

yet come to a resolution of communicating them to the public. They would indeed draw me out of that obscurity which I have enjoyed for many years, and expose me in public places to several salutes and civilities, which have been always very disagreeable to me; for the greatest pain I can suffer, is the being talked to, and being stared at. It is for this reason likewise, that I keep my complexion and dress as very great secrets; though it is not impossible that I may make discoveries of both in the progress of the work I have undertaken.

After having been thus particular upon myself, I shall in tomorrow's paper give an account of those gentlemen who are connected with me in this work; for, as I have before insinuated, a plan of it is laid and concerted as all other matters of importance are, in a club. However, as my friends have engaged me to stand in the front, those who have a mind to correspond with me, may direct their letters to the Spectator, at Mr. Buckley's in Little Britain. For I must further acquaint the reader, that though our club meets only on Tuesdays and Thursdays, we have appointed a committee to sit every night for the inspection of all such papers as may contribute to the advancement of the public weal.

* A coffee house, stood in St Paul's Church yard and was much visited by the clergy.

The North Star.

CHATHAM, N. B., DECEMBER 4, 1880.

J. E. COLLINS, Editor.

THE SPIRIT OF LATEST DISPATCHES.

No war rumors.
A woman named Teakles dropped dead of heart disease in Sackville, Thursday.
A man named Mills working for T. McMann & Sons near Sackville yesterday, was killed by a falling tree.
There is a lull in Irish affairs; but the League grows each day in number and in moral force.
President Garfield is on the stump in the United States now—for what purpose it is hard to see.
Sir Leonard Tilley has taken the temperance platform in Upper Canada. This is a recreation for the worthy knight.
The Montenegrius now have peaceful possession of Dulcigno—not through Gladstones good management though.
Parnell and others will try to have their day of trial changed, because as now fixed it would interfere with their attendance at Parliament.

OUR LUMBERMEN.

This has been a bright, glad season for many lumbermen on the Miramichi. Some years ago, lumbering paid, and not only that, but those engaged in it, laid up much money. Most of those who laid money by in the years of plenty, were fortified, and felt they were, against evil times, should any come,—and come they did. Up to this season, for several years past, the trying time was with them; each year proved worse than another; each year eating into what was left after the former years deficit had been made up. Most of our lumbermen bore bravely through the pinch, some taking in canvass so to speak, and cutting their business down to what they felt would be about able to sustain itself. But this only refers to those who did business on their own recognition: for others there were, to whom it did not matter so much how blown the trade wind; for there were parties across the water who had means enough to see them through. But only one or two were fortunate enough to stand on such lucky ground as this: one was Mr. Jabez Snowball. He acts as agent or middle-man here for one of the strongest lumber firms across the water, but he is invested with considerable power in the way of investments and enterprise in the business. In other words the parties guarantee that his transactions shall be safe for those with whom he treats.

This dispels the mystery which has hung around Mr. Snowball's business for these past years; it explains away the puzzle that he who began with nothing, and who has carried on a heavy business since, through the trying seas, has been able to keep his head above water. Mr. Snowball went behind him, like others, during these years; but he was in the fortunate position of having nothing to lose, any one year during the pinching era, while the others had.

In the outset the firm we speak of saw Mr. Snowball, and thought they could get no better man to represent them here, for they wanted an agent right on the lumber ground who could treat with the men as they passed with their axes by his door. They saw more than this, that the means were all he wanted so they

said, "Here now, give us all you get, and we will back you. If times brighten up you can be square with us and have something for yourself—if they do not, we will stand by you a few years anyway. We will sell all we can, what we can, you must do the best you can with." Well, the times did become worse, but the firm seeing Mr. Snowball's struggles, did not drop him, but generously lent their shoulders while he passed over the treacherous ground. How long more they might have done so, had not Providence and better policy given us a new era we cannot say,—but his friends trembled for the consequences.

But the new season has set in; it may be called the bright spot of the last dark years, and every firm here has rolled up large profits from the same. But the profits great though they may have been, will fall far short indeed of paying the deficits of other years by those who began with nothing or making good the capital sunk by those who began with the husbandings of better times.

THE BARD OF TANTRAMAR.

Well, but it is gratifying to see a man having the courage of his convictions, especially if his convictions be of a poetical cast. Dr. Chandler the much revered poet of the Tantramar marshes, has sent a letter to a late number of the Moncton Times, which has settled a matter, for a long time keeping the world by the ears, namely that he said Dr. Chandler poet laureate of Tantramar, and writer to the Times, is a good poet. This then, we suppose, must settle the matter, and take the question out of the critic's hands. The poet thus expresseth himself on the point:

"Let me tell him, [the Editor of the STAR.] Dr. Chandler, with a literary reputation already securely established, can well afford to laugh at such insolence and flummery; and his ode 'The Nativity' his 'Sylvalla' and other songs will live, and long survive the feeble twaddle of this Northern 'blank' poet.

We have no doubt but "his songs will live" a long time; for books not read last a thousand years, but as a friend of the poets, we would recommend him to keep the book in a dry place. Dr. Chandler, the fact of the business is, as we said in our own poem, is not understood and therefore is not appreciated. It was so with Shakespeare, so with Milton, so with Wordsworth; and so it is with the founder of the Tantramar school of poetry. These men were dead a long time before they were appreciated,—and Dr. Chandler will also be dead a long time before he is appreciated. This is what we tried to prove in our excellent poem on the question the other day, but the poet in his humility thought we were jibing him. But we were not—we have too much reverence for genius to mock its votaries. There is a whole array of poets before whose shrines we bow, and the Tantramar poet is of their school. One of them writes—

Pretty Miss Jacqueline
Had a nose aquiline
And would assert rude
Things of Miss Gertrude.

And another in a lay to the scion of Braganza's House says—

"Princely offspring of Braganza
Erin greets thee with a stanza."

And then we have the Tantramar poet coming in and crying out in the anguish of his poetical desire, as he sees two pugnacious male sheep fighting down in the field—

"O for a lay, loud as the surge
That lashes Laplands sounding shore
To express my thoughts these sheep upon."

Or going out to the Bay of Fundy, getting upon a scow, closing his eyes, and preparing to make a poem on the ocean that will for ever cast Byron into the shade; and then opening said eyes, and with a look of heaven's inspiration, as he gazes out upon the sea, exclaiming—

"O thou reservoir of immortal dampness!"

There is also a touching ode "To a cockroach," that we cannot find now, but it further reveals the genius of the Tantramar poet. We are sorry that the Westmorland poet misunderstood us.

MR. JACK'S VISIT.

MR. EDWARD JACK is yet engaged in the hemlock forests of Kent. He goes to St. John and Fredericton in a couple of days, and returns again, to complete his mission. The Surveyor General is at every pains collecting such information as will make his report this year of more than ordinary value, and it is quite probable it will contain information of a class never before offered to the public. For many years past it has been customary with heads of the Crown Lands Department, to publish long, dreary, uninteresting and unimportant tables from the Free Grants Settlements. Every pig and hen that Mr. Hans Petersen, or some other Petersen raised was paraded; and if we do not mistake one year they graded the potato crop into big,

middle sized and small; told how many barrels were dug from each and every acre and so on. If it is necessary at all to give such information, an average of the crops and the totals would be sufficient; while there is a class of information hitherto unseen in the reports which should take the place of the stuff mentioned.

We have some reason to believe that in this matter, as he has done in the various other departments of his office, Hon. Michael Adams will make a vast improvement; and if we can judge of Mr. Jack's visit now, to this end he is co-operating with the Surveyor General in the matter of ascertaining all that can be known respecting our hemlock forests.

A PITIABLE STATE OF AFFAIRS.

It is really too bad that rowdies are allowed to roam over the streets at their own sweet will, drunk and shouting, without let or hindrance; and that of all the house breaking, shop-lifting and window prying that we have heard of of late, not one case has been detected by the police. It is not an unrequited thing, as you walk out at night through the town, here and there to meet, by some dark alleyway some prowling character, who as if to avoid detection turns away his head or raises his elbow to conceal his face as soon as you look at him. Such persons are bent on nothing good; and such persons may be reckoned by the dozen now in this very town. It is they who visit the shops at night and pry open the windows; or enter the back kitchen if it be unguarded. The police, we regret to say, never pay any attention to these burglars. We are not a Goliath; we are not strong enough of our own will to make public officers do their duties—duties that are so staring plain; but we have written and rewritten upon the subject and though so far we have not effected much, yet we are not without hopes that in the end our exertions will be in a large measure successful.

It is the harmless creatures who lie down to sleep when drunk, that the police drag off to jail; never those who hellow through the streets like wild animals, using God's holy name in the most dreadful way. To pass by some of the liquor stores at a late hour, and to hear some of the deizens on retiring, swear as they do, is enough to chill ones blood. These the police are afraid to meddle with. A reporter of the STAR informs us that last night he called at the Theatre: that while there he not only saw the two policemen there enjoying themselves with the rest, but actually behaving like rowdies insulting persons who went in. We have no reason to doubt this; and if it be true, the police officers should be brought before the police magistrate—and then if he failed to do what the law requires someone should be put in his place who would carry out the law.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

Sir Charles Tupper has lately been before the Railway Commission at Ottawa, and by his straight forward and clear evidence exploded the hopes indulged by the opposition of discovering a mine of corruption. Nothing can seem more reasonable to the meanest mind than Sir Charles' statement; and nothing more fair and honorable than the action of the Government in letting contracts. The opposition papers raised a great howl when Mr. Chapleau's conduct was proven to have been crooked; as if the evil doings of a clerk, who covered his tracks as he went were a tarnish on the Government. The sin of Judas surely was not a tarnish on the religion of which he was once the professor. At any rate the men who talk the loudest now about the crooked doings of clerks, are the same men who awarded contracts to their own brothers in preference to worthy tenderers at lower figures; and who held Government contracts at the same time that they carried Government portfolios. We are glad Sir Charles evidence has come—and we are glad he has permission from His Excellency to state everything in any way connected with the matters up for investigation.

Mr. Timothy Anglin is shocked to death, poor man, at the corruption! He was once upon a time a Speaker of the Commons and at the same time had a heavy printing contract from the Government for his Freeman in his pocket, though he was well versed in the Independence of Parliament Act. What pure creatures these Grits are to be sure.

JUDGE WELDON.

Judge Weldon has announced that he will linger on the bench for an indefinite period longer, but he has not stated whether he intends providing his own bed there, or whether he expects the Government to find him one.

Mr. A. Gibson sent 94 Ships from St. John this season. He stands away at the head of all the shippers. The exports from St. John this season are far in excess of last years exports.

The Richibucto shippers, says the Times, sent out 56 vessels this season.

THE REVENUE.

The N. P. is ruining this country, and note how it is doing it. The customs revenue at the following ports for November, 1879 and '80, is as follows:

| 1879. | ST JOHN. | 1880. |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| \$47,112.45 | | \$72,031.39 |
| Increase over 50 per cent! | | |

| 1879. | HALIFAX. | 1880. |
|-------------|----------|-------------|
| \$56,515.75 | | \$73,718.42 |

| 1879. | TORONTO. | 1880. |
|--------------|----------|--------------|
| \$144,237.71 | | \$171,076.23 |

And about the same from every other port.

The total of revenue collected in the Dominion for the month past, was \$480,607 in excess of the revenue for November 1879.

For the five past months of the fiscal year the total increase has been \$3,059,968!! We have been predicting a surplus of five millions for Sir Leonard at the end of the year, under this blasting N. P. and it seems as if we are not going to be much astray.

OUR FIRST PAGE.

On our first page today we publish the introductory paper of the Spectator series. Notice the clear, pure diction, telling its story with out haste or confusion and running along smoothly as a beautiful stream. Such of our readers as have any taste for refined writings, and who will not regard Addison and Steele Conservatives, because their letters appear in the STAR, might cut out each letter as it is published and put it in their scrap-books. There is nothing in English literature better worth preserving. We publish a paper every Saturday, in the Semi-Weekly and said paper will be transferred into the Weekly on Monday.

In another column we publish a very interesting paper on Florida, written for the STAR, by a gentleman who spent some years in that country. It will be continued in one or two other issues.

The Allans have launched another new iron Steamer the Parisian, on the Clyde. She is 5,400 tons with a displacement of 10,000 tons. All the steamers of this line end with the letters "ian."

We have another very interesting version of the Clear Water Whooper, which we will publish in our next.

Prussia will hereafter suppress all betting on race courses. This is a wise hint for Canada.

War between Egypt and Abyssinia is imminent.

Life in Florida.

THE APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTRY; ITS TREES, AND FRUIT; ITS BEAT ETC.—SWARMS OF PELICANS—SHOOTING ALIGATORS.

[Written for the STAR.]

It was Ponce de Leon who looked in raptures upon this land: and as he stood bathed in its glowing light, fancied in the joy of his heart that he had found the fountain of eternal youth, the *El Dorado*, for he had grown old, and the warmth of this balmy region inspired him with new life, as it banished the torturing agonies of rheumatism. In writing you a description of Florida, I will confine myself strictly to facts, and as narrative is the best channel through which to convey my story, in that form will I put it.

In the winter, Florida is seen to best advantage because the season is then tempered down to what we northerners want, and because it is at this season people pour from every quarter of the continent, to bathe in the balmy air. The invalids begin to pour in about Christmas, returning in March or April—when the usual accompaniments of summer, dampness, fleas and intermittent fever, set in. The weather from December to April, we would call a long September, sometimes delightfully warm and sometimes rendering a fire of pine knots in the open fire places which are generally used, both cheerful and desirable. The air is bracing, the sun bright, the hotels full, and the invalids happy. They think their disease has gone, but return home to find the enemy was only quieted for the time.

THE COAST, THE BAR, AND PELICANS

On approaching the coast of Florida near the mouth of the St. John River, for the first time the traveller sees a long line of white sand looking as if it were covered with snow but this is he soon finds to be heaps of white sand blown up from the beaches into piles looking very much like snow banks seen from a distance. On drawing nearer the mouth of the river, long, low, sandy bars come into view, literally covered with pelicans. The numbers of these birds here congregated together rather destroys the story that the pelican is a solitary bird. Indeed I have seen these birds collected together in a similar manner on the sand bars off the mouth of the Torrens river on the Australian coast.

At the entrance of the St. John's river is a large sand bar which renders the river difficult of access to vessels of heavy tonnage. The River runs almost due north for a distance of about two hundred and seventy five miles then

turning east runs about twenty five miles and empties into the Atlantic. At this turn of the River is built Jacksonville containing about ten thousand inhabitants. Jacksonville is the metropolis of the state. The country back of the town for many miles is covered with southern pine. The soil is sandy and unproductive unless highly manured which requires to be done twice a year if other crops than oranges are required, and indeed this is rather far north for that fruit. At St. Augustine and up the St. John's particularly above Pilatka glorious oranges are grown. They are large juicy and luscious. The wild oranges are sour, and the rind has a peculiar and very disagreeable odor and taste, but their juice makes a very pleasant orangeade. The orange crops at Florida are generally sold on the trees and are picked and shipped by the buyers; out there are many small groves and trees owned by parties who use them themselves as our country people do their apples. The cheapest way of getting the fruit is to make a trade with a negro for a hundred; but if your conscience should be tender don't do so for in all probability he will steal them.

THE ALLIGATOR.

Having been sent to Florida by a New York firm to look after their lumber business, I was compelled to live at the mills about a mile below the town. The mills stood upon the edge of the river: behind them stretched a wide swampy morass, cut up by creeks and pond holes. I arrived in December, and as the alligators did not put in an appearance until later in the season, I was prevented from accomplishing immediately what was the highest of my ambition, to shoot one; but I gave the Negroes working in and about the mills strict injunctions to apprise me of the first appearance of one. Some time afterward as I was engaged in the office one day a Negro poked his head in the door and called out. "Say boss, dere's the biggest 'gater in de creek ye eber seed." I accordingly caught up my Sharp's Repeater and sallied forth, followed by the engineers wife and children and a my posse of Darkies in high glee. My dusky informant led the way and soon brought me to the edge of the creek, and pointing across to the other side, said: "Dere he is Massa," and there he was though I could only see a portion of his back, the rest of his body and head being hidden by the tall grass and reeds among which he lay. Having heard so much about the toughness of the alligator's hide, I was at a loss whether or not to fire at his body or try to get a chance at his eye, but came to the conclusion to fire at what I saw of him, and cracked away. One struggle among the reeds and all was still. The huge animal lay like a great discolored log, and the Darkies danced about, using the most comical expressions, such as "Dat busted him;" "dat air 'gater's kerflumoxed," etc. I told them to go over and drag him out where we could see him, and a rush was made across a little bridge a short distance below, each Negro trying to be ahead. One sable form reached the game, stooped to catch his tail, and the next moment performed his best acrobatic feat, turning a complete somersault. Fighting in the reeds some distance from his starting point. The brute was not dead but desperately wounded, and still retaining power in his tail, had used it to such perfection as to cause the aforesaid gyrations of the poor Darkey, who however fortunately was not much hurt. I crossed over and put a bullet through the animals head which speedily ended his existence. He measured twelve feet and was considered a good sized one, though I have since seen much larger. I gave the Negroes the skin, which they stripped off, intending keeping the larger teeth which are very fine ivory and of which dog whistles, cane heads and other ornamental articles are made, but they were too small to be of any service in that way. So I let them go with the hide. I have shot many an alligator since, but never have I found the slightest difficulty in boring a hole through their hide with a rifle bullet. Their hides form quite an article of commerce and are shipped in large quantities to the North where they are manufactured into boots and shoes which though they may be useful are not at all handsome.

[To be continued.]

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Fittings" required in the New Post Office, St. John, N.B. will be received at this office until Friday, the 17th day of December, for the completion of the above works.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the office of Morgan Smith, Esq., Architect, St. John, N.B. and also at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, on and after Tuesday 6th December.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque equal to five per cent of the amount of the tender which will be forfeited if the party declines to enter into a contract when called on to do so or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender is not accepted, the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
F. H. ENNIS,
Secretary.

Department Public Works
Ottawa Nov. 27 1880 dec-21

FOUND.

Notice.—The Canada Advertising Agency No. 29 King St. West, Toronto,
W. B. BURGER,
Manager
is authorized to receive Advertisements for this paper.

F. O. Peterson, MERCHANT TAILOR CHATHAM N.B.

I have now on hand a large stock of excellent cloths for Men and Youths' Wear, which I will make up at as reasonable a figure as any in the trade. All orders will receive prompt attention, and satisfaction guaranteed.

Chatham, Dec 1—18

John W. Nicholson,

WHOLESALE IMPORTER AND COMMISSION MERCHANT.

Offers for sale the following goods in bond or duty paid:—

- Mariell Brandy in bbls and Quarter Casks—Pale and Dark
- Mariell Brandy in cases—Pale and Dark
- Mariell Brandy in cases, XXX—Pale and Dark
- Mariell Brandy in cases, X—in pints, 2 doz each
- Homesey Brandy in cases, X.
- John De Kuper & Son's finest quality Gin in bbls and Quarter Casks
- John De Kuper & Son's Gin, in Green Cases.
- Wise's Finest Cork Malt Scotch Whiskey in Quarter Casks.
- Old Robin [B] Whiskey—12 years old—in cases.
- Highland Malt Scotch Whiskey in Qr. Casks
- Finest Blended Glenlivet Whiskey in Cases
- Port wine, various grades
- Port Wine, Hunt's celebrated AY, AYV and AYAV
- Sherry, various grades
- Sherry, Richard Davis' celebrated Wines
- Champagne, in baskets
- Goodenham & Wort's finest quality Pure Spirits, in bbls
- Rye Whiskey, in bbls
- Bourbon Whiskey, in bbls
- Bass' India Pale Ale, in bbls and bottles
- Guinness' Stout, in bbls and bottles.
- And sundry other goods.

VICTORIA WHARF,

SMYTHE ST., ST JOHN, N. B.

Dec 1st—4m

HOTEL DUFFERIN

CHARLOTTE STREET,

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

GEO. W. SWETT PROPRIETOR.

Formerly Manager of the Victoria Hotel.

November 1st—18

TENDERS.

Tenders addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Hay Island Lights," will be received at Ottawa, up to the 31st December next. For the erection of Two Range Light Buildings on Hay Island, at the mouth of the Miramichi River, County of Northumberland, N.B. Plans and specifications can be seen, and forms of Tender procured by intending contractors, at this department, here, at the office of the Inspector of Lights, Newcastle, and at the office of the Collector of Customs, Chatham. The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

WM. SMITH,
Dy. Min. of Marine and Fisheries.

Department of Marine, &c.,
Ottawa, Nov 22, 1880—jeald

LOST!

On Thursday last, between the Star Office and residence of Mrs. Crain, an open faced Waltham Watch, nearly new, with a certain piece of printed paper inside one of the cases. A reward of \$5 is offered for its recovery. Apply at this office, nov. 27th.

FOUND!

An I.C.R. check on Thursday last. The owner can have same by proving it to be his, and paying for this advertisement. Apply at this office. nov27th

M. A. FINN,

Importer of

WINES, LIQUORS, CIGARS, TOBACCO AND TOBACCO-NISTS' GOODS.

Wholesale and Retail

PRINCE WM. ST., Cor. Princess,
Hotel Dufferin Building, ST. JOHN, N.B.

nov27 th

\$5 Outfit sent free to those who wish to engage in the most pleasant and profitable business known. Everything new. Capital not required. We will furnish everything. \$10 a day upwards is easily made without staying away from home overnight. No risk whatever. Many new workers wanted at once. Ladies make as much as men, and young men and girls make great pay. No one who is willing to work fair to make more money every day than can be made at any ordinary employment. Those who engage at once will find a short road to fortune. Address H. Hallett & Co. Augusta, Maine. oct30s&wly

FOUND.

A Bunch of Keys near the Citadel. The owner can have them by applying at this office and paying for the advertisement. Chatham, Nov. 17, 1880.