant and Petty Harbor.

N. B. Sections and Specifications may be seen at the office of JAMES DOUGLAS, Chairman of the Board of Road Commissioners.
June 6.

Sale by Auction

EXTENSIVE
REAL ESTATE,
FOR SALE.

WILL BE SOLD

By PUBLIC AUCTION.

On WEDNESDAY,

The third day of July next,

At 11 o'clock, in the forenoon,

ON THE PREMISES

ALL that certain lot of Land or Waterside PREMISES situate in the Town of Saint John's, being a part of "KEEN'S PLANTATION", so called, bounded on the North by Water Street, on the South by the Harbour, on the East by the Premises occupied by HUNTERS & Co. and on the West by a House lately occupied by EDWARD FRANK, measuring in front about 54 feet more or less, and now occupied by the said HUNTERS & Co. under the annual rent of £50 Sterling.—This is a very valuable lot of Land, in fee simple and well worthy the attention of Capitalists, as it is bounded on the South by a Public Cove, and may be converted into an extensive Mercantile Establishment.

ALSO.

ALL that piece or parcel of LAND and PREMISES, in fee simple, situate in Saint John's, being a part of ROBERT KEEN'S Plantation, the whole lying between Duckworth Street and the road immediately in front of the Dwelling House occupied by CHRISTOPHER AYRE, Esquire, and between the lane commonly called Cantfields' Lane and Haye's, and Chancey's property, and now under lease to ELIZABETH CALVER for the annual rent of Sixty pounds currency: which Property embraces the several Houses now occupied by Mr. FREDERICK RENNIE, Mr. JOSEPH WOOLCOTT and Mr. JOSEPH BACON, and the House, Out-houses and Stables occupied by the said ELIZABETH CALVER, together with several other valuable Dwelling Houses and other Buildings.—This Property is also well worth the attention of Capitalists, and will be divided into several portions to suit purchasers; all of which portions may be converted into several valuable building lots.

ALSO,

ALL that Dwelling House and Premises, in fee simple, on the north Side of Duckworth Street lately occupied by JAMES GRANT, and occupied by PETER T. GRACE, under the yearly rent of £12, and adjoining the Dwelling House occupied by the said Elizabeth Calver; together with a Garden attached thereto.

ALSO,

WILL BE SOLD,
On SATURDAY

The Sixth day of July next,

At 11 o'clock,
ON THE PREMISES

ALL that lot of LAND and WATERSIDE PREMISES, in fee simple, lying in the Town of HARBOUR GRACE, commonly called "Keen's plantation" and now occupied by Mr. THOMAS FOLEY, at the yearly rent of £20. This is also a very desirable Property, being situate in the centre of the Town of Harbour Grace, having an advantageous Waterside, and in every way well calculated for a fine Mercantile Establishment. There are now on the Property an excellent Dwelling House, together with a Wharf and many other valuable erections.

For further particulars—application to be made to the Subscribers.

GEORGE H. EMERSON, Esq.

and

CHARLES SIMMS, Esq.

St. John's, 17th June, 1839.

TO BE LET,

For a Term, from the 20th October.

THE DWELLING-HOUSE and SHOP, with a YARD & OUT-HOUSES attached, in WATER STREET, at present in the occupancy of Mr. WHITE. The House is eligibly situated and in good repair.—Possession can be had immediately if required.

G. & R. CLAPP.

For such a Term of Years as may be agreed on from the first day of December next—

ALL those ELIGIBLE PREMISES now in the occupation of Messrs. CODNER & JENNINGS; consisting of DWELLING-HOUSE, STORES, WHARFS, &c. &c.

For particulars application may be made to Mr. WM. RICHARDS, jun., at St. John's, or in England to Mr. S. W. PRIDEAUX, Solicitor, Dartmouth.
May 22.

ON BUILDING LEASES.

ALL that Piece or Parcel of GROUND belonging to the late JOHN THOMSON Esq., extending from the Premises of Mr. JAMES MURRAY, Baker, to Apple Tree Well.—For particulars apply to

JAMES TUBRID,

April 18

Cooper

Notice.

AT a Special Meeting of the BENEVOLENT IRISH SOCIETY, convened on SUNDAY last, 16th inst., to take into consideration the propriety of Petitioning the Local Legislature for the Incorporation of the Society, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Resolved.—That the Petition now read be adopted as the Petition of the Benevolent Irish Society.
Resolved.—That a Deputation, consisting of the President, Treasurer and Secretary, be appointed to wait on His Excellency the Governor with a Copy of Petition.

Resolved.—That the Hon. WILLIAM THOMAS be requested to present Petition to Her Majesty's Legislative Council, and support its prayer.

Resolved.—That the Petition to the Honourable the House of Assembly be entrusted, for presentation, to PATRICK DOYLE and JOHN KENT, Esquires.

LAWRENCE O'BRIEN,

President.

WILLIAM POWER,

Secretary.

St. John's, June 20, 1839.

ON SALE.

HUNTERS & Co.

The Cargoes of the Schooners ANNANDALE and GEORGE, from Prince Edward Island,

CONSISTING OF

80 M. Pine and Spruce BOARDS
100 M. Pine SHINGLES
20 SPARS, from 9 @ 16 inch
3 M. Beach BILLETS
5 M. Hardwood PLANK
20 Tons SCANTLING
100 Bushels POTATOES;

AND,

THE SCHOONER

GEORGE,

Burthen 83 Tons per Register; launched in May last, and faithfully built.
June 20.

FOR SALE.

ON REASONABLE TERMS,

4 Caplin Seines, assorted sizes
And a Few Mackerel and Herring Nets,

ALSO,

Lately Received from Hamburgh,
6 Cases very excellent Cherry Brandy.

BLAND & TOBIN.

June 20.

(SALT AFLOAT)

200 Tons Cadiz SALT

For Sale by

W. & H. THOMAS & Co.

June 20.

10 Tuns Pale Seal OIL

On Sale by

CODNER & JENNINGS.

June 20.

COALS,

Provisions and Porter.

NOW LANDING

AT THE WHARF OF

PARKER & GLEESON

The Cargo of the Schr. SHANNON, just arrived from Bridgeport, loaded with Round Coals.

ALSO SELLING AT THEIR STORES,

600 Bags 2d Quality Bread

40 Bls. Rye Flour, cheap, 28s. per bl.

50 Firkins Butter, 50 Bls. Oatmeal

50 Barrels Peas

150 Tierces Davis and Strangman's Porter

30 Casks Wine (in Bond)

And sundry other articles.

June 13.

LATELY IMPORTED,

AND FOR SALE

BY

Codner & Jennings,

SUPERIOR Old Port Wine in Pipes, Hogs

heads and other Packages

Sherry Wine in Qr.-Casks

Porter and Ale in Tierces and Hogsheads

Cordage of all sizes

Canvas

Seines, Nets

Lines and Twines

Mould and Dip'd Candles

Soap

Pitch, Tar, Lime

Leatherwares

And other Articles.

May 30.



POETS CORNER.

AWAKE MY HARP!

Awake my harp! Oh! could thy strain
Sigh forth what I would fain impart!
Or must each feeling still remain
Hush'd, buried in this breaking heart?

No! I will strike thy chords, and Thou
Shalt tell thy Minstrel—hapless tale!
What he was once, what he is now—
Where words, where idle words would fail!

And thou shalt be my only friend,
My gentle harp! for you alone
Can soothe—can softest solace lend,
When all we lov'd on earth are gone.

When joy's sweet beam no more appears,
When all is ting'd with sorrow's hue;
When smiles have melted into tears
As rosiest tints to evening dew;

'Tis then we feel thy balmy power,
'Tis then we own thy tender sway;
For thou—though darkest hours may lower—
Can'st sweetly charm them all away.

And as the breeze sighs o'er the flower,
And dries the dew-drop glistening clear,
Tis thus, my harp, we feel thy power
Steal o'er the soul and dry each tear.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS IN NORWAY.

(FROM LAING'S TRAVELS IN NORWAY.)

The liberty of the press is one of the articles of the ground law. It is free for every man to print and publish what he pleases. There cannot consequently be any censorship, or any suppression of publications. But every man is responsible for what he chooses to publish. For treason or blasphemy he is amenable to public justice; but the ground law defines that to constitute the offence it must be open and intentional. Defamation or libel also on private character must be open, intentional, and false, to constitute the offence.

The state of the periodical press in a country gives a true measure of the social condition of the people, of their intelligence, their ripeness for constitutional privileges, and even of their domestic comforts. The newspapers, since I came here, have been my principal and most instructive reading. In Norway there are upwards of twenty; but some only give the advertisements and official notices of the province or town in which they appear; even these are not without interest to a stranger. It is curious to see what is to be sold or bought, and all the various transactions announced in an advertising newspaper. Of those which give also the foreign and domestic news, the most extensive circulation appears enjoyed by a daily paper called the Morgen Blad, published in Christiania. The cost of a daily paper sent by post is seven dollars, or about 28s. sterling yearly. There is no duty on newspapers; and as there are six or seven published in Christiania alone, this price is probably as low as competition can make it. In paper and type, this journal is superior to any French or German one that I have seen; and its articles of foreign news, and its editorial paragraphs, are often written with great ability. From the importance attached in all these newspapers to little local affairs, it is evident that the mass of the people, not merely an educated few, are the consumers. There being no tax on advertisements, the most trifling notice is announced, and a publisher appears to have a kind of brokerage trade at his counting-house, and to be empowered to sell or buy for parties, or at least to bring buyers and sellers together. I have seen it advertised, with a reference to the editor's counting-house, that there was a turkey cock to be sold, a cow in calf wanted, and such trifles as show, that the class to whom they are no trifles, read and have the benefit of newspapers.

The most entire freedom of discussion exists. Public men and measures are handled freely, but I cannot say injuriously or indecorously. The Norwegian newspapers, and especially their numerous correspondents, are much occupied with objects of local interests, and keep a watchful eye over the conduct of men in office, from the lensman of a parish to a minister of state. No neglect passes unseen and unnoticed; and if the accusation even of an anonymous correspondent, appears well founded, the highest functionary feels himself morally obliged to bend to public opinion, and explain the transaction. If he is unjustly or unreasonably blamed, he finds pens drawn in his defence without trouble to himself. The public functionaries have been made to feel that they are the servants, not the masters, of the public. Under the absolute government of Denmark, although authority was mildly and judiciously exercised, the functionary naturally felt himself the delegate of the master. The interest or accommodation of the public was a secondary consideration. The old officers bred in this school cannot understand the influence of public opinion, and feel rather awkward when summoned before this tribunal, perhaps by an anonymous writer, to answer for real and obvious errors in their official conduct. The temperate but firm spirit with which these controversies are carried on, the absence of any outrage on the private feelings of public men,

even when their public conduct is attacked or exposed, do honor to the good taste and good sense of the nation, and prove that a press as free as that of the United States may exist without scurrility or brutal violation of the sanctity of private life. Such newspapers as the American people read would not find editors or readers in this country. The people are advanced beyond that state, in which nothing is intelligible to them that is not mixed up with party and personal feelings. This sound state of the public mind, and of the press, may be ascribed in a great measure to the influence of the leading newspapers.

The only restriction which the executive government attempts to exercise on the periodical press—and the attempt shows a great want of tact—is that some conceived to be in a strain friendly to the views of government are allowed by special royal permission to be sent free of postage, while others, without such permission, must pay that tax. It was proposed in the last Storting, that all periodical publications should be allowed a free circulation through the post-office; and the measure was only negated by a small majority, for a reason that does honour to the Storting. They had already voted the post-office revenue *in toto*, as part of the ways and means applicable during the ensuing three years to the purposes to which the executive government applies this branch of revenue. The majority then did not consider it fair to burden, or render less productive, any branch of these ways and means, by conditions not contemplated, when previously voted. They have shown themselves thus a right-thinking, fair-dealing people. It is not doubted that the next Storting will burden the post-office with the free conveyance of all newspapers before granting its revenue. It seems therefore, ill judged to make a matter of favour to what will probably soon be made a matter of right.

In Sweden the press is under a very strict censorship. It is somewhat amusing to see published in the Norwegian newspapers the articles for which, in the sister kingdom, the publisher has been prosecuted, his newspaper suppressed, his business, and the bread of many depending on it, interrupted, as if the peace of empires had been violated; yet here the same articles are, as matter of course, given at large, commented on, circulated, read and forgotten, without producing the slightest ill consequence. Prosecutions at the instance of government have been attempted as in other countries, against the editors of newspapers; but the groundlaw is distinct, as to what constitutes an actionable offence against church, state, or individuals, in printed and published matter; and a peculiar principle in the jurisprudence of this country, which I shall endeavour to explain at another time, makes the judge responsible for, and obliged to defend as a party, the correctness of his legal decision before the Supreme Court, and that Court, a constituent part of the state, independent both of the executive and legislative, rendering it impossible, which it is not, perhaps, in Great Britain, that judges, in their decisions upon political offences, should be swayed by political feelings and party spirit. Such prosecutions have accordingly, in every instance, been determined in this country on the most impartial principles, without any leaning either towards government or towards popular feeling.

Besides newspapers, there are a considerable number of periodical and occasional works published. There is a Penny Magazine in great circulation; the matter, and even the plates, I believe, taken, or borrowed, from its English namesake; and there is another weekly magazine upon the same cheap plan. There are several monthly journals on literary, antiquarian, agricultural, and military subjects; and in almost every newspaper there is the announcement of some new work or translation. This gives a favourable impression of the advance of the mind in this country. The literature that can be strictly called Norwegian may not as yet be of very high class, compared to the standard works of other countries; but there are attempts which at last may reach excellence, and literature is but young in Norway.

SKETCHES OF EMINENT MEN.

BY SIR HUMPHRY DAVY.

VAUQUELIN was in the decline of life when I first saw him in 1813, a man who gave me the idea of the French chemists of another age; belonging rather to the pharmaceutical laboratory rather than to the philosophical one: yet he lived in the Jardin du Roi. Nothing could be more singular than his manners, his life, and his ménage. Two old maiden ladies, the Mademoiselles de Foureroy, sisters of the professor of that name, kept his house. I remember the first time that I entered it, I was ushered into a sort of bed-chamber, which likewise served as a drawing-room. One of these ladies was in bed, but employed in preparations for the kitchen; and was actually paring truffles. Vauquelin wished some immediately to be dressed for my breakfast, and I had some difficulty to prevent it. Nothing could be more extraordinary than the simplicity of his conversation; he had not the slightest tact, and, even in the presence of young ladies, talked of subjects which, since the paradisaical times, never have been the objects of common conversation.

CUVIER had even in his address and manner the character of a superior man; much general power and eloquence in conversation, and a great variety of information on scientific as well as popular subjects. I should say of him that he is the most distinguished man of talents I have known; but I doubt if he is entitled to the appellation of a man of genius.

DE HUMBOLDT was one of the most agreeable men I have ever known; social, modest, full of intelligence, with facilities of every kind: almost too fluent in conversation. His travels display his spirit of enterprise. His works are monuments of the variety of his knowledge and resources.

GAY-LUSSAC was quick, lively, ingenious and profound, with great activity of mind, and great facility of manipulation, I should place him at the head of the living chemists of France.

BERTHOLLET was a most amiable man; when the friend of Napoleon even, always good, conciliatory, and modest, frank, and candid. He had no airs and many graces. In every way below La Place in intellectual powers, he appeared superior to him in moral qualities: Berthollet had no appearance of a man of genius, but one could not look on La Place's physiognomy, without being convinced that he was a very extraordinary man.

LA PLACE, when a minister of Napoleon was rather formal and grand in manner, with an air of protection rather than of courtesy. He spoke like a man not merely feeling his own power, but wishing that others should be immediately conscious of it. I have heard, from good authority, that he was exceedingly proud of his orders, and that he had the star of the order of re-union affixed to his dressing-gown. This was in 1813. In 1820 when I saw him again, his master had fallen. His manners were altered. He was become mild and gentlemanlike; and had a softer tone of voice, and more grace in the forms of salutation. I remember the first day I saw him, which was, I believe, in November 1813. On my speaking to him of the atomic theory in chemistry and expressing my belief that the science would ultimately be referred to mathematical laws, similar to those which he had so profoundly and successfully established with respect to the mechanical properties of matter, he treated my idea in a tone bordering on contempt, as if angry that any results in chemistry could, even in their future possibilities, be compared with his own labours. When I dined with him in 1820, he discussed the same opinion with acumen and candour, and allowed all the merit of John Dalton. It is true our positions had changed. He was now amongst the old aristocracy of France, and was no longer the intellectual head of the new aristocracy; and, from a young and humble aspirant to chemical glory, I was about to be called, by the voice of my colleagues, to a chair which had been honoured by the last days of Newton.

SIR JOSEPH BANKS was a good-humoured and liberal man, free and various in conversational power, a tolerable botanist, and generally acquainted with natural history. He had not much reading, and no profound information. He was always ready to promote the objects of men of science; but he required to be regarded as a patron, and readily swallowed gross flattery. When he gave anecdotes of his voyages he was very entertaining and unaffected. A courtier in character, he was a warm friend to a good king. In his relations to the Royal Society he was too personal, and made his house a circle too like a court.

ANECDOTE OF ZUMALCARREGUY.

A SOLDIER stepped out of the ranks, and complained that forty ounces of gold, about £120 which he had taken from a dead officer of the Christinos, had been seized by one of the staff, under pretext that all arms, horses, and money taken belonged to the king. The officer charged with this was a man chiefly known in the army under his surname of Malasco, or the "headstrong"; he was one of those characters who, in the broil and ferment of unquiet times are often borne upwards; he had long been celebrated as the most notoriously quarrelsome and desperate character in the country, and was accused of having amongst other misdeeds, shot an alcalde who had once fined him, for which he was condemned to the galleys. His present spouse was the widow of an officer in the constitutional army whom he had killed in the Carrascal; it was said, however, in a fair fight. During the early part of the insurrection he had rendered the Carlists such services, that his former rank of captain was given him. His countenance, dark and scarred with the marks of innumerable frays, was of most forbidding aspect, and bore the trace of all the brutal passions by which he was swayed. Zumalcarreguy immediately inquired what he had done with the soldier's money. He stoutly denied ever having seen the man, and threatened him with the bastinado for his impudence. Another witness now stepped out of the ranks, and corroborated the complainant's statement. Malasco very coolly said that they were both liars. The sword of Zumalcarreguy, who was now convinced of the glaring injustice of the case, in an instant flashed over the head of the criminal, and he swore to cleave him down to the belt if he did not instantly produce the money. Malasco, who perhaps dreaded nothing either in this world or the next more than the general, instantly flung the purse to the ground, and after this public exposure skulked off, muttering between his teeth, like a surly dog which has been deprived of a bone. The soldier was ordered to pick it up, count it, and re-enter the ranks. Malasco was disgraced, and only in some degree restored to favour on having had some time after his arm broken between Cirauki and Meneru, where all men's passions, good and evil, are in extremes, as in Spain,

A land

Where law secures not life,
and they are to a great degree loose and unbridled

by the ordinary restraints of society. Such characters are unfortunately too often met with.

POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF DINNER-GIVING

Tenez bonne table et soignez les femmes, was the sum of Napoleon's instructions to the Abbé de Pradt, when dispatched to gain Poland over to his cause. From Sir Robert Walpole's time downwards the English Whigs have acted on Napoleon's maxim with singular and well-merited success; and it would be a curious subject of speculation to consider to what extent Lord Holland's and Lord Sefton's dinners, with Lord Lansdowne's evening parties, have contributed towards that series of innovations which the Melbourne cabinet are pleased to denominate reforms. No one who knows any thing of human nature will deny that it is of the last importance to a party to have a few noble or highly distinguished houses, where all its rank and beauty, wit, eloquence, accomplishment, and agreeability may congregate; where above all, each young recruit of promise may be received on an apparent footing of equality, his feelings taken captive by kindness, or his vanity conciliated by flattery. Many a time has the successful deputy in Parliament, or the author just rising into note, repaired to Berkeley-Square or Kensington with unsettled views and wavering expectations fixed, in nothing but to attach himself for a time to no party. He is received with that cordial welcome, which, as the Rev. Sidney Smith very truly observes, warms more than dinner or wine; he is presented to a host of literary, social, and political celebrities, with whom it has been for years his fondest ambition to be associated: it is gently insinuated that he may become an actual member of that brilliant circle by willing it, or his acquaintance is tacitly and imperceptibly assumed; till, thrown off his guard on the intoxication of the moment, he finds or thinks himself irrecoverably committed, and suppressing any lurking inclination towards Toryism, becomes deeply and definitively Whig. Far be it from us to say or insinuate that the hospitality of these noble houses is calculated with direct reference to an end; for we believe both Lord Holland and Lord Lansdowne to be actuated by real respect for intellectual excellence, and a praise-worthy desire to rouse it to that position in society which is its due. Our observation applies merely to the effects, as to which, unless we are strangely misinformed, the head of the present cabinet agrees with us. At least, just before the breaking up of his former ministry in November 1834, Lord Melbourne had announced an intention of giving a series of entertainments, on very comprehensive principles, with an especial view to proselytism; and his most confidential secretary ran about everywhere to notify the hourly-expected advent of some unrivalled cases of Champaign. Lord Palmerston, again, is re-deemed from the last extremity of political degradation by his cook. A distinguished member of the diplomatic body was lately overheard remarking to an Austrian nobleman, "C'est vrai, il set un peu ridicule ce pouver Cupidum-par un peu, peut etre-mais on dine fort bien chez lui." [From the Quarterly Review.]

"MY OLD HOUSE."

This is the odd title of a book recently put forth by a gentleman who, it is said, upholds in his own person the singular combination of a Tory, an enthusiast, a professor of religion, and a Spinozist. This strange being makes, in his odd-named volume, an open avowal and defence of materialism, which he seems to have borrowed from the Pantheists, as they are called, of Germany; and he attempts to accommodate Christianity to that dreary system. He asserts it to be a capital error to hold that there is in the universe matter inert and matter living, or that there are two distinct existences, matter and spirit. On the contrary, he avers that all is matter, and that every particle of matter has in itself every law and every property of every other particle of matter; that motion, figure, space, duration, number, intelligence, are but part of the infinite variety of attributes of every particle of matter. Each particle, then, operating in an infinite variety of ways, on an infinite number of others equally endowed, gives birth to an infinite variety of forms of existence, all living, all active, equally in the mountain's rock, ribbed and ancient as the sun, and in the brains of the kid that browses on their summits. He maintains that in all these changes, infinite in variety, in number, in extent, final disorder can never come. Carrying the calculation to infinitude, every step is harmonious; vary the figure to eternity, the result, as in the kaleidoscope, is still proportion and beauty. The "sum of all," or "the great whole," is what, according to this singular person, men call God. What he takes his own soul to be we know not, unless he suppose that it is one of these "particles" living for a time in one of the infinite varieties of its modes of being. The whole, indeed, is as like the dream of a disordered imagination as anything we have ever read. It is in vain that ignorant man struggles with his fetters. The great enigma is only to be solved in the pages of revelation. As for the politics of which the greater part of "My Old House" consists, they are, (a few beautiful passages excepted) about as worthless as its theology.

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