

# THE GLEANER.

And Northumberland, Kent, Gloucester, and Restigouche Schediasma.

Volume XII:]

Nec araneorum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.

Number 15.

Miramichi, Tuesday Morning, December 22, 1840.

## THE GLEANER.

From Graham's Magazine.

### A LONDON THOROUGHFARE.

By far the greater number of those who went by had a satisfied, business like demeanour, and seemed to be thinking only of making their way through the press. Their brows were knit, and their eyes rolled quickly, when pushed against by fellow wayfarers they evinced no symptom of impatience, but adjusted their clothes and hurried on. Others, still a numerous class, were restless in their movements, had flushed faces, and talked and gesticulated to themselves, as if feeling in solitude on account of the very denseness of the company around. When impeded in their progress these people suddenly ceased muttering, but redoubled their gesticulations, and waited, with an absent and overdone smile upon the lips, the course of the persons impeding them. If jostled, they bowed profusely to the jostlers, and appeared overwhelmed with confusion. There was nothing very distinctive about these two large classes beyond what I have noted. Their habits belonged to that order which is pointedly termed the decent. They were undoubtedly noblemen, merchants, attorneys, tradesmen, stock jobbers—the Eupatrids and the common places of society—men of leisure and men actively engaged in affairs of their own—conducting business upon their own responsibility. They did not greatly excite my attention.

The tribes of clerks was an obvious one, and here I discerned two remarkable divisions. There were the junior clerks of flash houses—young gentlemen with tight coats, bright boots, well oiled hair, and supercilious lips. Setting aside a certain dapperness of carriage, which may be termed deskism for want of a better word, the manners of these persons seemed to me an exact fac-simile of what had been the perfection of bon ton about twelve or eighteen months before. They wore the cast-off graces of the gentry—and this, I believe, involves the best definition of the class.

The division of the upper clerks of staunch firms, or of the 'steady old fellows,' it was not possible to mistake. These were known by their coats and pantaloons of black or brown, made to suit comfortably, with white cravats or waistcoats, broad solid-soled shoes, and thick hose, or garters. They had all slightly bald heads, from which the right ears, long used to pen holding, had an odd habit of standing off on end. I observed that they always removed or settled their hats with both hands, and wore watches, with short gold chains of a substantial and ancient pattern. There was the affectation of respectability—if indeed there be an affectation so honorable.

There were many individuals of dashing appearance, whom I easily set down as belonging to the race of swell pick-pockets, with which all great cities are infested. I watched these gentry with much inquisitiveness, and found it difficult to imagine how they should ever be mistaken for gentlemen by gentlemen themselves. Their voluminous wristbands, with an air of excessive frankness should betray them at once.

The gamblers, of whom I descried not a few, were still more easily recognizable. They wore every variety of dress, from that of the desperate thumblebugg, with velvet waistcoat, fancy neckerchief, gilt chains, and fillagree buttons, to that of the scrupulously innate clergyman, than which nothing could be less liable to suspicion. Still, all were distinguished by a certain sudden swartheness of complexion, a filmy dimness of eye, and pallor and compression of lip. There were two other traits, moreover, by which I could always detect them—a guarded lowness of tone in conversation, and a more than ordinary extension of the thumb at right angles with the fingers. Very often, in company with these sharpers I observed an order of men somewhat different in habits, but still birds of kindred feather. They may be defined as the gentlemen who live by their wits. They seem to prey upon the public in two battalions—that of the dandies and that of the military men. Of the first grade the leading features are long locks and smiles; of the second, frogged coats and frowns.

Descending in the scale of what is termed gentility, I found darker and deeper themes for speculation. I saw Jew peddlers, with hawk eyes flashing from countenances whose every other feature were only an expression of abject humility; sturdy professional street beggars scowling upon mendicants of a better stamp, whom despair alone had driven forth into the night for charity; feeble and ghastly invalids, upon whom death had placed a sure hand, and who sidled and tottered along through the mob, looking every one beseech-

ingly in the face, as if in search of some chance consolation, some lost hope: modest young girls returning from long and late labour to a cheerless home, and shrinking more fearfully than indignantly from the glances of ruffians, whose direct contact even could not be avoided: women of the town of all kinds and of all ages; drunkards innumerable and indescribable—some in shreds and patches, reeling, inarticulate, with bruised visages and lack-lustre eyes—some in whole although filthy garments, with a slightly unsteady swagger, thick sensual lips, and hearty looking rubicund faces—others clothed in materials which had once been good and which even now were scrupulously well brushed; besides these, pie men, porters, coal heavers, sweeps; organ grinders, monkey exhibitors and ballad mongers, those who vended with those who sang, ragged artisans and exhausted laborers of every description, and still all full of a noisy and inordinate vivacity which jarred discordantly upon the ear and gave an aching sensation to the eye.

### From the London Mining Review, Oct. 31. GEOLOGY AND MINING PROSPECTS OF GLOUCESTER AND RESTIGOUCHE, NEW-BRUNSWICK.

READ AT THE LATE MEETING OF THE ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL.

By W. J. Henwood, F. R. S., F. G. S., &c.

Some gentlemen with whom I have the honour to be acquainted, thought fit to repose sufficient confidence in me to send me to New Brunswick to inspect the geology and mining prospects of the Counties of Gloucester and Restigouche. My report comprised an abstract of the geological characters of the district, and remarks on the economic portion. The first I am, of course, at liberty to make use of—the second, as it was a private affair, I am not at liberty to disclose. Taking the rocks of this portion of New Brunswick in the standing order, the lowest consists of granite, not very different in character from our Cornish granite. This is utterly devoid of mineral veins. On this repose a thick bedded slate, which Dr Bease has called "cornubian," and of which the types may be found at Dalecouth and Cook's Kitchen in this County. This is traversed near the point of juncture with the granite, by numerous granite veins, and also by other veins of sulphur much resembling our Cornish elvans. At still greater distance from the granite, the rock becomes deep blue, of a silky lustre, and very thick bedded—in fact, very like the blue killas of the Gwennap district. In some portions of this, I discovered remains of encrinurids and numerous isolated pipe like or vermicular masses of the grey oxide of manganese. This is very peculiar and of a character that I never before met with. This mass contains veins and irregular patches of greenstone, in no way distinguishable from that of North Roskear, or Saint Just. But this is also without mineral veins.—Reposing in a conformable manner, as regards the laminae of the slate, are certain beds of conglomerate, well exposed in the banks of the Tatigouche. These conglomerates seem to belong to the coal measures, and numerous sandstones and conglomerates, belonging to the same formation, repose conformably on the granite before mentioned, and perfectly horizontal on the banks of the Nepesquit. In this, ferns, and other plants of the coal measures, are found in great abundance. The beauty and extent of these coal measures it is almost impossible to describe. In fact, we pass over nothing else from Fredericton to Miramichi, and thence to Bathurst, a distance of at least 150 to 160 miles. They consist of various beds of sandstone, shale and conglomerate, with numerous thin seams of coal, few of which are not more than a foot or two in thickness.

The whole of the district is particularly rich in fossil flora. In one of these beds, a blue shale, containing fern and other plants, is a peculiar formation of copper, specimens of which have been shown to Mr Carne, Mr Fox, and other gentlemen conversant with copper formations, and they, I believe, as well as myself, never saw anything like them. Specimens of lignite, impregnated in the laminae as well as in the fracture by rich vitreous copper ore, and coated with green carbonate of copper, and isolated and detached nodules, from the size of a fibert to that of a walnut, sometimes wholly consisting of vitreous copper ore—sometimes the nucleus of these in the external parts of common pyrites—and sometimes the interior of copper pyrites and the exterior of vitreous copper. So persuaded was I of this formation being an unique one, that when specimens of lignite containing vitreous copper ore and nodules of the same substance were shown me at Halifax, on my way home, by the hon. Samuel

Cunard, I thought I at once recognized them as Bathurst specimens, which they were exactly like; but, to my astonishment, I was informed that they were not from that locality, but from the neighbourhood of Pictou, in Nova Scotia, and that they were there found in considerable quantities, under precisely similar circumstances, in the coal formations which were worked there.

This neighbourhood has received considerable elucidation from the labours of Dr. Gesner, the provincial geologist of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, whose works are, perhaps, not sufficiently known or appreciated in this country; for in a new and unexplored region of this kind, much labor is unavoidably wasted in the mere mechanical process of moving from place to place, which in a civilized and cultivated country like our own, may be at once applied to the pure geological work of examining the rocks. Mr Gesner has presented the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall with copies of his works, and has promised us a series of geological specimens in illustration of them. It is, perhaps, also due to Mr Gesner's individual labours, to say that he has at his residence in Saint John, New Brunswick, an admirable museum, wholly fitted up by himself illustrative of the geology, botany and fauna in general of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, which should be seen by every visitor to that place, and which, through the politeness of the proprietor, is freely open at all times. Serpentine occurs in isolated masses in several parts of the shores of the Bay de Chaleur. On one part of the shore of this bay, I discovered remains of turbinolia, encrinurids, and other organic bodies, which are the precise counterparts of some of those on the table presented to us by the liberality of Mr Peach, of Goran, in this County. In fact, the resemblance is so close in mineral character, structure, and every other particular, that if they were mixed I believe it would be impossible again to separate them—and, indeed, they mark the same epoch of formation. In many parts of that bay, and in many places on the banks of the river Restigouche, which divides New Brunswick, from Lower Canada, are seen trap dykes, and near Dalhousie on that river, between two such, I discovered a fine series of the Silurian rocks of Mr Murchison, particularly rich in organic remains, many of which, I have reason to believe, are quite new. Similar rocks are exposed to a great extent in the cutting of the Erie Canal, at Lockport, near Niagara. These have been examined and described in detail by the state geologists of New York, who have discovered many novelties among them. Large collections of these are on their passage; and whether it may be best for the interests of science that they should be placed in this society's collection, or whether it may not be better to hand them over to the inspection of that most accomplished geologist, Mr Murchison, is a question on which I venture to give no opinion. But I am prepared to dispose of them in that manner which may be thought best and most useful to science.

In reviewing these formations, according to the theories of modern and eminent geologists, the slate rocks will be considered the older formations—the granite next in age, the veins being injected through the slate—whilst the coal series deposited on both, but containing no vein of granite, will be considered the more recent of the whole. This, I believe, is an abstract, and a brief one, of the labours in which I have been engaged for three or four months past, and which when opportunity offers, I may work out more in detail, and place it either before this society, or some other, where it may be most generally useful.

Fredericton Gazette, Dec. 2.

### IN COUNCIL, December 2, 1840.

The undermentioned applicants for the purchase of Crown Lands, may have the tracts applied for by them on the following terms, if payment be made before the 10th day of February next, and five shillings additional will be charged on each purchase, for postage, &c. GLOUCESTER.

James Forien, Jr., 3s per acre down.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

John Finlay, 3s per acre, down.

J. T. L. Dickens, do. do.

KENT.

L'Archeat King, 3s per acre, down, for the upper half of the lot.

Simon Richard, 3s per acre down, for the lower half of the lot.

The petitions of the undermentioned persons are deferred for want of survey.

John Rideout, William Stewart,

John Landers, J. B. Robitcaux,

Felix M'Carthy, David D'Aigle,

Edward Stevens.

The petitions of the undermentioned persons for license to cut Timber and Logs on Crown

Lands, are complied with, on payment of the duty before the 10th day of February next.

William Craig, Texas River; Robert Ritchie, Upsalquitch; M. Duffy, Renous; P. Stewart, Eel River; G. Debeck, Eel River; J. Cunard, Northumberland; F. Eerguson, Bass River; P. Stewart, Upsalquitch; F. Hunter, S W Miramichi; John Walker, St. Nicholas River; W. Hamilton, Upsalquitch; P. Carlyle, S W Miramichi; J. T. Williston, Eel River; Joseph Cunard, Bass River.

The following tract of vacant Crown Land will be offered at Public Auction at this Office on Monday, the 1st day of February next. Sale to commence at 12 o'clock, noon.

Terms—Ten per cent of the purchase money to be paid at the time of sale, and the remainder within 14 days after.

150 acres, Northumberland, at the mouth of Wild Cat Brook, east side of the North West Miramichi River. Upset price, 3s per acre down.

From the Yarmouth Herald.

### A LECTURE

Delivered before the Pupils attending the Yarmouth Academy, October, 1840.

### ON THE HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY,

ITS RISE, PROGRESS, AND REVOLUTIONS.

Before entering on the study of this delightful branch of physical science, it is necessary that I should make you acquainted with its history, and lay before you a concise yet plain account of its rise, progress and revolutions. On the advantages resulting from a knowledge of Astronomy, it is scarcely necessary for me to dwell. It need but be mentioned to excite emotions of grandeur; and the idea which it gives us of the immensity of the universe, and the power, wisdom, and goodness of its Almighty author, must inspire the most phlegmatic minds with sentiments of admiration. This science (and indeed it is the only science which does so,) unites the strictness of mathematical reasoning with an exalted feeling for the sublime and beautiful, and fills the mind both with confidence in itself, from its ability to calculate with certainty the career of distant worlds, and with a becoming humility in reflecting how small a part of the universe is our earth, and how brief its known duration compared with the immense periods which enter into the calculations of Astronomy. Young says—"an undevout astronomer is mad." My sole object is to communicate information; I pretend not to exhaust this subject, but to touch upon many of its most prominent parts and interesting facts—to infuse a desire for learning, rather than to consummate the learning that may be desirable, to run over this vast mass of history, not in its separate parts, but in its most striking features: so that you may hereafter be the better prepared for studying it, and for feeling in some measure at home upon the various subjects it presents to us.

Yet let me remind you that all that I can tell you cannot effect much, whatever the perspicuity with which it may be conveyed. My remarks may perhaps awaken a latent propensity, or enkindle a transient inclination; but unless the new-born flame be fed and fostered—it be nourished by study, as well as excited by hearing, it will perish as soon as lighted up, or, if it continue, will only blaze forth in foppery of knowledge far more contemptible than the grossest ignorance. Let us then enter upon our respective duties, with equal ardour.—The path of science is open to every variety of age, and almost to every variety of education. Thousands at this moment behind, are pressing forward, and will surpass those that are before; and the richest and most gratifying reward I can ever receive will be to find that many of those young minds to which I wish now to endeavour to unfold some of the beauties of this science, will hereafter be able to communicate to me the same proportion of information, which I may presume to be able now to communicate to them:

Many a nation whose names are scarcely known in the history of the world, have disappeared from the places which once rang with their shouts of triumph, or beheld with pride the rich and gorgeous train thronging to the worship of their gods; their annals, their language, even the very cities of their defence and habitation, have fallen beneath the sweeping scythe of time, and hardly a remnant of them has been left, save some dark and doubtful tradition, and probably a few scattered ruins of uncertain origin.

Our wonder need hardly then be excited, that the beginning of sciences is shrouded beneath an obscure veil of fables, and enveloped in the dust of ages; and, particularly of all the natural sciences, that we are lost in a labyrinth of doubts and perplexities, when we try to trace back to its origin the history of Astronomy, which science presents the longest se-