

yet, has not been found. I have myself observed the exactitude with which the denunciations of divine anger against the three churches of Ephesus, Sardis, and Laodicea, have been fulfilled. Whilst the other four churches of Asia, which are in part commended, and in part more mildly menaced, are still populous cities, and contain communities of nominal Christians; of each of those it may now be said, that it is empty, and void, and waste. And though the Arabian may pitch his tent at Laodicea, and the shepherds, as at Ephesus, make their fold there, still have they scarcely been inhabited or dwelt in from generation to generation. Wild beasts of the desert lie there—hannas, wolves, and foxes. Their houses are full of doleful creatures: scorpions, enormous centipedes, lizards, and other noxious reptiles, crawl about amidst the scattered ruins; and serpents hiss and dart along through the rank grass that grows among them. And owls dwell there. When I was standing beneath the three stupendous columns of the temple of Cybele, which are still remaining at Sardis, I looked upward and saw the species of owl which the Greeks call *Cuckuwaia*, perched on the summit of one of them. Its name is derived from its note; and as it flits around the desolate ruins emitting this doleful sound, it might almost seem to have been appointed to chaunt from age to age, the dirge of these forsaken cities. After so many remarks on the desolation of ancient cities, it would be culpable in a Christian to proceed with his task, without adverting to the very solemn lessons which these scenes are calculated to teach. When I stood amidst these ancient ruins, every pedestal, stone, and fragment appeared to have a voice. A most impressive eloquence addressed me from mouldering columns, falling temples, ruined theatres, decayed arches, broken cisterns, and from aqueducts, baths, and sarcophagi, and other nameless masses of ruin. The very silence of the spot had language. The wind as it sighed through the forsaken habitations, seemed to carry with it the voice of twenty or thirty centuries. I know not if I ever spent a more solemn or edifying day, than that which was passed amongst the ruins of Ephesus.—*Heartly's Researches.*

COLONIAL.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT OF THE ST. JOHN COURIER.

We feel ourselves happy in being able to announce to our readers, that the spirit of economical reform has begun its operations in the public departments of this Province. It is a fact within the knowledge of most persons, that lumbermen were formerly put to great trouble, expense, and inconvenience, by the absurd system of surveying the ground licensed to them before they were suffered to cut a single stick of timber; and for this unnecessary service the Surveyor, or Deputy Commissioner, to whom the licence was sent, was entitled to ask and to receive a certain fee prescribed by the licence. The Officer at the head of the Crown Land Department, who, on all occasions, appears desirous to promote the interests of the lumberer, subsequently altered this system, and substituted for it one of a more salutary description; instead of requiring the lumberer to pay the survey fees to the individual Commissioner by whom the survey was made, they were desired to pay into the Crown Land Office, along with the amount exacted for tonnage, the sum of three pence for each ton of timber licensed to them, out of which we suppose the Deputies were paid; but still the most particular grievances existed; the ground must still be surveyed previously to the lumberer commencing his operation; and the obvious consequence of such intrusive interference on the part of these Officers was to prevent every man from doing what seemed right in his own eyes; each was confined within bounds, which, if he passed, punishment awaited him. Collisions were prevented, and that spirit of adventure and hostility which should ever be kept alive in this Province, bordering as it is, upon an enemy's country, was likely to be utterly subdued. It is said, indeed, that not more than one-half of the monies paid into the Office under the name of Survey Fees, were ever expended in the manner for which they were designed; but the duty was performed, and whether Officers received a fair remuneration or not, was a matter of no consequence to the public. During the present season, it appears that all the former grievances have been redressed, and all the obnoxious restrictions have been removed: the Survey Fee must still be paid into the office, but the ground need not be examined by the Officer. The Licence is sent by Mail to the applicant, and upon its receipt, or previously, if he please, he commences his work. Now we trust, that there is not one of our readers, who is so stupid as to be unable to appreciate the mighty advantage of this new system. Let us consider it for a few minutes, and then we shall speedily perceive the wisdom which dictated so beneficial a measure. In the first place, the swarm of Deputy Commissioners, who were once so happily described as harpies, will be at once annihilated, because their services will not be required—each man surveying his own

Timber Birth. In the second place, if it should so happen, that two persons have received Licenses on the same ground, or closely adjoining, which are events of every day occurrence—the contest will be decided as the lawyers term it—*vi et armis*: the weaker party must retire before his victorious opponent, and, 'vanquished, quit the field:'—this is perfectly fair, because each has an equal chance, the event of the battle depending upon the physical force of the combatants, and if, by accident, a few limbs be lopped off the warriors, it will be no particular objection to the continuance of the regulation by which the people are trained to the labours of the field, and inured to the horrors of war.

Thirdly, there will of course be no impertinent inquiries made by the insolent underlings of office, about the quantity of timber cut under each Licence: for we are well assured that the benevolent framer of the present system, will not prosecute a number of men for grasping at the lure which is invidiously held out to them. They must, indeed, be exalted far above the frailties of human nature, if they can resist the temptation to seize an opportunity which seems to be purposely given to them. Again, each lumberman will have the enviable honor of receiving an Official Packet from a Public Office, for which perhaps he will not have to pay more than three or four shillings—a cheap purchase! And, lastly, we and the public will have the pleasure of wearying ourselves with conjectures as to the destination of the monies which still continue to be demanded under the designation of Survey Fees. For be it remembered, that, although no survey is made, and no salaries paid to the Deputy Commissioners, the lumberer is yet compelled to pay three pence per ton in addition to the tonnage. Now we have only one objection to this system, or rather we would suggest one trifling alteration.—Let the entire sum be demanded as tonnage money. Do not cause us to pay for services that are never performed; do not attempt to deceive us by a multiplicity of definitions; and if the public are to be harassed by such oppressive taxes, let it be done openly and not secretly.

ST. ANDREWS HERALD. Spearman vs. Wilson. We understand that a rule nisi has been obtained on the part of the Defendant, to shew cause at next term why judgment should not be arrested. If the rule be made absolute, the effect will be, that each party must pay his own costs, and the 'one shilling damages' be lost to the Plaintiff.

QUEBEC GAZETTE. Monseigneur Panet, Catholic Bishop of this diocese, has resigned, owing to his advanced age. Monseigneur Signay, Bishop of Fussala and Coadjutor, of course succeeds him.

We understand that the Steamer Royal William will move up to her winter quarters at Sorel or Three Rivers, in a few days.

Captain Day's Marine Railway, constructed at Pointe Levi, opposite the Lower Town landing place, was tried for the first time on Saturday, when one of the Steam Companies' barges, was hauled up. We believe this is the first establishment of the kind formed in British America. It will be very useful. The principle is that of a common railway, the carriage on which the vessel is taken at high water, moving on iron rollers, and being drawn up by an iron chain. The largest vessels may be drawn up in this manner. Another improvement with a similar object, the Dry Floating Dock, has been in use for some years at Wolfe's Cove.

There was a second fall of snow on Saturday forenoon which again gave the country the appearance of winter. It remained in many places until this morning. Several nights of frost had preceded it. The weather is now however fine, but rather cold.

Only four deaths from cholera took place in the Emigrant Hospital in the week ending Saturday, the 28th instant; the whole of the deaths were six men, two women and two children.—Oct. 29.

ST. JOHN COURIER.—We have understood that the Casual Revenue of this Province is now so far exhausted, that the salaries of the Officers of Government can with difficulty be paid; and it is also reported, that to supply the present exigencies of the Government, the Commissioner of Crown Lands and Forests, is disposing, by public sale, of Lands which had originally been reserved for public uses, such as the support of Schools, &c. Although we have abstained, on many occasions from giving publicity to reports of acts of tergiversation on the part of our Public Officers; yet, with such alarming intelligence sounded in our ears, it would, we conceive, be a breach of duty, were we to remain silent. An exhausted Revenue—with an enormous Civil List, composed of items which have always been considered, in some measure, objectionable—continual additions to an already overwhelming weight of taxation in a new country, to enable that list to be paid—increased salaries to officers who had originally greater allowances than prudence would have dictated—a wanton and useless expenditure of the public monies, squandered away in the execution of crude and ridicu-

lous projects—an arbitrary and irresponsible power confided to the discretion of a subordinate Officer, and that power apparently exercised in a manner which was neither calculated to conciliate the affections of the people to the King, or to his Representative, nor to promote the true interests of the Province. We pass over, for the present, the very questionable legality of that most obnoxious tax, the Quit Rent; but we ask all those whom it may concern, whether the people of New-Brunswick have reason to rejoice in the sufferings and privations of their ancestors, which was expected to secure to their descendants a happy asylum under the auspices of the British Government? Is this the recompense of loyalty and fidelity? At a time, when, in the mother country, the spirit of Reform is extending itself to every department of the State, and even altering the venerable fabric of the British Constitution, (for it has been compelled to bend beneath the overwhelming current of popular fury;) we ask, if, at such a crisis as the present, it would not be much wiser in our rulers rather to attend to redressing the grievances of which many too justly complain, than to add to those which may eventually alienate from their monarch, the love of as loyal a population as the British Empire numbers among her subjects? If our attention might receive any degree of attention, we would say—Surrender to the Legislature, the control and management of the Casual Revenue, ere the sources from which it is supported, be wholly destroyed; grant to them the power of preventing such exactions, and such an oppressive system of direct taxation as at present form the subject of complaint from every quarter of the Province; suffer them to control the disposal of public Land and Timber, and let them prescribe the terms upon which the purchasers shall be supplied. But, we speak in vain; for, we fear, whenever that day shall arrive, which will witness the delegation of that power to the Legislature of New Brunswick, the empty boon will be accompanied with a demand that we shall pay the Civil List of the Province. Then, and not till then, when the means will in a great measure be exhausted, will we feel, in its full force, the effect of that spirit of profusion and inconsistency, which is undoing to day, that which it had done yesterday, and looks forward to the receipts of to-morrow to pay the expenses of to-day.

SCHEDIASMA.

NIRAMICHI.

TUESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 13, 1832.

By the arrival at Halifax of H. M. Packet Eclipse, with the October mail, in the short passage of 24 days, we have been put in possession of London dates to the 7th of that month. We have gleaned therefrom a variety of items. Among our extracts will be found a detailed account of the attack upon Oporto, by the troops of Don Miguel, who, after a most obstinate and sanguinary engagement, in which the troops of both the belligerent parties suffered severely, they were compelled to retreat. This is the only foreign news of interest.

These papers furnish the melancholy tidings of the death of Sir Walter Scott. This event took place at the poet's favourite residence of Abbotsford, on the 21st September. The following obituary notice of this truly illustrious individual, which we copy from one of our late papers, renders any remarks from us superfluous. We shall merely quote a few lines from one of his own admirable poems; conscious, that if they ever can be applied with justice to any individual, it must be their revered author:

"— they do not err,
Who say, that when the Poet dies,
Mute nature mourns her worshipper,
And celebrates his obsequies."

DEATH OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.—The minstrel of the north has sounded his last lay!—his harp is silent for ever! Sir Walter Scott died at Abbotsford on Friday, the 21st Sept. For nearly two years his health had been in a declining state, caused by over-exertion and anxiety, the pressure of pecuniary embarrassments, and the strong desire he had to fulfil his engagements, and secure some fragments of his fortune to his family. In order to recruit his spirits and improve his health, he was advised to travel. The intention of the author of "Waverley" being communicated to his Majesty, he with his uniform kindness, commanded a ship to convey Sir Walter to Naples. He was attended on his tour by some members of his family; every mark of respect and hospitality was paid him wherever he went; but the breezes of the Mediterranean had no restorative effect on his impaired constitution; his illness increased; the poet saw that his end was near, and therefore he hastened home to breath his last sigh to the winds of Yarrow, and sleep his long last sleep on the banks of the Tweed, in his native land.