

REFLECTIONS ON WINTER.

Oh Winter, ruler of the inverted year
Thy scattered hair with sleet like ashes filled,
Thy breath congealed upon thy lips, thy cheeks
Fringed with a hoar white with other snows
Than those of age, thy forehead wrapt in clouds,
A leafless branch thy sceptre, and thy throat
A sliding car, indebted to no wheels,
But urged by storms along its slippery way
I love thee, all unlovely as thou seemest,
And dreaded as thou art.

THIS season of the year leads the contemplative mind, to inquire into the nature and causes of several interesting and wonderful appearances in nature. Winter, in gloomy terms of "clouds and storms," piercing cold, and overwhelming snow; with the dreary aspect of desolated fields and woods, lately clothed in all the delightful verdure of Summer, and loaded with the rich abundance of Harvest; while it excites, in general, only melancholy reflections, is yet fraught with instructions of Divine Wisdom, to the man who examines the works of nature, with the desire of learning the wonderful, the glorious, and the beneficent ways of the Supreme Being, in the management of his great creation.

The various phenomena of Winter, have attracted the attention, and exercised the talents, of Philosophers and Poets in all ages, in investigating their nature, causes and effects; and in describing their appearances, with all the glowing colours and sublimity of Poetry. "Thomson, who was fond, even in his earliest years, of viewing Nature, not only in her beautiful and smiling aspects, but also in the frowning, the terrific, and the sublime, has, of all Poets ancient or modern, exhibited the noblest group of Winter imagery. He thus introduces Winter, approaching with all the gloomy pomp of personification."

See Winter comes, to rule the varied year
Sullen and sad, with all his rising train
Vapours, and clouds, and storms. Betwixt my theme
These! that exalt the soul to solemn thought,
And heavenly musing. Welcome kindred glooms!
Congenial horrors, hail! with frequent foot,
Pleased have I, in the cheerful morn of life,
When nursed by careless solitude I lived,
And sung of Nature with unceasing joy,
Pleased have I wandered through your rough domain;
Trod the pure virgin snows, myself as pure;
Heard the winds roar, and the big torrent burst;
Or seen the deep fermenting tempest brewed,
In the grim evening sky.

But his view of Winter in the polar circle, surpasses every thing that has been written on the subject. "He there soars over deserts of snow, and oceans of ice, to the pole itself; and here again personifies Winter, and enthrones him in dreadful solitude, and magnificent desolation."

Still pressing on, beyond Tornea's lake,
And Hecla, flaming through a waste of snows,
And farthest Greenland, to the pole itself,
Where falling gradual, life at length goes out,
The Muse expands her solitary flight;
And, hovering o'er the wide stupendous scene,
Beholds new seas beneath another sky.
Throned in his palace of cerulean ice,
Here Winter holds his unrejoicing court;
And through his airy hall, the loud misrule
Of driving tempest is for ever heard.
Here the grim tyrant meditates his wrath;
Here arms his winds with all-subduing frost;
Moulds his fierce hail, and treasures up his snows;
With which he now oppresses half the globe.

From this dreadfully sublime description of winter, let us turn our thoughts to the social enjoyments which, in this country, are usually connected with that season; and which, from the hurry and bustle of business, can seldom be enjoyed in the gay and smiling seasons of the year. The beneficent Author of Nature, has not placed us, even during the inclement season of winter, beyond the reach of rational and pleasing delights. On the contrary, the greater length of our evenings, and even the severity of the cold, which renders fireside enjoyments doubly pleasing, seem peculiarly well adapted to social joys. Cowper, with all the sweetness of his disposition, has described, in an admirable strain of poetry, the social joys of a winter evening. The piece is too long to be wholly transcribed here: yet I cannot help transcribing the following lines, which cannot fail of being acceptable to all the lovers of social and domestic delights. Addressing Winter, he says:

Thou haldest the sun
A prisoner in the yet undawning east,
Shortening his journey between morn and noon,
And hurrying him, impatient of his stay,
Down to the rosy west; but kindly still
Compensating his loss with added hours
Of social converse and instructive ease:
And gathering, at short notice, in one group,
The family dispersed, and fixing thought,
Not less dispersed by day-light and its cares,
I crown thee king of intimate delights,
Fire-side enjoyment, home-born happiness,
And all the comforts that the lowly roof
Of undisturbed retirement, and the hours
Of long winter nights, can ever know.

Winter, in this country, occupies about one half of the year; as its commencement, in most parts, may, in general, be fixed at the beginning of November, and its termination, seldom before the end of April. To be six months out of the twelve, exposed to the rigours of cold, frost and snow, and, when looking round on the earth, to behold, in the dreary uniformity which in winter is frequently presented to the view, nothing but Nature, as it were, in a state of ruin and desolation; may, in many instances, have a saddening and depressing effect on the mind. Yet it were well in those cases to reflect that the gloom occasioned by such views of Winter arises in a great measure from ignorance of the ways of God, - of the beneficial effects which result from even that forbidding season, and from not reflecting that, in this respect, we are still more highly favored, than the Inhabitants of some regions of the Globe, who are certainly no less the objects of God's paternal care, than we are. The following Calendar of a Siberian or Lapland year, which may be relied on as correct, will show that we possess immense advantages of season, compared to the Inhabitants of those countries:

CALENDAR OF A SIBERIAN OR LAPLAND YEAR.

June 23.	Snow melts,
July 1.	Snow gone,
9.	Fields quite green,
17.	Plants in full growth,
25.	Plants in flower,

August 4, Fruits ripe,
10, Plants shed their seed,
18 Snow, And from August 18
to June 23, Snow and Ice. Thus the whole of their summer is included in less than two months.

Notwithstanding the greater coldness of winter, it has been demonstrated by Astronomers, that the Sun is really nearer to the earth in this season, than in Summer. The principal cause of this difference is that, in Winter, the Sun's rays fall so obliquely upon us, and have so large a portion of the atmosphere to pass through, that any given number of them is spread over a much greater portion of the earth's surface; and therefore each point has fewer rays than in Summer, or when the Sun is at a greater height above the Horizon. There comes, moreover, a greater degree of cold in the long Winter nights, than can be compensated for by the return of heat in the short days; and on both these accounts the cold must necessarily increase.

Severe and rigorous as Winter is described to be, its various scenes cannot fail to suggest to a contemplative mind, many subjects of gratitude. The woods, which in summer, delighted us with their verdure and variety of hue, now furnish the grateful heat, to render the mansions, which they also have principally contributed to raise, comfortable in the keenest attacks of the piercing cold. The flocks and herds which fed in our pastures, in the short, but smiling and luxuriant season of summer, have now resigned their coverings to protect us from the cold, and even themselves as food to support our bodies, and enable us to sustain the storms of Winter, and the toils of life. Nor are these the only advantages they yield. They also furnish materials for illuminating our otherwise dark and cheerless habitations, in the long evenings of Winter, whether these are devoted to study, to business, or to pleasure. The fruits of autumn also, contribute, in a very high degree, to the enjoyments of this season; and the Great Author of our being, who orders all things for good, and in the best manner possible, has them prepared for our reception and use, before the sky is "armed with all-subduing frost."

Winter belongs not less to the Divine plan, than the more pleasing seasons of the year. Were there no Winter, neither Spring nor Summer, nor Autumn, would display such a variety of beauties as they do; and the earth itself would lose those rich stores of nourishment and fertility, to which Winter so copiously contributes. The fancy may be delighted with the idea of perennial Spring, and of Groves adorned with continual verdure; yet the human mind, ever anxious for new gratifications, would revolt from the idea of perpetual sameness and uniformity, even in the most beautiful scenes of nature. Brighter will appear the verdant robes, which the woods assume in Spring, when contrasted with their late leafless and inhospitable appearance; and, as "hope waits upon the flowery prime," the fruits and flowers, when they bud, will delight the soul, in sweet anticipation, with all the pride of Summer, and all the riches of Autumn. "As Providence has made the human soul an active being, always impatient for novelty, and struggling for something yet unenjoyed, with unwearied progression, the world seems to be eminently adapted to this disposition of the mind: it is formed to raise expectation by constant vicissitudes, and to obviate satiety by perpetual change." What reason we have to exclaim with the Psalmist, "O Lord, how manifold is thy works! In wisdom thou hast made them all: the earth is full of thy riches."

Samuel Smiler, Jun.

BEGS leave to inform his Friends and the Public, that he has commenced Business as

FANCY and WINDSOR CHAIR-MAKER,

at his Shop in Queen's-Square, where he hopes by a strict attention in his avocation, to merit a participation of the favors of the Public.

Having engaged a first rate Workman, lately from England, he will be enabled to furnish GRECIAN CHAIRS, &c. at the shortest notice.

Fancy, Windsor, and other Chairs, made to any pattern to suit purchasers on the shortest notice.

Tables, Bureaus, Writing Desks, and all kinds of Household Furniture, made in the neatest manner, and of the best seasoned materials, upon reasonable terms.

Orders from the Country will be duly attended to.

Any order for Chairs or other Furniture, left with Mr. GEO. K. LUGRIN, Printer, Fredericton, will meet with due attention, and of whom Chairs, &c. may be had.

St. John, 1st December, 1818.

LAND & MARSH FOR SALE.

At the Court-House at Newcastle, on Tuesday the 2d day of March next,

TWO LOTS of excellent Upland, situated below Oak Point, and FIVE HALF LOTS of Marsh, on the Grand Down, being the property of the late Florence Robichaux, deceased. For further particulars and description of the Property, enquire of James Davidson, at Oak Point. Miramichi, 17th Nov. 1818.

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of ALEX. MURDOCH, late of Miramichi, deceased, are requested to render the same duly attested, and all those indebted to said Estate are desired to make immediate payment to

GEORGE MURDOCH,
Sole Administrator.

Miramichi, 14th Feb. 1819.

Sheriff's Sales.

TO BE SOLD,

AT PUBLIC AUCTION,

On Wednesday the 30th June next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Market-House,

LOT No. 29, in the Parish of Northampton, containing 400 acres more, or less, taken in execution from SAMUEL CARNEY, by a Writ of fieri facias, issued out of the Supreme Court, at the Suit of JOHN L. VENNOR, for £46:12:7.

AND

LOTS No. 51 and 52, in the Parish of St. Mary's, containing 400 acres, more or less, taken in execution from MICHAEL and CHRISTOPHER HANSON, by a Writ of fieri facias, issued out of the Supreme Court, at the Suit of JONATHAN SISSON, for £43:15:7.

The whole will be struck off on the above day to the highest bidder, by

THE SHERIFF OF YORK.

Fredericton, 29th December, 1818.

VALUABLE PROPERTY For Sale.

THAT valuable and noted FARM situate at the confluence of the Naquewickack Stream and River Saint John, containing 770 Acres of Land, between thirty and forty of which are well cleared, and free from stumps, would at present, cut from 15 to 20 Tons of Hay, and may be made at a very small expence, to cut 40 or 50. It is 120 Rods front, and runs three miles back; takes in both sides of the Stream, which is excellent Intervale and abounds with Grass; there is also a quantity of good Pine Timber upon it, some of which is near the River; it has numerous other advantages, and an excellent opportunity is now offered to the industrious Farmer, and to those who may be desirous of obtaining a good situation for a Tavern or Store; a Ferry is about to be established on the Property, which will also add to its value. For particulars enquire of Captain SHORE, Fredericton, or of Major M'KAY, at the Naquewickack. Fredericton, 23d March, 1818.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons having any Demands against the Estate of Sarah Allan, late of the parish of Nelson, deceased, are requested to render their accounts duly attested, within six calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said Estate, are desired to make immediate payment to

JOSEPH SAUNDERS, | Executors.
JOHN CLARK, |
Miramichi, 2d Feb. 1819. 6m.

P. FRASER,

HAS just received per the Ships Wellington, from London; Waterloo, from Liverpool; and the Benlomond, from Glasgow, a general assortment of DRY GOODS and GROCERIES, suitable for the season; all of which will be sold low for Cash, Furs, or Bills of Exchange.

N.B.--- Those indebted to him to the 24th December last, are requested to settle their respective balances without delay.

Fredericton, 9th June, 1818.

TWO PENCE REWARD.

RAN away from the Subscriber, on the 19th December last, Absalom Titus, an Indented Apprentice, about 16 years of age—common size, dark complexion. All persons are forbid trusting said Boy on my account; and whoever will apprehend him, shall receive the above Reward, and no charges paid.

JAMES CRISTY.

Maugerville, 6th Jan. 1819.

JUST RECEIVED,

And now opening for Sale by the Subscriber.

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF DRY GOODS,

PORT, SHERRY, and WINES VIDONIA,

Bottle and Draught PORTER; Vinegar; Holland Gin; Cogniac Brandy; Loaf Sugar; Teas; double and single Gloucester Cheese; Shell Almonds; Raisins; Soap & Candles; Confectionary; Drugs; Nails of all sorts; Bar Iron; Window Glass, &c. all of which he now offers for Sale low for Cash or approved Credit.

JEDEDIAH SLASON.

Fredericton, 20th June, 1818.

NOTICES.

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of the late PETER CRISTY, Esq. of Saint Stephens, deceased, are desired to render their accounts duly attested, within twelve months from the date hereof; and all those indebted to said Estate, are requested to make immediate payment to

NANY CRISTY, Adm'x.
St. Stephen's, 19th Sept. 1818.

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of DONALD M'LEOD, Junior, late of the Parish of Ludlow, deceased, are requested to render their Accounts, duly attested, within twelve calendar months from the date hereof; and all Persons indebted to said Estate, are desired to make immediate payment to

JAMES ABBOTT, | Administrators.
ABEL POND, |
Miramichi, 25th February, 1818.

ALL Persons having any just demands against the Estate of the late JOHN M'KEEN, deceased, are requested to present the same duly attested within twelve calendar months from the date hereof; and all those indebted to said Estate are desired to make immediate payment to

MARGARET M'KEEN, Administratrix.
WILLIAM M'KEEN, Administrator.
Maugerville, 10th April, 1818.

ALL PERSONS

HAVING any demands against the Estate of HENRY GREEN, late of Queensborough deceased, are requested to present the same duly attested---and all those indebted to said estate are desired to make immediate payment to

ELIZABETH GREEN, Administratrix
JOHN DAYTON, Administrator.
Queensborough, 1st March, 1818.

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of the late JOHN M'LEOD, deceased, will render their accounts for adjustment, and those indebted to said Estate will make immediate payment.

JEDEDIAH SLASON, | Executors.
M. NEEDHAM, |
Fredericton, 7th April 1818.

ALL PERSONS

HAVING any demands against the Estate of JOHN DAYTON, late of Queensborough, deceased, are requested to render their accounts duly attested; and those indebted to said Estate, are desired to make immediate payment to

CATHARINE DAYTON, Adm'x.
Queensborough, 7th Nov. 1818.

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of WILLIAM BETTS, late of Miramichi deceased, are requested to render their accounts attested within twelve months from the date hereof; and those indebted to said Estate are desired to make immediate payment to

JARED BETTS, Administrator.
Miramichi, 5th October, 1818.

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of CAMEL MURRAY, late of Miramichi, deceased, are requested to render their accounts attested within twelve months from the date hereof; and all those indebted to said Estate are desired to make immediate payment to

JARED BETTS, | Administrators.
ROBT. YOUNG, |
Miramichi, 5th October, 1818. 6m.

ALL those Indebted to the Subscriber, neglecting to settle, their Accounts will be put in the hands of an Attorney to collect.

JEDEDIAH SLASON.

Fredericton, 9th March, 1818.

ALL Persons having just demands against the Estate of Norman M'Ledelan, late of the County of Northumberland, Yeoman, are requested to render the same duly attested, within three months from the date hereof; and all those indebted to the said Estate, are requested to make immediate payment to

RICH. SIMONDS, Adm'x.
Newcastle, Northumberland, }
8th Nov. 1818. }

NOTICE.

THE Subscriber earnestly requests those persons indebted to JAMES FRASER, FRASER & DONALDSON, and FRASER, DONALDSON & Co. (all of Fredericton) that they will call and pay their respective balances without delay.

M. NEEDHAM.

Fredericton, 6th Oct. 1818.

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