

Poetry.

[FOR THE ROYAL GAZETTE.]

A BIRTH DAY ODE TO THE QUEEN.*

Queen of the white-cliff'd Isles whose shores,
The boisterous tide of ocean laves;
Whose land no foreign foe explores,
Or sinks beneath her guardian waves;
On this the day that claims thy birth,
We hail thee, best-belov'd of earth!

Each fragrant flower of thy lands,
Glad in the breath of summer plays;
Each dark-green grove of thy strands,
Its thousand sparkling gems displays;
To greet the joyful day's return,
When Albion's Royal Maid was born.

From Gorgeous Cities—rich domains—
For thee, ten thousand prayers arise;
Each beauteous villa of thy plains,
Sends forth thy blessing to the skies;
Each humble cottage too, can tell
Devoted hearts that love thee well.

Where rolls the wild Atlantic flood—
Where summer glides the Indian seas—
Where polar winds congeal the blood,
Thy kingly floats upon the breeze;
And heroes prompt where duty calls,
Guard thy unconquer'd "wooden walls."

Where Africa spreads her golden robe—
Where Asia lifts her glittering spires—
Where Europe, Mistress of the Globe,
The sunken world with awe admires;
And in Columbia, forest-crowned,
Thy faithful armies tread the ground.

Youth, beauty, virtue, are thy own,
To prompt the poets loftiest lays;
They cast a halo round thy throne,
That dazzles while thy people gaze;
And many a trusty one would bear,
Life's hardest ills—thy smiles to share.

Thy star is bright—thy sky serene,
And time sits lightly on thy brow;
Oh! may thy Diadem still shine,
With purest lustre, such as now—
Beams from each orb with brilliant rays,
To gild the nations with its blaze!

And when thy people's prayers in vain,
Shall ask on earth thy longer stay;
When after a long blissful reign,
Thy spirit seeks the fount of day;
Blest be thy lot, where all the wise,
Share the bright Kingdom of the skies! J.

* The above verses were written on the day which they are meant to celebrate, and are now published by request of a friend to the author. B.

Miscellaneous.

POSTAGE.

[From the Edinburgh Courant.]

It is now generally admitted that the Post Office in this country has been hitherto managed on an erroneous principle. The cost of transmitting letters from one part of the kingdom to another is a mere trifle—not amounting to more between Edinburgh and London than 8-11ths of a penny. The average postage of each letter is estimated on the most correct data at 6d. or 7d. The greater part of this charge is therefore a tax, which ought at any rate to be equal to all letters. But this is far from the case; a heavier postage or tax being charged on letters in proportion to the distance. A more unequal or absurd principle could not possibly be adopted; and if the rule were reversed—if the tax were diminished, in place of being increased, in proportion to the distance—it would be more rational and just. The effect of this injudicious taxing the carriage of letters between distant places is, to restrict all correspondence unless on urgent business. The expense of postage is almost an interdict on the intercourse of distant friends, which is in this manner prevented by the very circumstance which renders it desirable. If the postage of letters, in place of a charge, be a tax, it should not be higher on letters between London and Edinburgh, than between the latter place and Dalkeith. If the expense of carriage be higher in the one case than in the other, the tax ought to be less instead of greater. The mere carriage of letters is, however, so trifling, that an equal postage is an obvious improvement on the present system, which cannot be too early adopted.

The Post Office was originally constituted in the reign of Charles II., for the convenience of commerce. But in order to provide for the expenses of the wars in which the country was at different times engaged, it was soon converted into an instrument of revenue, and the postage was raised to their present rates, namely, to about 500 or 600 per cent. on the original cost. Owing to this exorbitant tax the revenue of the Post Office has not kept pace with the increasing wealth and population of the country. The gross revenue on an average of six years from 1815 to 1820, amounted to £2,190,597. From 1832 to 1837, its average amount was £2,251,424, which is an increase of only £60,827 on the year. It thus appears that it has remained nearly stationary for twenty years, while during about the same period, between 1821 and 1835, the revenue of the French Post Office has increased at the rate of 54 per cent. This disparity can only be accounted for by the high rate of postage, which drives the correspondence of the country out of its legitimate channel, and compels a resort to contraband channels of intercourse. Postage is now considered a serious expense by commercial houses, the saving of which is stated by several of the witnesses before the committee to be a part of mercantile education; and when the charge of a single letter amounts to a shilling or upwards, it tends greatly to abridge the correspondence of the nearest friends. Indeed, we have heard of the most mournful scenes of distress in poor families, who had not wherewithal to pay the postage of an anxiously expected letter—a poor widow, perhaps, from her long lost son—and these scenes were more frequent before; but by the well-considered liberality of the late Lord Melville, the letters of soldiers and sailors were allowed to go free.

But the great and convincing argument is, that this tax does not promote what it professes to have in view—the augmentation of the revenue. It is maintained, on very strong grounds, that a greater, or at least nearly an equal, revenue would be raised by a more moderate rate of postage. The great objection to heavy duties is, that they always give rise to plans of evasion, and thus defeat their object. An illicit trade follows a certain rate of duty as surely as the shadow the substance; it grows to maturity in the congenial soil, and cannot be rooted out either by the vigilance of

the excise, or the tyranny of penal statutes. That the high rates of postage have given rise to this evil, in an extraordinary degree, the evidence before the Committee furnishes ample proofs. It would far exceed our limits to enumerate in detail all the singular devices, legal and illegal, which are made use of to evade the Post Office rates. Many letters are sent by private messengers; invoices by tradesmen are sent along with their respective parcels. One witness states, that of 18,000 invoices despatched in 1837 by his house, only 1216 were sent by post, but that they would have been also sent if the postage were reduced to 1d. A common device on making remittances of money to pay accounts, is to send the whole sum to one house, with instructions how it may be divided. Mr. Dillon, an extensive dealer in silks, woollens, &c. mentions that he received £670, which he was to pay away to eight different houses, and which, if the postage had been moderate, would have been remitted in eight different letters. Mr. Wright, a partner in a London House, stated that he sent out about four hundred circulars in a week, and scarcely one went by post, by which, however, they would all go if the postage were 1d. Mr. Fenwick de Perquet, a bookseller, states that if the postage were 1d. he would send out from 25 to 40,000 circulars in the course of a month. Numerous other examples might be quoted to the same effect, of circulars distributed free of postage, by means of parcels sent by coaches, from land agents announcing the sale of properties; from wine merchants, announcing the prospects of the vintage; or from corn dealers, that of the harvest; from brokers of every description, advising the state of the markets; from traders, recommending their goods; from printers and booksellers, announcing their new publications; from fire and life insurance companies; from manufacturers and dealers, inclosing patterns and samples. In short, the whole business and commerce of the country is hampered at present by this heavy tax, the reduction of which would allow it freely to expand, and would, we are convinced, increase the Post Office revenue, in place of diminishing it. It is estimated that seventy-seven millions of chargeable letters are despatched in the course of a year, the net revenue arising from which is about £1,500,000; and if the rate of postage were reduced to 1d., taking the average expense of each letter at 7d., it would require seven times more letters than at present to yield the same revenue. But on considering the evidence brought before the committee—the vast amount of correspondence altogether suppressed by the present exorbitant rates—the numerous devices by which letters are sent, free of postage, by stage coaches, vans, railroads, steam boats, private conveyances, by parcels, boxes, and in many cases by regular carriers, we cannot doubt that if a moderate duty were adopted this contraband trade would altogether cease, and would flow into the regular channel; and that from the low postage of 1d. a larger revenue would be derived than from the present high rates. We are convinced, therefore, that a great boon would be conferred on the country by this abatement of the rates of postage; and this is no speculative reform, promising doubtful and remote benefits, but it is the removal of a plain practical evil, which restricts commerce and the intercourse of friends, and interferes more deeply than any other tax, which we know of, with the comfort and with the improvement of society. We do not enter into the minor details of Mr. Hill's plan, which could be easily arranged. The general principle is, we are now convinced, sound and rational, and confirmed by all the minute and laborious inquiries to which it has given rise, into the nature of the Post Office business, and the existing arrangements for carrying it on.

THE REV. MR. HAGGET'S ECONOMICAL BREAD.—Remove the coarse flake bran from the flour: of this take five pounds, and boil it in rather more than four gallons of water, so that when perfectly smooth you may have three gallons and three quarts of bran water clear.—With this kneed fifty six pounds of the flour, adding salt and yeast in the same proportion as for other bread. When ready to bake divide it into loaves, and bake them two hours and a half. This made flour will imbibe three quarters more of bran water than of plain; so that it not only produces a more nutritious substantial food, but makes an increase of one fifth of the usual quantity of bread, which is a saving of one day's consumption out of six. And if this were adopted throughout the kingdom it would make a saving of ten millions sterling a year, when wheat was at the price it stood in the scarcity, reckoning the consumption to be 200,000 bushels a day. The same quantity of flour which, kneaded with water, produces sixty nine pounds eight ounces, of bread, will, in the above way, make eighty three pounds eight ounces, gaining fourteen pounds. At the ordinary price of flour four millions would be saved. When ten days old, if put into the oven for twenty minutes, this bread will appear quite new.—*Worcester Journal.*

IMPORTANCE OF GIBRALTAR TO GREAT BRITAIN.—The value of Gibraltar to Great Britain has been questioned by a recent writer on Spain, who doubts whether it be worth preserving. "The command of the Mediterranean," he observes, "belongs to the strongest fleet." This—albeit a debatable proposition—we will not stop to dispute; since what Gibraltar claims is simply the command of the entrance to the Mediterranean; and that clearly belongs to the power which can most readily keep a force near at hand to prevent all ingress and egress. Now, Gibraltar is so situated as to enable Great Britain to do this with very small naval means; whereas it would require a fleet of any other nation to watch the straits, because that power would have also to blockade the port of Gibraltar. This, any one at all acquainted with the localities, the prevailing winds, &c., will readily admit to be at times an impossibility; and, on every occasion that the blockading squadron might be driven from its cruising ground, the command of the straits would again be possessed by Gibraltar, should its batteries shelter but a few gun-boats. The importance of Gibraltar will increase ten fold in the event of a steam war, as everything will then depend upon the vicinity of the contending parties to their coal depot.

THE CEDARS OF LEBANON.—Fifteen of the sixteen celebrated cedars of Lebanon are still alive, but all are more or less in a state of decay; and one of them is remarkable for three immense trunks, proceeding from the same stump, at a short distance above the soil. Another, one of the healthiest of the old trees, though perhaps the smallest, measured 33 feet French, (35 feet 9 inches English,) in circumference. All the trees are much furrowed by lightning, which seems to strike them more or less every year. In the middle of these old trees are about forty other cedars, comparatively young, though the trunk of the smallest of them is from ten to twelve feet in circumference. At the base of eight or nine of the old cedars are altars, constructed with large rough stones, which were formerly used by the inhabitants of the Maronite villages, who, headed by their pastor, went to El Herze on the day of transfiguration. All the priests said mass at the same time, each priest officiating at the foot of the cedar belonging to his own village. Disputes, having however, arisen from this practice, the patriarch of the Maronites has made a new arrangement; and now, though the Maronites still continue, on the festival of the transfiguration, to repair to El-Herze, only one mass is celebrated, which is performed on the altar of a different cedar every year, in order that the trees of all the villages in turn may enjoy the same privilege. There is not one young cedar in all the wood of El Herze.—*London's Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum.*

A GENUINE PRIZE.—The net proceeds of the Spanish Heroine (known by the same name of the Golden Heroine,) captured off Cadiz, 21st May, 1762, by the Active frigate and the Favourite sloop, two of Sir Edward Hawke's cruizers, after the deduction of all charges, was £519,705 10s., of which the flag share amounted to £64,963, and that of each of the captains to the same sum; the lieutenants £1,300, and each seaman and marine £485.—*Borrow's Life of Anson.*—[We add an anecdote in reference to the capture, which affords no bad illustration of the character of the British sailor. Such a sum as £485 the blue jackets of the "Active" fancied could never be expended in the ordinary routine of domestic life. In order to conquer the difficulty, therefore, they devised many ingenious methods, such as frying their watches over the gallery fire; subscribing a sum of money to gild the figure-head of the ship, &c. Finding, however, that their cash did not melt away fast enough, it was at last proposed that every man on board should wear a gold-laced cocked-hat; and every cocoa-nut was, accordingly, with all convenient speed, provided with a gold-laced hat, save one—this unhappy wight presented himself to his ship-mates with a silver-laced hat. This would not do—the ship was disgraced by such stinginess. "Let us ax the Lieftenant not to let him come aboard." The supposed culprit begged a hearing. Jack loves fair play, so silence having been obtained, the delinquent thus pleaded his cause.—"There warn't a gold-laced hat in the town, so I was forced to take this here; but I made the fellow take the money for a gold-laced all the same. On these last words reaching the ears of his comrades, he was received on board with universal greeting and acclamation."—*United Service Gazette.*

NAPOLEON.—The genius of Napoleon was allowed by all military observers to have shone brighter in the campaign in France, in the winter 1813-14, with one army opposed to two, than at any other part of his wondrous career. His political courage was as felicitously shown by the march from Elba to Paris. His military talents and political combined, were never more conspicuous than in the boldly devised movement by which he reduced the many chancé against him to an even one at Waterloo. But little do the world at large know the extent of the dread with which Napoleon, even when vanquished, awed his combined antagonists. After his Russian disasters, when Murat had joined the allies as well as Bernadotte, he was offered and he refused peace at Prague, the only concession required being the independence of the Rhedish confederacy. After the battle of Leipzig, he refused peace at Frankfurt. After the restoration of Poland, and with the allied armies in the middle of France on the one hand, and the English advancing from the Pyrenees on the other, still the terror of his name prevailed; the dread of advancing among the French people smote the hearts of their conquerors; even the heart of Bernadotte, who best new him and them, sunk within him; all seemed unmanned, and at Chatillon all were desirous of again making a peace which should fix Napoleon upon his throne. Of this the reader may be sure; and it much is due of Europe's escape in those times to the vigour and energy of some few able counsellors, perhaps more is owing to the inextinguishable ambition of Napoleon himself, his sanguine temper, and his untameable pride.—*Edinburgh Review.*

MARCH OF "JAW-BREAKERS."—A Barber in Fenchurch Street has manufactured some wigs, which he styles "the acme of kallichoplasmia." A baker up the narrow court in Fleet Street has prepared some vivifacaceous biscuits; and a hatter in Leicester square has invented a nightcap which he designates by the classical name of a caputgerodormitor!

NOTICE.

THE Subscribers having entered into Co-partnership beg to inform the Public that they have commenced business under the style of **GEORGE & JOHN MUNRO**, in the Store in Queen Street, heretofore occupied by Messrs. R. RANKIN & Co., where they will keep constantly for sale a general assortment of Dry Goods, HARDWARE, PROVISIONS, GROCERIES, WINES, &c. TERMS.—Cash or approved three months credit.

GEORGE A. MUNRO.
JOHN J. MUNRO.
Frederickton, 1st May, 1839.—9w.

NOTICE.

ON Consignment a Lot of TEA. Apply to **WILLIAM J. BEDELL**, Frederickton, 20th May, 1839.

J. W.

QUEEN

Respectfully announces the SPRING GOODS,

Comprising every Novelty for the Season, which have been carefully selected, and will be sold at his usual LOW PRICES for READY MONEY ONLY.

SILKS.

PLAIN, Black, and Coloured Gros de Naples, Du capes, Satin Nett, Satin Ture, and a variety of Rich Figured SILKS. Plain and Figured Tabbinet; French and British SATINS.

RIBBONS.

French Gauze Ribbon; Figured and Plain Bonnet Ribbon; Fancy Belts, Victoria Belts, Scarfs, Handkerchiefs, Aprons, Bags, Bracelets, Glove Straps, &c. &c.

SHAWLS.

Every new design in Lama, Cashmere, Thibet, French Filled; and a variety of LONG SHAWLS, unusually low in Price.

PRINTS.

A splendid assortment of LONDON Printed MUSLINS, and CAMBRIC DRESSES, from 5s. 6d. to 12s. per dress. Printed Mouseline de Laine Dresses, from 14s. per Dress. Printed Saxoneys, Lama and Challi DRESSES.

HOSIERY and GLOVES.

Ladies economy Silk ROSE; Ladies and Gentlemen's all Silk ditto. do. White Cotton Hose, from 7d. per pair; Ladies Lisle Thread and Balbriggan Hose, do. French Kid Gloves, from 10d per pair, do. Lace, Cotton, Thread, Lisle and Silk Gloves.

A Large assortment of FRENCH and BRITISH LACE GOODS.

A beautiful collection of LACE COLLARS, Capes, and Collarets; sewed Muslin Collars and Capes.

A large Stock of

Haberdashery, French Flowers; Nail, Tooth and Comb Brushes; Hair Brushes; Ladies Fancy Work Boxes; Dressing Cases and Writing Desks; Umbrellas and Parasols.

Gentlemen's Stocks, Scarfs, Pocket and Neck Handkerchiefs; Suspenders, Gloves, Trowser Straps, Slippers and Dancing Pumps.

White Longcloths; Scotch Holland; Rolled Jaconets; Book, Mull, Jaconet, and White Muslins; Gingham; Bed Ticks; White and Colored Jeans; Linen Diapers; Damask Table Covers, Doylies and Napkins; Ladies White and Colored Stays; black and colored Merinoes; Grey Cotton, Sewing Silks and Thread.

German Silver, Tea and Table Spoons; Jack and Pen Knives Scissors; Razors; Thimbles; Needles, &c. &c. &c.

A further supply daily expected.

Frederickton, June 4, 1839.

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE.

SITUATE on the great meadows of the Maguadrie, in the County of York, and adjoining the farm of Mr. RHEBREN BRACKWAY; it contains upwards of 300 acres, and cuts at present about 20 tons of HAY, and is capable of cutting more than 100 with a trifling expense, as it is about one third MEADOW GROUND, that is covered by the water every spring; the great road leading from Frederickton to St. Andrews and St. Stephens, crosses the river on said Lot, which is about midway between said places, and must be a valuable stand for a House of Entertainment; the Mr. BRACKWAYS near the premises can show the boundaries and situation. For further particulars enquire of T. R. ESTEY Frederickton, or Mr. PHILIP SEELYE St. George's.

22nd February, 1839.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons having any just demands against the Estate of the late William Kavanah, deceased, are required to render the same duly attested to, within three months from this date, and all persons indebted to said Estate are desired to make immediate payment to

CATHARINE KAVANAH

Administratrix.

Frederickton, 1st March, 1839.

Port, Madeira, Sherry, Brandy, Geneva, &c.

Landing ex "Sophia" from London.

PIPES, Hhds. and Quarter Casks choice old PORT;

Butts, Hhds. and Quarter Casks Brown,

Pale and dark golden Old Sherry; Pipes

E. I. Madeira;

Pipes, Hhds. Quarter Casks MADEIRA—

(Blackburn's brand.)

Pipes and Hogsheads, Madeira, (Houghton's

Brand.)

Hhds, Calcevelhos, Lisbon, Sauterne,

Pipes and Hhds. dark and pale BRANDY—

(approved brands.)

Hhds. best Scheideid GIN;

Punchneys very old Jamaica RUM;

Hhds. London B.S. PORTER;

Hhds. London PALE ALE; Claret, LaRose,

Latour, Chateau Margaux, Haut Brion,

and for sale by

W. P. RANNEY.

In addition to the above the Subscriber offers for

sale at his Establishment in Prince William Street

an extensive and well selected Stock of—

PORT, SHERRY, MADEIRA, BRANDY,

Geneva, Whiskey, &c. and a large Variety of

Bottled Wines—comprising—E. I. Madeira,

L. P. Madeira, L. M. Madeira, Sherry, Port,

Champagne, Burgundy, Stock, Hermitage,

Claret, Barsac, Sauterne, Buellas, Marsala,

Teneriffe, Catalonia, Cherry Brandy, &c. &c.

London Bottled Porter;

90 Packages—Congo, Souchong, Gunpowder,

Hyson, Twankay TEAS; of the Clifton's

Cargo.

Refined SUGAR, in Casks and Tierces.

20 Barrels Roman CEMENT.

Also, expected by the "HEBE," from Lon-

don, a further supply and a choice assortment

of Continental WINES, in Bottles.

Agency and Commission Business transacted

as heretofore.

May 10, 1839. W. P. RANNEY.

LAND FOR SALE.

A VALUABLE Lot of LAND on the River

Nashwaak, near the Tay Creek, being a

part of the Campbell Farm, joining JOHN

YOUNG's property, containing 73 acres mostly

cleared Land.

A Lot of LAND in the Parish of North

ampton, opposite the Woodstock Ferry, con-

taining 400 acres, lately owned by Mr. THOMAS

WOLVERTON.

Lots No. 4, 5, 6, and 7, of wilderness Tim-

ber LAND, on Little River, County of Sun-

bury, in the grant to ELIJAH ESTABROOK, and

others, containing 800 acres. For particulars

apply to **WILLIAM J. BEDELL**, Frederickton, May 22, 1839.

GIGS.

TWO GIGS for Sale by the subscriber low for Cash or approved security. F. W. B. Frederickton, M.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Connecticut, United States.

Incorporated in 1810—with a Capital of \$150,000

THIS long established Institution has for more

than twenty five years transacted its extensive

business on the most just and liberal principles—pay-

ing its losses with honorable promptness. During

this period have settled all their losses, without com-

pelting the insured, in any instance, to resort to a

Court of Justice. The present Board of Directors

pledge themselves, in this particular, fully to main-

tain the high reputation of the Company. It insures

on the most favourable terms every description of

property against LOSS or DAMAGE BY FIRE, but

takes no marine risks.

Application for insurance may be made either per-

sonally or by letter to the Secretary of the Company,

or to its Agents, who are appointed to many of the

principal Towns and Cities of the United States, and

in the British Provinces.

PRESENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Eliphalet Terry, Samuel Williams,

James H. Wells, F. J. Huntington,

S. H. Huntington, Elisha Colt,

H. Huntington, Jun., R. B. Ward,

Albert Day, ELIPHALET TERRY, President.

James G. Bolles, Secretary.

THE Subscriber having been appointed Agent

at Frederickton for the above mentioned Company, is

now prepared to take risks on every description of

Property against loss or damage by Fire.

ASA COY.

CONSIGNMENT.

THE Subscriber has just received by the

latest Steamers, a large quantity of TEAS;

consisting of Gunpowder, Hyson, Twankay

Young Hyson, Souchong, Congo of different

kinds, and Bohea, part of the Clifton's and

part of the Hon. East India Company's TEAS,

comprising an excellent assortment for family,

use or Retailers.

Also—Very superior WINES, Bottled in

Cases and Barrels: put up for the Mess of the

65th Regiment.

Best Golden SHERRY, Best L. P. MADEIRA,

Old CLARET, Old PORT, and

Pale