

POETRY.

(Selected.)

STANZAS.

On seeing the recently erected Monument to the late
CHARLES DUDMAN, the British Naval Songster,
in the Chapel of Greenwich Hospital.

Stop! shipmate, stop! he can't be dead!
His muse yet lives to seamen dear;
His spirit has but shot a-head,
And yet our midnight watch may cheer.
Still on each heart his lays resound,
From Nile re-echoes to the North;
Yet many a hope of mirth's aground,
Should Charley be indeed no more.
The "Evening Watch," the sounding lead,
Will sadly miss old Charley's line;
"Saturday Night" may go to bed,
His sun has set, no more to shine;
"Sweethearts and Wives" though we may sing,
Or toast, at sea, "the Girls on Shore,"
Jack's fiddle wants its master string,
Since tuncful Charley is no more.
"Jack Ratline's" story now who'll tell?
Or chronicle each boatwain brave?
The sailor's kind historian fell
With him who sang "the Soldier's Grave,"
"Poor Jack," "Ben Backstay,"—But belay!
Starboard and larboard, aft and fore,
Each from his bow may swab the spray,
For Charley spins the yarn no more.
The capstan, compass, and the log,
Will oft his muse to memory bring;
And when all hands wheel round the grog,
They'll drink and blubber while they sing.
For grog was often Charley's theme,
A double spirit then it bore;
At somehow seems to be a dream,
That such a spirit is no more.
It smooth'd the tempest, cheer'd the calms,
Made each a hero at his gun;
It even proved to foes a balm,
Soon as the angry fight was done.
Then, shipmates, check that rising sigh,
He's gone, as others went afore;
And even foremost-men must die,
As well as Charley, now no more!

VARIETIES.

SALMON FISHERY IN THE MIRAMICHI.—The following information, gleaned from a conversation with a friend an old settler, and intimately acquainted with the subject, may not be uninteresting to our readers.

There were cured in the year 1776, in the South-West Branch of this river, three thousand three hundred tierces of Salmon, equal to 4950 barrels, being the product of one net, partly owned by Messrs. Davidson & Court. From 1783 to 1790, there were annually cured, from various nets in this river, from Nine to Ten Thousand Tierces;—in latter years, this great source of domestic wealth has dwindled to two or three hundred Barrels! If these statements be correct, and we have no reason to think otherwise, from the intelligent quarter whence we have received them, this branch of our almost ruined trade calls loudly for Legislative interference.

What is the cause of the failure in this species of Fishery?—some say the great influx of shipping is the cause; others, the driving of timber. The first of these reasons we dismiss as unfounded—the second may partially injure the fishery, by the timber driven in the months of October and November, disturbing the beds of spawn deposited in shallow water; but these causes are rare, and deserving of little attention. From the information we have received from various individuals, it appears this great reservoir of wealth, has been dried up, by the destruction of the Salmon in the spawning season. It is notorious, that lumbering parties have cured from ten to fifty barrels in that season, and what they were unable to consume themselves, they made an article of food for their cattle! and we have repeatedly seen salmon, in this season, publicly exposed for sale. Why are the Salmon Fisheries of Great Britain more prolific now than at any former period? because they are protected by wise and salutary laws, rigorously enforced, and in due season she is amply remunerated for her vigilance.

We have pointed out the seat of this disease, it is only in the power of our Legislature to administer the antidote, which we have no doubt may be found in the British Statutes upon that subject.—Gleaner.

From the New-York Atlas.

STEAM CARRIAGES.—Every day brings forth new suggestions and improvements in all the relations of the subject. To two of these we will advert. The first is an adaptation of nautical contrivances to rail-way carriages, which are thus impelled by the force of the wind, as effectually as vessels at sea, and with a greater speed than is often reached on the unquiet wave. The Baltimoreans have been trying almost every variety of experiments on that part of their rail route which is completed, and citizens, members of the government, and distinguished strangers have enjoyed the pleasure of the new locomotion. The favorite carriage is that which is prepared and navigated "ship-shape."

As Chinese drive
"With sails and wind their cany waggon light,"
and the papers already announce the performance of voyages at the rate of 20 miles (knots) an hour. The other improvement which we shall here notice, is one proposed by Mr. Buchanan, H. B. M. Consul in this city. It is an invention calculated to give to locomotive machines an increased power of surmounting difficulties; and seems to promise important advantages.

The difficulty in the way of ascending hills by Rail Road carriages, which Mr. Buchanan's improvement is designed to obviate, is this. On coming to a certain degree of ascent, the carriage, although maintaining its impulse, would cease to advance, by the operation of gravity causing the wheels to glide backwards on the smooth surface beneath them. To prevent this evil, is the intention of the simple device suggested by Mr. B. We have seen his model, and believe the plan will be effectual,

within such limits as the power of the engine may be able to reach.

Attached to the wheels of the engine are cogs of a less diameter, having their teeth fitted to a counterpart connected with the rails, and beginning at the point where the acclivity commences. This arrangement is so contrived as not to bear any part of the load, but merely to afford the wheels a security from the effect of gravitation on the inclined plane, and the power something to act on with advantage. The nature and operation of the improvement will probably be best understood by a simple illustration. It is well known that many ferry boats are propelled by a horse treading on a revolving cylinder to which his weight and muscular power give motion. The effect of this agency is secured by means of bars or inequalities on the surface traversed by the animal. Were this surface perfectly even and slippery, although the horse might use precisely the same exertion, he would only slide on his foot-path, and no impulse be communicated to the machinery.

Mr. Buchanan, we understand, has no intention of securing a patent for his improvement; but a model has been deposited in the Patent office for the benefit of such as may choose to inspect it.

From the Prince Edward's Island Register.

THE MICMACS.—Some time ago, a Mr. Thomas Irwin, of this island, residing at Rollo Bay, sent a manuscript copy of a Grammar of the Micmac Language, compiled by himself, to the Editor of the Halifax Free Press. He says—"It is a shame that so fine a language should be so little known where it is spoken—a language that rivals, and sometimes excels, the languages of Greece and Rome." His chief object in making the communication, he says, was to call the attention of the public to the present condition of the Indians, in order that something may be done for the improvement of that despised and degraded race. On that subject, he has addressed a subsequent letter to the Editor of the same paper, which we give entire, and which we warmly recommend to the notice of our readers:—

"Rollo Bay, Nov. 10, 1829.

"DEAR SIR,—I am indeed sorry to be drawn before the public as an author, being very so unqualified for the station. My letter I designed as a private communication, and merely to direct you to use the manuscripts, but by no means for publication. You impose an arduous task on me, by supposing me capable of elucidating either the state of the Indians, or of informing you of the best manner of ameliorating their condition. Persons more acquainted with the subject, and with more power to second your views exist, and who from their merit are far more deserving of the office than myself. When the French first arrived in these provinces, the Missionaries, with whom every vessel was supplied, set about acquiring a knowledge of the language of the Indians, in order to communicate to them the saving truths of the Gospel. This they did successfully, as good Shepherds, who preferred the flock to the fleece—the salvation of the Indians to lethargic repose and an idle life! Such were, and such must be, the instruments requisite to serve the Indians! These faithful stewards have entered into the joy of their Lord, and their names are gratefully remembered by the Indians; and whilst the sound of "TE DEUM" makes glad the Indian wigwam, the name of the pious Abbe Maillard will be respected and venerated! These holy men did not prevent the Indians from following their natural pursuits; they went with them every where—they contended not their erratic inclinations. The wide forest was their church, the wigwam the pulpit; but the dews of heaven plentifully watered the new-sown grain, which brought forth fruit to eternal life abundantly. There were no schools or colleges to restrain the wanderings of the savage. It is to Catholic priests that any plan for the improvement of the Indians must be submitted; as the only persons who, from their constant intercourse with this tribe, are the most capable of forwarding any scheme, of the kind. And here the learned, pious, and truly charitable Abbe Sigogne, of Clare, presents himself to my remembrance! He who spared no cost to obtain a knowledge of their language, with a view of forwarding his sacred functions! He whose hospitable dwelling is always open to receive the unhappy wanderer of the woods, as to a sure asylum! He whom the rigour of the inclement winter cannot prevent from performing the last sad rite to the forlorn son of misery! He who has always shown himself the father of the wretched, is the most likely to give a satisfactory account of the best manner of treating the Indians, as he is now engaged in establishing a settlement at Bear River, near Annapolis, in which they may pursue agricultural or scientific pursuits, according to their separate usefulness. The Lord Bishop of Rosen, on our Island, is very likely to be useful. A charitable and pious regard for the wants, both Spiritual and Corporal, of the Indians, joined to his pastoral authority, gives him an undoubted right to regulate their concerns, and he will not fail to promote their welfare. The very pious Perre Vincent, of Tracadie, would be likely to aid those whose charity extends to the Indians; his disinterested zeal in their behalf warrants a hope that he would do every thing in his power to forward their happiness. The Catholic clergy alone are those whose admonitions the Indians hear with reverence, especially the French clergy; and whatsoever instruction would be thought proper to be given to them should be in consonance with their first faith, to make it useful, agreeable, or even acceptable. Were an elementary book in their language published, containing their morning and evening devotions, with such catechetical instruction as exists in their language; and were the Catholic clergy to interest themselves in teaching them to read it after the European manner, I am of opinion the most salutary effects would ensue. The manner in which the French missionaries taught them to read was by instituting hieroglyphical signs for words; this method though useful in a language in which the nouns and verbs vary so often, yet on the whole is incommensurable, for, should an Indian, after having acquired

the knowledge of any psalm, prayer, hymn, &c. in attempting to communicate it to another make a mistake of a single character or sign, the sense becomes weak, or quite changed, and the error is perpetuated as often as the erroneous copy is followed, unless some person be able to supply what is wanted, which seldom occurs. But where the language is written for the ear as well as for the eye, such a thing cannot occur. An almost insuperable obstacle to the acquirement of this language is the multitude of different terminations with which it abounds: who would think that a verb should agree with its nominative and two accusative cases in gender and number? But such it is; and he who would learn it must submit to put nearly 3000 terminations to the root of one word, to speak pure Micmac. The first French priests were too well aware of the beauty and elegance of the Micmac dialect to let it pass unobserved; accordingly, they set to the Gregorian note the man Breviary, and they enabled the once fierce savage to make the desert and lonely forest resound with the praises of his Creator. "I am, dear Sir, with unfeigned sentiments of esteem, Yours,"

"THOMAS IRWIN."

From the Brockville Gazette.

AFRICAN COLONY IN CANADA.—It appears that the Province of Upper Canada is likely to gain an accession of wealth, as well as strength, by the establishment of a Colony of Africans, from the United States, the emigration of whom, we understand, originated in an order of the Corporation of Cincinnati, in the State of Ohio, requiring persons of that description, to give security for their good behaviour; their number in that Township alone amounting to no less than 2000. Many of them are said to be wealthy and intelligent. Their prospects in Canada, as well as the inducements which those who have already arrived hold out to their brethren, dispersed throughout the whole of the United States, either in bondage, or ignominious emancipation, to follow their example, may be gathered from the following letter, and may afford a useful lesson to those who prefer the institutions of a FREE Republic, to the ARBITRARY SWAY of a Monarchical Government. The benefit, which a new country like this will derive from their labour, must be incalculable, and should their services be required for its defence, they will be secured, if not by gratitude for the generous protection they will receive from the British Government, at least from a conviction founded on experience, that no further change can improve their condition. These reflections are not made, with any view of inviting the emigration of any class of the population of a nation, with which we are in amity. The act of driving these people from the States has been their own; and it requires no argument to induce mankind to seek the land where they think that they will be most happy.

DEAR FRIENDS.—Myself and family are enjoying good health, and we have made choice of that desirable spot of land which we have long sought after, and now have found it, and therefore invite one and all of you to come and possess it. The distance from Cleveland to Port Talbot, or Kettle Creek is not more than from fifty to fifty-five miles, after which you have only thirty-five miles land carriage through the District of London to our tract. The spot we have pitched on is excellent land, on the banks of the River aux Sable, where a tyrant has never trod; and I have every reason to believe that the climate is not at all what Mr. Drake has represented it. As from every thing I can learn, it differs little from that of the States of New York and Ohio. I wish your friends to bring with them every kind of tobacco seeds—likewise shoe string and hemlock, for these are valuable articles here. I am told that two acres of tobacco, well attended to, will produce 400 dollars, and that it is never injured by the worm! and not only has no duty to pay, but there is a drawback allowed by the British Government on Tobacco grown in Upper Canada. Bring all kinds of garden seeds, as well as yellow and white flint corn. Notwithstanding our boasted freedom, I think no coloured man can enjoy it under the eagle and twenty-four stars. Here it may be enjoyed, for there is no difference of colour. A door has, therefore, been opened to us to enjoy freedom, and make ourselves independent; the axe lies at the root of the tree, and do not let the axe rust, or the other rot for the want of using.

The gentlemen of the Canada Company, with whom we have contracted, are about to petition the Governor to allow the vessels carrying you to Port Talbot, or Kettle Creek, to enter without paying duties, and there is every reason to think it will be granted.

There are eighty lots already laid out on both sides of the road, which are numbered off, at every quarter of a mile, each lot containing one hundred acres. There are a good many families about to go on immediately; and I have hired a man to build me a cabin, and I hope if I live and keep my health, to meet all the Agents and Members of the Committee on the 10th of May, to fix on a place for a school-house, and a place of worship, and other necessary buildings. So good bye till we meet again. I remain dear friends, your faithful servant,

JAMES C. BROWN,

President of the Free Colonization Board.

YORK, Dec. 12, 1829.

Notice to the coloured people of Ohio, and to all other free people of the United States.—I, James C. Brown, President of the Board which has been established in Ohio, for the purpose of settling the free people of colour on a tract of land purchased of the Canada Company, have arrived in Canada, and have found the land good, climate and water good, and an open door for raising our children in that way which I have long wished for. Mr. Lewis, our Agent, is now preparing to lay out the land in lots. There are a large number of families already here, and they are well pleased with the land and country.

Upper Canada, Oct. 28, 1829.

FIRST DISCOVERY OF CANADA.—A Berthelot, Esquire, of Quebec whose historical knowledge is probably known to many of our read-

ers, has just published a short "Dissertation" on the Brass Cannon found in 1823, on the shoals of the St. Lawrence, off the Parish of Champlain, in the District of Three-Rivers, and now in Mr. Chasseur's Museum.

The accidental discovery of this cannon, by persons in pushing off a raft of timber which had stranded, has led to some very interesting observations by Mr. Berthelot. We think his researches have entirely unsettled the popular notion that Jacques Cartier was the first discoverer of Canada, and that they have established, upon very strong grounds, that Verazani, who fitted out his last expedition under the auspices of Francis the First, King of France, in 1525, first ascended the St. Lawrence, and there met with the tragical end, which has hitherto remained without a "local habitation."

There can be no doubt that there was a tradition among the inhabitants of Canada, in the first half of the 17th century, that there had been a shipwreck of white persons in the St. Lawrence, above Quebec. Charlevoix, who appears to have often written with precipitation, says, that the vessel was lost on the "Roche de Jacques Cartier" at the mouth of the present River bearing that name, and has clearly confounded that River with the real St. Croix or the present St. Charles, falling into the St. Lawrence at Quebec. He is equally in error in his statement, that the vessel wrecked was one of the three belonging to Jacques Cartier. It is a fact that Jacques Cartier returned with only two of his vessels to France, but it is equally certain that the third vessel was broken up in the St. Charles, near the present Dorchester Bridge where he had wintered, and where the scurvy (to which all his crews would have fallen victims, if the natives had not prescribed the use of the spruce beer tree as a cure) had so diminished his men that he was forced to abandon her.

Verazani, after his operations against the Spanish settlements in Florida, can be traced to the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, and there are even historical statements that he ascended the River. The cannon in question corresponds exactly with the description of artillery in use among the Spaniards at that time, and very lately to be seen in the possession of some of the South American patriots. It is about a six pounder, of brass, with a moveable chamber in which the charge is put when taken from the gun, and then replaced and fixed with a wedge. It deserves inspection. No gun of the kind has ever before been seen in Canada.

The tradition of a shipwreck, the discovery of this piece of artillery, and the certain errors of Charlevoix, lead to the conclusion that it was in the St. Lawrence, above Quebec, that Verazani closed his numerous exploits. Whether he was eaten or massacred by the savages, as is averred, was drowned, or died of the scurvy, from which his successor narrowly escaped, will probably remain unknown. Mr. Berthelot, we think, however places it as far beyond doubt as can possibly be expected, that it was in the St. Lawrence that he met his end.—Neilsen's Gazette.

SURVEY OF THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.—The following is Mr. Lloyd's account of the levelings carried on across the isthmus of Panama, to ascertain the relative height of the Pacific Ocean at Panama, and of the Atlantic, at the mouth of the river Chagres.

The author having received from General Bolivar a special commission to survey the Isthmus of Panama, with the view of ascertaining the most eligible line of communication between the two seas, arrived at Panama in March, 1828. Here he was joined by Captain Falmare, a Swedish officer of engineers in the Colombian service. Anxious to lose no time in the prosecution of their objects, they proceeded on the 5th of May to commence their operations, resolving not to be deterred by the difficulties likely to arise from the rainy season, which had just set in, from personal privations, and even from the dangers to which they might expose their health. Their line of survey commenced at Panama; and was continued the old road to Porto Velo, till it came to the bed of the Chagres, a river which falls into the Gulf of Mexico. The greatest height passed over in this line was 633.32 feet above the level of high water at Panama. Their constitutions were now beginning to suffer from the continued exposure to rain; and they determined, after building a secure station on the bank of the Chagres; to defer all future operations till the ensuing year, when the dry season should commence. On the 7th of February, 1829, they resumed their labors, carrying on their levels from a point of the river below their former station, and 15,255 feet above high water mark at Panama, along the course of the river, to a place distant about twelve miles from its mouth, called La Braja, where the water in dry seasons is very brackish, and from which there is no current to the sea.

The result of this survey fixes the mean height of the Pacific at Panama at 352 feet above the Atlantic at Chagres. Between the extremes of elevation and depression of the general tides in the Pacific at Panama, there is a difference of 27.44 feet; but the mean difference at the usual spring tides is 21.22. At Chagres this difference is only 1.16 feet, and is the same at all seasons of the year. Hence it follows, that at high water, the time of which is nearly the same on both sides of the Isthmus, the Pacific is raised at mean tides 10.61 feet, and the Atlantic 0.58 feet, above their respective mean levels, giving to the former an elevation above the latter of 13.55 feet. At low water, both seas being below their respective mean levels, by the same quantities as before stated, the Pacific will be lower than the Atlantic by 6.51 feet; so that thus, in the course of every interval from one high tide to the succeeding one, the level of the Pacific is at first higher, then equal, and afterwards lower than the Atlantic; and then again passing back by the same steps, in regaining its former elevation as the tide returns.

The great chain of mountains which extends from the Andes, in South America, to the Mexican and Rocky Mountains in North America, is not, as is generally supposed,

absolutely continuous through the isthmus connecting these two continents; for the northern cordillera, on the eastern side of the province of Veragua, breaks into detached mountains of considerable height, having steep and rugged sides. To these succeed numerous conical mountains rising from plains and savannas, and seldom succeeding for 300 to 500 feet in height. Between the gorges on the Atlantic side, and Cherrera, on the Pacific, the conical mountains are less numerous, and are separated by extensive plains, with only a few occasional insular hills, of inferior extent and elevation. Thus it happens, that at the narrowest part of the isthmus a break occurs in the mountain chain, which, in almost every other part, is uninterrupted from its northern to its southern extremities; a circumstance which marks the spot peculiarly adapted for the establishment of a communication across. The author has laid down on his map two lines for a railroad, both commencing at a point near the junction of the river Trinidad with the Chagres, and crossing the intervening plain; the one to Cherrera, the other to Panama. The latter line, although the longer of the two, would have the advantage of terminating at a considerable city. The banks of the river Trinidad are represented by the author as being well suited for wharves, especially in the neighbourhood of the spot he recommends as the commencement of the railroad. But as the mouth of the Chagres is impeded by a bar, he suggests the expediency of forming a communication with the adjacent bay of Limon, which in its present state affords excellent anchorage, and which, by making certain improvements in it, pointed out in the paper, might, at a small expence, be rendered one of the most commodious harbours in the world.

VALUE OF OUR WEST INDIA POSSESSIONS.—It has been estimated that the amount of capital invested in their agriculture, commerce and shipping, amounts to nearly £200,000,000 sterling; that the short space of thirty four years, viz. from 1781 to 1827 inclusive, British manufactures and agricultural produce, amounting in real value to £220,000,000 have there found a market. That the imports from thence into this country alone, amounted, during that period to £400,000,000; and that a further sum of about £175,000,000 more has been expended in freight and other charges. But without demonstrating the accuracy of these calculations, we merely state, that the quantity of British produce and manufactures, requisite for their annual consumption, is even now estimated at nearly £4,500,000; in return for which they send us tropical produce to the value of about £9,000,000, affording a direct revenue to the amount of about £7,000,000 sterling, the duty on sugar alone being equal to £5,000,000 per annum; besides employing about sixteen hundred British ships, carrying 430,000 tons, navigated by about 24,000 seamen, embracing all the employment and subsistence of an immense body of labourers at home. West India Reporter.

NEWS.—John Dean, a young man of delicate appearance, was brought before Mr. Alderman Brown, charged with stealing paragraphs from files of newspapers.

It appeared in evidence that the prisoner was in the habit of frequenting a coffee-shop, Skinner-street, Snow-hill. The proprietor having lately discovered that several files of newspapers had been mutilated, and rendered almost useless by the loss of several sheets and paragraphs which had been cut out by some of his customers, he determined to set a person to watch certain parties, with a view of ascertaining who the extricator might be; in the course of yesterday evening the waiter observed the prisoner very busily employed in cutting out two paragraphs from an old file of Bell's Messenger, and he immediately communicated the fact to his master; an officer was sent for, and on the prisoner's coming down stairs he was taken into custody. He was searched, and the two extracts which the waiter had seen him cut out, and 20 or 30 other newspaper paragraphs, were found in his pockets.

Mr. Deacon said he had suffered a severe loss by this species of literary depredation, and he was determined to put a stop to it. He understood that the prisoner was employed in collecting information for the Newspapers, and he believed that a great portion of the matter of which the periodicals were composed was made up of extracts from old papers and works changed and accommodated to the taste of the day. He should feel obliged if the Alderman would grant him a warrant to search the prisoner's lodgings, as it was not improbable that other remnants of his property might be found there; the prisoner, however, had not mentioned his address, but he might have no objection to tell it.

Mr. Alderman Brown said he could not grant a search warrant, as the prisoner had not given his address, nor did he think it would be proper to ask him where he lived, as that would be making him a party to convict himself of felony.

A gentleman in the office mentioned to the Alderman that a person of the same name as the prisoner had lately furnished some of the Evening Papers with an account of a shocking case of seduction, described to have taken place in Regent-street about two months back, and which tale was subsequently discovered to have been manufactured, and taken almost verbatim (except changing the scene of action from Hatton-garden to Regent street) from a number of the News, a Sunday paper, about 20 years old; and, what was more strange, the News, copied its own paragraph from the Evening Paper which had been so grossly imposed on.

The prisoner, when asked what he had to state in his defence, said he must admit, to his shame, that he had been guilty of the present charge. He was fully committed.

THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

TERMS.—16s. per Annum, exclusive of Postage. Advertisements not exceeding Twelve Lines will be inserted for Four Shillings and Sixpence the first, and one Shilling and Sixpence for each succeeding Insertion. Advertisements must be accompanied with Cash, and the insertions will be regulated according to the amount received. Blanks, Handbills, &c. &c. can be struck off at the shortest notice.