

FOR THE ROYAL GAZETTE.
THE AGONIZING DILEMMA.
CANTO I.

SIR,
AS here I prominently stand,
Responsible to all the Land,
For movements which, at all events,
May cause alarming discontents,
Movements of character important,
And which—to say the long and short on't—
Have cost us of our troops the best,
And risk the safety of the rest:
I beg, by way of explanation,
To state my views and situation.
I found, as mention'd in my last,
A crisis was approaching fast;
That if we meant to strike a blow,
It must be soon or all would go
For worse than nothing, all in vain
The expence and toil of this campaign.
Dishonor then the whole would tinge,
And burning shame my whiskers singe!
Though heretofore somewhat a bragger,
This rapid crisis made me stagger.
I fear'd, as well I might indeed,
That we should make more haste than speed,
And wish'd to have some consultations
About our future operations.
Mean-time, the news of Elliot's fight
Began to cheer us and excite
Among the troops strong disposition
To act, and that with expedition.
Our gallant lads, with burning liver,
Were now so keen to cross the River,
And bring their courage to the trial,
They would no longer brook denial.
Each found himself so stout and clever,
They, one and all, cried now or never.
Give orders now to act—or know,
Pack up's the word—and home we go.
Had I refus'd, would not this army
Have all agreed—to feather—and—tar me?
From other comment I refrain—
But now, intelligence to gain,
I sent Tom Trimmer, whose report,
That General Brock had left Queen's fort,
And gone, with numbers, to Detroit,
Seem'd now to warrant some exploit;
And this, in confidence, related
To Officers of rank, created
A wish to ascertain the fact,
And so produced great zeal to act.
Thus fill'd with eager animation,
The troops prepared for embarkation.
As here the River's rocky bed is
Spread with a sheet of rapid eddies,
Lieutenant Sim was sent ahead;
That, by a skilful Pilot led,
We might securely pull-away,
And land unseen e'er break of day.
Sim, in the dark, which was extreme,
Pass'd over, but too far up stream,
And, having drawn his boat to shore,
In which was nearly every our
For all the boats besides, he fled
The Lord knows where, to hide his head.
Can you conceive our dismal plight
During the remnant of this night!
In utter darkness to remain,
Paraded in a flood of rain,
Waiting for signals, preconcerted
With one who, mean-time, had deserted—
Or jump aboard and take our chance
Without a pilot to advance—
But though our way we might explore,
What could we do—without an oar!
Dilemma truly agonizing!
Yet thus we stood, till day-light rising
Fully display'd our situation,
And fill'd us all with desperation.
—With shoes in mud above the vamp,
We suddenly return'd to camp.
Truly, Mynheer, I must confess,
Your case involved no small distress.
But why depend so much on Sim?
Or why were all the oars with him?
Alas, Dear Sir (Dear Born I mean)
You know we yet are young and green.
But young and green, some future day,
May come to vie with old and grey.
I did indeed indulge the hope
That patience now might have some scope;
And give me, from the late result,
Some time to breathe and to consult;
That now the troops would have the wit
A while at least to chew the bit,
And bear the salutary bridle—
But soon I found my hope was idle
Their ardor, previously excited,
Had gain'd new heart; for though benighted
In heavy rain and wind northeast,
And though the pelting storm increas'd,
Till all the camp was like a pool,
It had no power their spunk to cool.
In short, they press'd on every side,
Till, though, reluctant, I complied.

BERTON and NEEDHAM,
Have Just Received by the HERO and FRIENDS from
LIVERPOOL, and AIMWELL from GLASGOW,
A neat and fashionable assortment of
MERCHANDIZE,
Which will be disposed of on the most liberal terms
for Cash or Bills of Exchange.
FREDERICTON, 13th MAY, 1812.

FROM THE HALIFAX JOURNAL, DECEMBER 21.

The following imperfect Lines were occasioned by the death of RICHARD JOHN BOYD CUNNINGHAM, of the Commissariat, aged 17, who was one of the unfortunate passengers in the Brig Plumper.

FAREWELL, poor Youth! with all that life endears,
In the full promise of thy opening years,
Torn from our hopes, from fond affection cast,
Like some young plant, that meets the angry blast,
In one wild moment of destruction hurl'd
From all that charms and cheats an hapless world.
For thee, no friendly hand, no pitying breath,
Calm'd the deep sigh, and cheer'd the vale of death,
But ruthless waves, with stormy fury bore
Thee, cold and senseless to the flinty shore.
In vain shall Spring her odorous garlands throw,
In vain shall Summer's "leafy honours" glow,
In vain shall Autumn heap the generous pile,
Or festive Winter court with social smile,
Vain every glory of the varying year,
For all is darkness, all is anguish here!
Oh, ever mourn'd, what powerful charm can rise
To blot thy image from parental eyes?
What earthly movement can a force impart
To tear thy memory from the faithful heart?
There, strong as life, still bend that modest mien,
That voice of kindness, and that soul serene,
That generous spirit, by no interest sway'd,
The warm affections, through thy life display'd
These, ever present, talk of comforts past,
Point to the Grave, and bid affliction last.

DANCING SCHOOL.

MR. PARKS respectfully informs the Ladies and Gentlemen of Saint John and its vicinity that he has returned for the purpose of resuming the instruction of the Art of DANCING.

Mr. P. returns his sincere thanks to the Inhabitants of this City for their kind treatment and liberal encouragement he has received in the Art he professes, and hopes that he shall continue to merit the patronage of the polite and enlightened in this Province.

He has taken a Room in the house of Mr. JAMES PRICE, where he will commence on WEDNESDAY next, at Three o'Clock, for those who would wish to attend in the day time.

Those young Ladies and Gentlemen who have been instructed in Dancing and wish to improve by practicing ONCE A WEEK, will leave their names at Mr. Price's on or before the first day of JANUARY next, so that he will be able to commence as soon as the repairs of the Room at the Coffee-House are completed.

N. B. No Entrance-fee of those who have formerly attended School.

Saint John, December 19th, 1812.

TWENTY POUNDS REWARD.

STOLEN from the Subscriber, at Mirimachi, by some person or persons unknown; FIVE SETS OF BILLS OF EXCHANGE, as near as can be recollected of the following description:—

One set of Exchange for £380 sterling, at 60 days, payable to Jerod Betts, or order, drawn by James Fraser, & Co. on Messrs. Smith, & Co. Liverpool; dated Mirimachi, 30th July, 1812.

One ditto, for £373:4:2 sterling, at 60 days, payable to Jerod Betts, or order, drawn by John Clark, & Co. on R. Robson, South Shields; dated at Mirimachi, 20th August, 1812.

One ditto, for £61:1:9 sterling, or thereabouts, payable to Thomas Sutherland, or order, drawn by James Fraser, & Co. on a person unknown; dated at Mirimachi, last spring or early in the summer, 1812.

One ditto, for £42 sterling, or thereabouts, payable to Richard Lee, or order, drawn by James Fraser, & Co. on a person unknown; dated at Mirimachi, July or August 1812.

One ditto, for £28 sterling, payable to Jerod Betts, or order, drawn by Murdock McKenzie, on a person unknown; dated at Mirimachi July or August, 1812.

The Bills which are drawn payable to Jerod Betts, or order, were not indorsed, and the others only by the person, in whose favor they were drawn.

All persons are cautioned against purchasing any of the above Bills, as payment will be stopped in Britain.

The above reward of TWENTY POUNDS will be paid to any person who will give information so that the Bills above mentioned, may be recovered by the Subscriber.

JEROD BETTS.
Fredericton, 16th December, 1812.

CAUTION.

WHEREAS repeated depredations have been committed on Lots No. 12 and 13, situated on Long-Island, Kennebeckacis—This is to forwarn all persons from cutting or carrying off Hay, Wood, Hoop-poles, &c. or otherwise trespassing on said Lots; as in that case, they will be prosecuted with the utmost rigor of the Law.

THOMAS MILES.
Saint John, 13th November, 1812.

NOTICE.

LEAVE having been obtained from His Honor the PRESIDENT to sell the Real Estate of the late DAVID DICKINSON, for the purpose of discharging debts due at the time of his decease.—NOTICE is hereby given, that Lot number 18, in the Parish of Wakefield, in the County of York, (held under a minute of Council), whereon is a Grist Mill—a small log house, and a barn, will be sold at the House of Gabriel Van Horne, Innkeeper at Fredericton, at Public Auction, between the hours of twelve and two, on Friday the fifteenth day of January next.

HENRY SMITH, Administrator.
Fredericton, 3d December, 1812.

BOSTON, DECEMBER 9.

OUR COUNTRY'S NAVAL GLORY.

Capture of another First Class English Frigate.

The British Frigate Macedonian, rated at 38 guns; but mounting 49, has arrived at Newport a prize to the U. S. Frigate United States, of 44 guns (mounting 58,) commanded by Commodore Stephen Decatur. The following are all the particulars we have obtained of this highly honorable victory:

The Macedonian commanded by Captain John S. Carden, sailed from Tobay on the 29th September in company with some Indianmen; and on the 25th October, in the morning, was descried by the United States in lat. 29, long. 30. The Macedonian being to windward, kept aloof from action for some time, then bore down on the American Frigate, which had commenced chase. A distant and desultory discharge of guns took place; when the Macedonian having her mizen top-mast shot away, bore down for closer action. The battle then continued about 20 minutes within pistol shot, when she struck her colours to the United States.

When the Macedonian struck she had nothing standing but her fore and main masts, and fore yard; every spar, even to the smallest, and rigging, was much cut. She had upwards of 100 shot in her hull, several between wind and water, and had all her boats but one staved. The damage to the United States is not stated, but a Gentleman who saw her in the sound, mentions, that she appeared to be in perfect order. The loss of the Macedonian was 35 killed and 70 wounded, twelve of them dangerously. The loss of the United States was 5 killed and 7 wounded—Among the latter was Lieut. John Funk, a brave and valuable officer, who had his leg shot off, and died the day after.

The Macedonian had 300, the United States 420 men. The Macedonian was launched in 1810, and is considered a fine frigate.

The fire of the United States was very lively, well-directed and destructive. During the close of the action the crew of the Macedonian thought her to be on fire, and cheered.

QUEBEC, NOVEMBER 19, 1812.

The past week has been fertile in reports and rumours, but has afforded very little authentic intelligence. To the bustle of preparation at Montreal for an immediate attack, succeeded a report of an Armistice for six months; this was followed by another of the breaking up of the enemy's camp at Plattsburg, to go into winter quarters; the next it was predicted, and the next, certain intelligence, arrived at Kingston, by a force from the last letters from Montreal, positively had been repulsed, after some cannon

We should suppose that the credulous will become callous, in the course of our rumours with which they will be sailed.—There is one thing which we are fully impressed on the mind of every North America, that in Peace or in War security against the attempts of the United States in our strength and the wisdom of against their ambitious designs and character. It is a truth which has occupied the object of our humble labours to disseminate years past, and which we think no one will now confirmed by experience.

If we keep this truth steadily on our mind, it will be communicated to the British Government, we have nothing to fear from this war; and it will, in the perpetuate the connexion between Great Britain and her North American Colonies, to a period which exceeds the bounds of human calculation. We shall have a people distinct in prejudice as well as interests from those of the United States; a marked line of separation between us.

Those who have the conducting of this war, have a task of difficulty, a burthen of responsibility which concerns not only the future welfare of half a million of souls, but the dearest interests of Britain, her trade and navigation, and consequently, her maritime power. The United States have been suffered to chase their moment for commencing hostilities. The wish to preserve peace, of which we have so many evidences on the part of the British Government, has made them fancy that this war arose only from a misunderstanding which they could easily remove, till such time as it was too late to send adequate succours to the Canadas, the principal object of attack. Yet if we are watchful, every one in his station, if we are always ready, if no precaution is omitted, a resource always in reserve for every accident, for defeat itself, we may maintain our ground. A numerous and willing population is an inexhaustible source of defence. The winter, far from providing for our security, will lay our country still further open to the attacks of the enemy. We should not be surprised if all his plans were said to be executed in the winter. The most disgraceful of all things is to be attacked unawares at a point and in a manner unexpected. Every able bodied man amongst us ought to be provided with his musket, his ammunition, winter clothing, provisions and snow shoes, ready to destroy or go in pursuit of the enemy, in the same manner as he would destroy or pursue the beasts of prey who sometimes issue out of the forest to devour his subsistence. We must bid adieu to ease for a time, and be familiar with danger; our toils and anxiety will be rewarded by our own safety, and the immortal honor of having by our loyalty, courage, and zealous obedience, saved this Province to the Empire. Subjects who will have given such proofs of their fidelity and virtue, will never be abandoned by generous England. The enemy are strong, much stronger than is generally imagined; they have numbers, perseverance, enterprise, intelligence and cunning to supply the deficiency of