

the superiority of a local seminary over other modes, in point of economy; that it affords a good education upon decidedly the cheapest terms. My object in this will be to prove, that, while from its cheapness, it brings within its influence, a great number of females, who would otherwise be excluded from the benefits of a thorough course of instruction, it at the same time furnishes the best education.

A single observation is sufficient to shew, that many parents in this community, who wish to have their daughters thoroughly educated, must sit down in utter hopelessness, if there be no other mode provided but that of sending them abroad. Their means are altogether inadequate. The seminary which I have proposed, even though the expense of its maintenance, should be something above the calculations already presented to the public, would remove this obstacle, and give a spur to exertion, because there would be a certainty of success.

These considerations, however, if unaccompanied by any others, might be insufficient to induce those of more extended means, to co-operate in the establishment of a female seminary. But besides the fact, of their being under obligations to assist their less prosperous neighbours in a cause of such great public importance, there are powerful reasons, which, if duly considered, must force upon them the conviction, that their own interests demand such a course of action.

Suppose a competent person, to act as governess in a family, could be engaged, by those who possess the means, there is, among members of the same family, an absence of that emulation which obtained in public schools. A spirit of rivalry, or desire to excel, as every one knows who is acquainted with the education of young persons, is one of the strongest incentives to diligent and successful exertion. Pupils, therefore, confined to the domestic apartment, will not compete in attainments with those placed at public schools, though they enjoy equal advantages, as far as the appliances of a skilful and faithful instructor are concerned.

But it may be said, there is a valuable alternative. Our daughters can be sent abroad to a public school. Let us however examine this method, and see if it presents equal claims with a local seminary. One of the first evils attending the practice of sending young ladies from home, during the period of, from twelve to eighteen years of age, is, their affections are liable in some measure to be alienated from their parents and other members of the family. This is just the period when the bonds of natural affection are most firmly cemented, and the reasons must be strong indeed, which warrant a step that might, in the least degree, endanger their severance. Epistolary correspondence, occasional presents, and a nameless host of transmitted kindnesses, can never be substitutes, for the constant endearing intercourse of home; especially when it is remembered that, new objects in an endless variety, engross the attention of youth in a strange land. Affection, when once in the least degree lost, is not easily regained.

Another evil, attending the practise of sending young ladies abroad, is, their being deprived of the opportunity of learning the art of domestic management. It should never be forgotten, that this is one of the most essential parts of female education. A separation from home then, during the period above mentioned, may in this respect be followed by the most deplorable consequences. Although a principal part of the time of young ladies attending a seminary, must be devoted to the attainment of the education it affords, yet there is always a considerable portion, that may be employed in household affairs; and if our daughters are sent from home, all the advantages resulting from such opportunities are totally lost. There is no other period in the course of their lives, that can in all respects make up these deficiencies.

Further, if parents send their daughters abroad, they are incapable of exercising over them the same religious control, which they might do if they were under their daily inspection. Parents who attach a due importance to that training which bears upon their eternal destinies, will never, if it can possibly be avoided, surrender their prerogative to others. Should young ladies in going from home, be situated in families where religion is disregarded, they are liable to suffer infinitely more in a moral point of view, than all the advantages of the most finished education, in other respects, can compensate. They need daily the warning voice, the pious persuasives, and safe example, of parents, alive to the importance of living perpetually in

the fear of God. Those to whom they may be intrusted, will satisfy themselves, that they have done their duty, when they have provided for them the common conveniences and comforts of life.

Besides, it is impossible for parents, let the accommodations and privileges of their children abroad, be what they may, to divest themselves of almost perpetual solicitude. Imagination is busy, and to some real, there will in all probability be added many fancied evils.

But it will probably be urged, that the superior advantages of education in seminaries abroad, will more than counterbalance all the alleged disadvantages. It sometimes happens that seminaries obtain a distant fame, to which they are not justly entitled; and parents, deprived of the opportunity of personal inspection, can judge only from representations made by others. But suppose them all to be efficiently and respectably conducted, what should prevent the one proposed to be established in this community, from being placed upon a footing of equal efficiency and respectability? I hesitate not to affirm, that there are means in this community, if properly directed, for founding and maintaining an institution, which would compete with many, and rival not a few of those, which are now supported by persons at a distance, who might have the same privileges at their own doors—an institution which would be under our immediate and constant supervision, which would confer all the benefits of a finished education, and leave young ladies, at the same time with access to all the collateral and important advantages, above enumerated.

The soil of Miramichi, is surely as congenial to the growth of education, as that of any other land. If we patronise female education abroad, we can patronise it at home. If we are satisfied with seminaries abroad, that are under the supervision of strangers, we may surely place confidence in one, which springs up by our own exertion, and is under our own vigilant superintendance. If £60 or £80 a year, are cheerfully given to educate one young lady abroad, we may surely be content to expend £6 or £10 at home, when the like, if not superior, results are secured. If other towns and villages are distinguished by their female seminaries, we may be allowed to covet the same honors.

In conclusion, I would appeal to the good sense, parental affection, and public spirit of this community, with the assurance, that, viewing the subject with that calm and serious deliberation which its importance demands, a unanimous, determined, persevering effort, will be made, to found and maintain a respectable and efficient Female seminary.

PHILOS.

Chatham, March 29, 1841.

To the Editor of the Gleaner.

Mr. M'Almon thought proper to make use of his privilege by addressing the House on Saturday week, while smarting under the effects of my communication to you last month, asserting circumstances which were false in themselves, or mis-stated in such a manner that if properly told would redound to my honor, but incapable himself of looking at any thing beyond the thickness of his skin, he is alike unable and unwilling to sift a complicated case to the bottom. It forms none of the business of a public officer to make the affairs of his office a subject for newspaper discussion; if any charges are exhibited against him, it is his duty to rebut them to his immediate superior or to the Government to which he is attached. Statements were made which if done in any other place than the Houses of the Legislature, would be liable to a prosecution for libel; but I wish for no other satisfaction than to see the speech alluded to reported *verbatim*. It would require nothing to condemn it in the eyes of all, which was the fate it experienced when it was delivered.

W. J. LAYTON.

*Not as Mr M'Almon says in the House that M'Beath does to his female passengers.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIMENT.

An experiment was tried on Saturday afternoon, of one of the inventions to which we alluded last autumn, which a friend on whom we have reliance had an opportunity of witnessing. The trial took place in the grounds of Mr Boyd, in the county of Essex, a few miles from town, in the presence of Sir Robert Peel, Sir George Murray, Sir Henry Hardings, Sir Francis Burdett, Lord Ingletrie, Colonel Gurwood, Captain Britten, Captain Webster, and some

other gentleman, who all appeared very much astonished at what they saw. By the kindness of the inventor our informant occupied a position that enabled him to command a view of all that took place. A boat 23 feet long and 7 broad was placed in a large sheet of water, the boat had been the day before filled in with solid timber, four and a half feet in depth, crossed in every direction, and clamped together with eight inch spike nails. This filling in was made under the inspection of Captain Britten, who stated the fact to the distinguished gentlemen we have mentioned, and also that the inventor never went near the workmen employed, that no suspicion might be entertained of any combustible materials being lodged in the hold of the vessel. Several of the gentlemen were on Saturday rowed in a punt to the vessel, and examined for themselves, so that every doubt might be removed, as to the cause of destruction being external, and not from the springing of any mine. When the different parties had taken their positions, on a signal from the inventor, the boat was set in motion, and struck just abaft her starboard bow and instantaneously scattered into a thousand fragments. At the moment of collision the water parted, and presented to the eye of our informant the appearance of a huge bowl, while upon its troubled surface he noticed a coruscation precisely resembling forked lightning. A column of water was lifted up in the air like a huge fountain, from which were projected upwards for many hundred feet the shattered fragments of the vessel, which fell many of them several hundred yards distant in the adjacent fields. Our informant examined many pieces, and found the huge nails snapped like carrots; the mast looked like a tree riven by lightning, and never before, as he assures us, has he witnessed so sudden and complete a destruction, though he has seen shell and rocket practice on the largest scale. Such seemed to be the unanimous opinion of all present. How this mighty effect was produced was of course not disclosed to so numerous a party, but two naval officers present were perfectly aware of the mode of operation, and the inventor offered to go into details confidentially with one or two of the distinguished officers present. In answer to a question from Sir Henry Hardings, the inventor stated that without a battering train he could transport on a male's back the means of destroying the strongest fortress in Europe. No doubt this is very startling, but hearing what we have, we cannot pronounce it impossible; and as in every particular the inventor has done what he has undertaken to accomplish, it is only fair to give him credit for the performance of more than has yet been disclosed. The existence of these tremendous powers is placed beyond all doubt, and the inventor asserts them to be completely under his control, which, from what our informant has had an opportunity of observing, he believes to be really the case. The instrument that wrought so terrible an effect on Saturday, lifting into the air a boat weighing two and a half tons, and filled in with five and a half tons of solid timber, and displacing at least fourteen or fifteen tons of water, was only eighteen pound weight. Our informant has handled it and kicked it round a room when charged with its deadly contents, so portable and at the same time so safe it is—a point of vast importance, when we remember the daily accidents that are occurring from the detonating shells now used in our service. At Acre most of those employed burst before they reached their object, and they are liable to explode when rolling about a ships deck, as was proved by the fatal accidents on board Her Majesty's ship Medea, off Alexandria, and the Excellent, at Portsmouth, and are dangerous to carry in a common ammunition cart on a rough road. Whether Lord Melbourne will condescend to examine into this matter, and secure these mighty powers for this country, or permit them to pass into the hands of our enemies, is more than we can venture to predict, but about which we cannot think England will remain indifferent. The inventor has requested us publicly to return his thanks to Mr Boyd for his great kindness in permitting him the use of his grounds not only on this but on several occasions.

NOTICE.—All persons having any just demands against the Estate of CONNOR SHEEHAN, late of Newcastle, in the County of Northumberland, laborer, deceased, are requested to render the same to Carman & Williston, Solicitors; within Three Months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to the Estate, will make immediate payment to them, or to the Subscriber.

JOHN REILLEY, Administrator.
Newcastle, March 10, 1841.

LAYING DOWN THE BUOYS.

Tenders will be received at the Store of Mr. L. HAWBOLT, until the 15th April next for such persons as may be desirous of entering into Contracts for laying down said BUOYS in their proper places in the River Miramichi.
L. HAWBOLT,
Com. of Buoys and Beacons.
Chatham, March 30, 1841.

We are requested to intimate that a Meeting of the Board of Education will take place at the Court Clerk's, on Wednesday, the 7th April next, at Eleven o'clock, A. M.

NOTICE.—All persons having any just demands against the Estate of DAVID BROWN, late of Blackville, in the County of Northumberland, lumberer, deceased, are requested to render the same within Three Months from the date hereof, to Carman & Williston, Solicitors; and all persons indebted to the said Estate will make immediate payment to them or to the Subscriber.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN, Administrator with the Will annexed.
Miramichi, March 16, 1841.

NORTHUMBERLAND Agricultural Society.

The Annual Meeting of the Northumberland Agricultural Society, will take place in Wetherell's Hotel, Newcastle, on Wednesday, the 31st inst., at 11 o'clock, A. M.—When a statement of the funds and of the proceedings of the Society for the past year, will be laid before the Meeting, and Office Bearers chosen for the ensuing year.
J. SOUTER, SECRETARY.
Newcastle, March 22, 1841.

Bone Dust, Clover Seed &c.

The Northumberland Agricultural Society have imported Sixty Bushels BONE MANURE, in Barrels of 4 Bushels each; and Nine Cwt. of RED CLOVER SEED—which will be sold to Subscribers at cost and charges.
The Society expect an Assortment of GARDEN SEEDS daily; and a supply of TIMOTHY SEED by the first Schooner from Halifax.
March 22, 1841.

REAL ESTATE.

To be Sold by Public Auction, on Saturday, the 24th day of April next, at the hour of 12 o'clock, noon, in front of Francis Peabody, Esq.'s Stores, in the Town of Chatham, for payment of the Debts of the late STEPHEN WEEDS, of Glenelg, in the County of Northumberland, deceased, in consequence of a deficiency of the personal Estate of the deceased, for that purpose, pursuant to a licence obtained from the Surrogate of the said County of Northumberland, on the application of Michael Samuel, a Creditor on the Estate:

All the REAL ESTATE of the said late STEPHEN WEEDS, consisting of a Lot of LAND situate on the Black River, in the Parish of Glenelg, in the County of Northumberland aforesaid, adjoining the Farm of Mr. Robert Weeds.—Which said Lot was granted to the said deceased, and contains a considerable quantity of Cleared Land.

For particulars, apply to J. M. Johnson, Junr., Esq., Attorney for the Estate, or M. SAMUEL, Acting Creditor.
Chatham, March 21, 1841.

NEW-BRUNSWICK, SS.

To the Sheriff of the County of Northumberland, or any Constable within the said County:

Whereas JARED TOZER, Administrator on the Estate of EDMUND CLARKE, late of Northesk, in the County aforesaid, deceased, hath filed an account of his Administration on the said Estate, and hath prayed that the same may be passed and allowed.

You are therefore required to cite the Creditors and next of kin of the deceased, and all others interested in the said Estate, to appear before me, at a Court of Probate, to be held at my Office, in the Parish of Chatham, within the said County, on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth day of March next, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon, to attend the passing and allowance of the said Account of Administration on the said Estate.

Given under my hand, and the seal of the said Court, this eighteenth day of February, 1841.

(Signed) THOS. H. PETERS, Surrogate
GEORGE KEHR, Register of Probates.

CENTRAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

NEW-BRUNSWICK.
FREDERICTON. Capital Stock £50,000.
Committee of reference at Newcastle, and Chatham.

Thomas H. Peters
John Wright
William Ahrams
Michael Samuel
Charles J. Peters, Junr. } Esquir's

AGENTS

At Newcastle, C. A. HARDING, Esq.
Chatham, GEORGE KERR, Esq.
Bathurst, WILLIAM STEVENS, Esq.
Dalhousie, DUGALD STEWART, Esq.

MAGISTRATES' and ATTORNIES' BLANKS, for Sale at this Office.