# St. John Daily Chronicle,

## AND COLONIAL CONSERVATIVE.

Volume XVII. Saint John, New-Brunswick, Friday, November 19, 1852. Number 11.



### THE SAINT JOHN CHRONICLE,

is published every Friday afternoon, by WILLIAM DURANT, at his Office in the Brick Building of L. H. Deveber & Son, west side Prince Wm. street.

☞ Visiting and Business Cards, (plain and ornamental,) Handbills, Blanks, and Printing generally, neatly executed.

TERMS OF THE CHRONICLE:

**12s. 6d. in Advance**;—$3 if not paid until the termination of the year;

But as the Proprietor intends to discontinue, as far as practicable, the *Credit system*, and stop the practice of making *good subscribers* contribute for those who *never pay*, he offers the following

**Inducements for Clubbing,**

by which means parties will be able to procure a valuable Family and Business Newspaper at a CHEAPER RATE than any heretofore offered in this Province. He proposes to send

For $10 IN ADVANCE, 3 copies of the Chronicle, *to one address*, to any part of this or the Sister Provinces, for One Year;
For $20 in advance, 11 copies for One Year;
For $40 in advance, 24 copies for One Year;
Mind! IN ADVANCE, and to one address.

☞ No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid up, except at the discretion of the publisher.

All letters, orders, communications, &c., must be post paid, and addressed to

WILLIAM DURANT,
Chronicle Office, Saint John, N. B.



**Mutual Insurance Company.**

JOSEPH FAIRWEATHER, Esquire, *President*.
J. W. LAWRENCE, ZEBEDIE RISO, } *Directors*.
S. L. TILLEY, S. K. FOSTER, }
J. M. ROBINSON, Esquire, *Solicitor*.
ISAAC WOODWARD, Esquire, *Secretary*.

*Applications for Insurance against Fire to be made at the Office of the Secretary North Market Wharf.*

DOOLEY'S
*Merchant's Exchange Hotel*—*Post Office Building*,
**State street, BOSTON.**

TERMS—ONE DOLLAR per day.

CHARLES W. STOCKTON,
**Attorney & Barrister at Law,**
PRINCE WILLIAM STREET,
ST. JOHN, N. B.

CHARLES W. WELDON,
**Attorney at Law & Notary Public**
OFFICE—Over Messrs. Ramsay, Sturdee & Co
Prince William-street, St. John, N. B.
May 28, 1852.

**SOAP & CANDLE MANUFACTORY.**
GEORGE WOODS,
*West side Water Street, between the Ferry Landing and Fish Market*,
ST. JOHN, N. B.
August 29.

HAMMOND RIVER HOUSE.

THE Subscriber grateful for past patronage from the Travelling community, begs to inform his friends and the public at large, that he has lately removed his establishment to the above House, 16 miles from this City, 1 mile North of Hammond River Bridge, where he is prepared to entertain Travellers at all times and seasons.

DINNERS, &c. &c., go up at shortest notice.

Constantly on hand, a choice supply of WINES, &c. &c.

Comfortable and commodious Stabling attached to the Premises, careful hostlers always in attendance.

WASHINGTON ALDEN.
February 2, 1849.

**1852.**
**Spring style of HATS.**
**C. D. EVERETT & SON**

HAVE just received, per *Cybo* from Boston, their *Spring Style* of HAT BLOCKS, and are prepared to furnish Gentlemen with *Fashionable HATS*, of various qualities.

Our best Hats, which are equal to the best manufactured in the United States or elsewhere, are only 29s. each; other qualities proportionally low.

HATS and CAPS of all kinds constantly on hand. ☞ *Call and see the New Style.*

C. D. EVERETT & SON,
East side Market Square and North side King-Street.
March 12.

**JOHN BARRY,**
*Silver Smith, Jeweller & Engraver*,
North side of King Street, St. John, N. B., a few doors below the *Waterloo House*.

MANUFACTURER of all kinds Silver Plate, viz: Tea, Table, and Dessert Spoons; Forks, Ladles, Fish and Butter Knives, &c. &c.; also, Silver Cups of different patterns, which he will furnish *Cheaper* than any other House in the City. The above work is warranted to be made of Sterling Silver, and for neatness of style and superiority of finish challenges competition.

JEWELLERY made to order and repaired.

All Kinds of ENGRAVING neatly executed.

Traders, Pedlers and others furnished with plain Gold Finger RINGS *cheaper* than can be imported. In all cases punctuality may be relied on. Cash and the highest price given for Old Silver.
June 4.

**GRANITE HALL,**
*No. 1, DOCK-STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.*

CLEARING OUT FOR THE FALL TRADE.
"Clothing at it Discount!"

THE whole Summer Stock selling at 20 per cent. less than even the usual low prices of this far famed Cheap Clothing Establishment, to make room for an immense stock of

FALL AND WINTER GOODS!

Now on the way, and shortly expected to arrive.

Purchasers will do well to examine before purchasing elsewhere.

Sept. 24. THOS. R. JONES.

HENRY P. SANCTON,
**Soap and Candle Manufacturer,**
ORANGE STREET, SAINT JOHN, N. B.,

HAS constantly on hand, Soap and Candles, which he can recommend to his friends and the public in general—such as cannot fail to give satisfaction to the consumer and dealer—and trusts, by attending to his business, to merit an share of patronage which it will be his effort to deserve and extend.

☞ Those who are in want are invited to call and see for themselves. We confidently assert it is where they do better manufactured in the City.—The smallest favor thankfully received.

☞ *MIND!! Orange-Street—near the Centenary Chapel.* July 2.—3m

WILLIS WESTLAKE'S,
HAS Removed his place of business to Dock street opposite the Store of Mr. Patterson, where he will be ready at all times to execute orders in his line.

Repairing done and an Apprentice wanted.

TURPENTINE & OLIVE OIL.—To Painters, Shipping or TURPENTINE, Casks of OLIVE OIL.

August 6. S. L. TILLEY.

**National Loan Fund**
**LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY**
**of London.**

EMPOWERED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

**Capital, £500,000 sterling.**

Exclusive of a Received Fund (Surplus Premiums) of £51,000 sterling.

BOARD OF LOCAL DIRECTORS AT ST. JOHN, N. B.
(Office Nelson street.)
ROBERT F. HAZEN, *Chairman*.
Edward Allison, Esq. William Wright, Esq.
John H. Gray, Esq.
Medical Examiner—Wm. Bayard, Esq., M. D.

*Advantages offered by this Society.*

PRESENT SECURITY, arising from a large Capital totally independent of the Premium Fund.

LOANS—Two-thirds of the Annual Premiums paid, or half the Premiums for the first five years, which half may remain on interest, to be deducted from the amount of the Policy at the death of the insured.

LOW RATES OF PREMIUM.—The rates of Premium are as low as any society of equal standing.

DIVISIONS OF PROFITS.—The Bonus in the Society are declared annually, and each year the Assured has the option of receiving the profits in Cash in reduction of Premium, or in addition to the sum insured.—The Bonus are permanent.

Premiums may be paid Annually, Half-Yearly, or Quarterly.

Insurance may be effected for one year, for five years, or for life, with or without participation in the profits of the society.

A liberal allowance for the surrender of policies.

Every information to the Society's Rates of Premium, mode of Insurance, and blank forms of application, may be had at the Office of the subscribers, or of the sub-Agents, who have Pamphlets for gratuitous distribution, and all documents required for effecting Insurance.

CALIFORNIA—Parties proceeding to California can effect insurance on liberal terms.

SUB-AGENTS FOR NEW BRUNSWICK.

*Bathurst*: Theophilus Deshisay, Esq.
*Chatham*: William Carman, junior, Esq.
*Dorchester*: Albert J. Smith, Esquire.
*Dalhousie*: William S. Smith, Esq.
*Fredericton*: J. Henry Phair, Esq.
*Hampton*: Samuel Hallett, Esq.
*Hopewell*: Thomas B. Moore, Esq.
*Moncton* (the Bend) Miss Botsford, Esq.
*Newcastle*: Edward Williston, Esq.
*Richibucto*: William Bowser, Esq.
*St. Andrews*: George D. Street, Esq.
*St. Stephens*: W. F. Rose, Esq.
*Shediac and Cocagne*: Richard C. Scovil, Esq.
*Woodstock*: James Robertson, Esq.

WILLIAM J. STARR,
February, 1850. *Manager, St. John, N. B.*

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON
**Fire and Life Insurance Company,**
[*Established in 1836.*]

Capital £2,000,000—in shares of Twenty Pounds.

THE Stockholders of this Company are responsible to the full extent of their property for the liabilities of the Company.

The undersigned hereby notifies the Public of New-Brunswick that the above-named Company have empowered him, by a full and ample Power of Attorney, to open an Office in the City of Saint John, for the Insurance of PROPERTY against loss or damage by FIRE, in any part of the Province, and to sign and issue Policies in the name of the Company; and that in virtue of the power vested in him by the said Power of Attorney, he has appointed Mr. ADAM JACK to act as Agent for the said Company, in the receiving of proposals for Insurance, and the inspection of premises proposed for Insurance, and all other the usual duties of an Agent; and to collect and receive the amount of premium on any policy issued by the undersigned in the name of the said Company, or for the renewal of the same.

The Deed of settlement, and the supplemental Deed of settlement, lies with Mr. Jack, at the Office of the *New Brunswick Marine Assurance Company*, also the pamphlets issued by the office at Liverpool, affording ample details of the mode of transacting business by the Company.

The rates of premium will be as low as any other respectable Company, and the undersigned trusts a fair portion of public patronage will be accorded to the Company.

Losses not exceeding £300 will be settled without referring to the head Office at Liverpool.

EDWARD ALLISON.
Dated at St. John, N. B., 4th August, 1851.

RAILROAD HOUSE,
SOUTH SIDE KING STREET—ST. JOHN

THE Subscriber, in accordance with the fashion of the day, deems it necessary to acquaint his friends and the Travelling Public, that he has Fitted Furnished, and Repaired his House, in a manner that defies rivalry, for the accommodation of PERMANENT AND TRANSIENT BOARDERS.

His Fare consists of the choicest delicacies of the season. Clean Beds, good attendance, and (better yet) moderate charges, are the prominent features of his establishment.

Truly grateful to his former patrons, he solicits a continuance of public favour.

IN CONNEXION WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT IS A

*LIVERY STABLE*,

With Fashionable "Turn-Outs." And excellent accommodations for the Horses of Travellers and Country customers.

May 21. JAMES E. McDONALD.

WINE, BRANDY, &c.—Now landing ex *Sir Harry Smith* from London, *Henry Pease* from Grangemouth, and *Oceanic* from Clyde—Our Spring supply of Choice Old WINES, &c. consisting of Port, Pale Golden and BROWN SHERRY; Madeira, Pale and Brown Cognac BRANDY, Hollands GENEVA, London Brown Stout and PORTER, Scotch and East India PALE ALE, which with a well assorted Stock of choice Old WINE, &c., are offered for Sale by.

RANNEY, STURDEE & CO.,
Wine Merchants.
May, 5.

CLEARING OUT SALE!

**Glasgow House, King Street.**

THE Subscribers will, during the present months, sell off, at a great reduction from former prices the balance of the Summer Stock, and would call particular attention to the following articles, viz:—

*PRINTED CASHMERES and DELAINES*;
Paisley Corrons;
FANCY DRESS STUFFS;
Paisley Muslins;
LEGHTS SHAWLS;
Scotch Ginghams;
Brown Holland, &c.

The whole of which will be sold cheap in order to make room for the Fall Stock, shortly expected

Sept. 3. BALLENTINE & BOWMAN.

**Turner's Sarsaparilla.**

6 CASES, just received per *Melinda* from New York. The Sarsaparilla which is superior to all others, is put up in two Quart Bottles, and sold at the reduced rate of *One Dollar* per Bottle.

GEORGE P. EVERETT & CO., *Agents*,
No. 4 King-street, (adjoining Barlow's Corner.)

**VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE.**
*In King's County.*

THE FARM, comprising Lots 34 and 35, containing 400 acres each, situated on Mill stream, Studholm, one mile above Hon. John Ryan's residence, 100 acres of which is very superior Intervale, 50 acres cleared.

There are on the Premises a good HOUSE, and a new Frame BARN, 30x40 feet.

Will be sold in lots to suit purchasers, if required, and at a low figure.

Reference to W. E. Jack, Esq., or Mr. C. Betts. St. John, April 23, 1852.

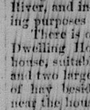
FARM FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber offers for Sale, his Farm, situated in the Parish of Springfield, (King's County.) The said Farm contains Two Hundred Acres, Eighty of which is cleared and under good cultivation, with a comfortable Dwelling House, and good BARN; cuts Twenty Five Tons English HAY, annually. The Farm is situated near a Grist and Saw Mill, and likewise a Carding Machine, and within 4 miles of Belleisle Church, and 1 1-2 of the Baptist Meeting House. It is known as the Case Settlement, and branches off from the Finger Board to Sussex and Mill Stream, and is within thirty-three miles of the City of Saint John.

Terms of Sale will be half down, and the remaining half in yearly instalments.

For further particular apply to the Subscriber on the premises. JOHN O'NEIL.
Springfield, (K. C.) June 18, 1852.

FARM at Musquash for sale:—



A VERY valuable and well situated FARM, at Musquash in the Parish of Lancaster, 15 miles from the City of Saint John, containing 160 acres in the whole—60 acres of which are Dyked Marsh, the remaining best quality Upland, about 100 acres being cleared and in excellent condition.—The Mail Road to St. Andrews and the United States runs through the property. It is situated in the Village of Musquash—bounded on one side by the River, and in a place well calculated both for farming purposes and a public establishment.

There is on the place, a large and convenient Dwelling House, in good repair; also, a small house, suitable for a tenant; a Blacksmith's Shop, and two large Barns, capable of containing 60 tons of hay besides cattle; and plenty of good water near the house.

The Farm and Establishment will be found on examination to be well worthy the attention of any persons inclined to purchase; and the probability is that the Western Railroad Depot will be at this spot.

The terms of payment will be made easy; and further particulars may be obtained on application to DUNCAN ROBERTSON, Esquire, Barrister at Law, St. John, or to the Proprietor on the premises.

May 21, 1852. WILLIAM FOGG.

**Third Division of Profits**

MINERVA
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF LONDON
**ESTABLISHED, 1835.**

AT the Third Quinquennial Meeting of this Company held in London, 24th June, 1852, a Surplus of £42,400 Sterling, (being four-fifths of £53,000 Sterling) was declared distributable amongst the Policy holders entitled to participate. This sum allows of a reduction of Premium for the next five years, of £9,633 16s. 3d. Sterling, per annum, or an equivalent reversionary Bonus payable at Death, of £68,939 10s. 7d.

The reduction of Premium averages 35.22 per cent. on the Premiums payable during the next five years.

The reversionary Bonus averages 60 per cent. on the Premiums received during the last five years, or 9 per cent. on the sums Assured.

Upon the Policies which had been full five years in existence, the reversionary Bonus averages 2 1-2 per cent. Premium on the sum assured, a result which has been seldom equalled, and will bear comparison with that of any Office.

The following Table illustrates the Bonuses declared:

| | Average Reduction of Premium. | Average Reversionary Bonus |
|---|---|---|
| 1st Division—1812 | 16.833 per cent. | £1 per cent |
| 2d " 1817 | 31.333 " | 5½ " |
| 3d " 1852 | 35.22 " | 60 " |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| On the 21st December last, the Existing Assurances were | £1,099,813 | 10 | 2 |
| The Capital Funds of the Company were | 230,262 | 15 | 6 |
| The Annual Income was | 47,721 | 2 | 6 |
| The Divisible Surplus was | 53,000 | 0 | 0 |

The Directors consider, and trust the Policy holders will agree with them, that the position of the Company is highly satisfactory, and hope that, taking into account the continually increasing competition they have to encounter, the progress of the Company has equalled their expectations, as the benefits actually realized equal, and in most cases surpass, those afforded by the largest established Offices.

Prospectuses, Formal Proposal, and every information may be obtained from

RANNEY, STURDEE & CO.,
*Agents for New-Brunswick.*
July 29

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT ABOLISHED!—MORALS GUARDED! *Good Pupils only Retained!!! The Incorrigible Expelled!!!*—This School contains three departments—the INFANT, the COMMERCIAL, and the MATHEMATICAL. The Infant department, conducted by a female, accommodates pupils of both sexes, from 3 to 6 years of age, in Spelling, Reading, Mental Arithmetic, and Natural History, at 7s. 6d per quarter. The Commercial Department, conducted by two teachers, receives pupils leaving the Infant Department, and furnishes to them a through instruction from Spelling up to Common and Mental ARITHMETIC—the elements of Mathematics, Geography with the use of the Globes, English Grammer, &c., together with Reading and Writing, at fees from 10s to 20s per quarter.—The Mathematical Department, conducted by two teachers, comprises Composition, Ancient and Modern History, Book Keeping, use of the Globes, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Astronomy, &c., the Reading Writing, and Speaking of the FRENCH LANGUAGE, and Classics, at fees from 25s to 30s per quarter.

S. D. MILLER, A. M.,
*Manager.*
May 10

**New-Brunswick**
**STEAM, SASH, DOOR, AND BLIND FACTORY,**—*Harding Street, St. John.*

HAVING put up the best Machinery that can be procured for the manufacture of Doors, Sashes, inside and outside Blinds, Window Frames, Mouldings, and other kinds of Wood Work. I am prepared to furnish to any extent the best and cheapest article ever offered to the people of this Province.

JOHN E. TURNBULL.
May 9,

**For sale or Lease.**

*And immediate Possession given*:—

SAW MILL, with 300 acres of Land attached, in upper Sussex, formerly owned by John C. Vail, Esq., and now in possession of H. C. Snider—Terms moderate. Enquire of

Feb. 27. L. H. DEVEBER & SON.

SHOULDER BRACES.—A fresh supply just received and for sale by

FELLOWS & CO.
August 27.


## POETRY.

### TO A GIRL OF THIRTEEN.

(From the Poetical Remains of Wm. Sidney Walker.

Thy steps are dancing towards the bound
Between the child and woman;
And thoughts and feelings more profound,
And other years are coming;
And thou shalt be more deeply fair,
More precious to the heart;
But never count thou be again
That lovely thing thou art.

And youth shall pass, with all the brood
Of fancy fed affection;
And grief shall come with womanhood,
And waken cool reflection;
Thou'rt learn to toil and watch, and weep
O'er pleasures untreturning,
Like one who wakes from pleasant sleep
Unto the cares of morning.

Nay, say not so! nor cloud the sun
Of joyous expectation,
Ordained to bless the little one,
The freshing of creation!
No doubt that He, who thus doth feed
His early lamb with gladness,
Will be her present help in need,
Her comforter in sadness.

Smile on, thou little winsome thing!
All rich in nature's treasure;
Thou hast within thy heart a spring
Of self-renewing pleasure,—
Smile on, fair child, and take thy fill
Of mirth till time shall end it;
'Tis nature's wise and gentle will,
And thou shall reprehend it?

## MISCELLANY.

### Wild Scenes in a wild Country.

#### A DAY WITH A LION.

A few years ago, while residing at the Cape, I became acquainted with several of those enterprising traders who are engaged in the lucrative but rather hazardous traffic with the natives north of the Orange River. These traders are sometimes absent for more than two years from the colony, moving about with their wagons and servants from one tribe to another, until their goods are all disposed of, when they return to Graham's Town or Cape Town with the cattle, hides, ivory, ostrich feathers, and other valuables, into which their original merchandise has been converted, usually at a profit of some four or five hundred per cent.

One of the boldest and most successful of these adventurers was a Mr. Hutton, a respectable English colonist, who had accumulated a small fortune by his excursions among the Namaquas and the Damaras. I have heard of him not only as a lucky dealer and a daring hunter, but also as being one of the most intelligent explorers of South Africa. One of his adventures I will endeavour to repeat as nearly as possible in the words in which he told it.

It may be as well, before proceeding with the narrative, to mention briefly the circumstances which drew from Mr. Hutton the account of his singular adventure. The service which I had rendered to him consisted merely in obtaining from the authorities, by proper representations, the liberation of a Namaqua servant, whom he had brought to town with him from the country beyond the Orange River. This dusky youth was in appearance and in character a genuine Hottentot. He had the small stature, the tawny complexion, the deep-set eyes, the diminutive nose, the wide and prominent cheek bones, and the curiously tufted hair which distinguish that peculiar race. He was usually silent, grave, and somewhat sullen in mood, except when he was excited by strong liquor, of which, like most of his compatriots, he was immoderately fond. In this state, Appollo (as he was preposterously named) became not only lively and boisterous, but excessively pugnacious.

I was somewhat surprised by the evidence of strong anxiety and even affection displayed by Mr. Hutton for his unsouth *protege*. The latter had certainly nothing in his appearance or manners which could be considered prepossessing. He had indeed, the grace to evince some attachment for his master; but otherwise his mental and moral traits did not appear to be more attractive than his physiognomy. I had heard that Mr. Hutton, in spite of his reputation as a keen trader and an ardent hunter, was an upright and kind-hearted man; and I concluded that Master Appollo had probably been intrusted by his parents to the trader, with a solemn promise that their precious treasure should be restored to them unscathed; and no doubt Mr. Hutton's solicitude proceeded from his conscientious solicitude to keep his engagement.

He called upon me that evening, and in the course of our conversation, I casually remarked that Appollo must be a good servant to have inspired his master with such a feeling of regard for him.

"I ought to care for him," answered Mr. Hutton, "since he saved my life."

This reply led, of course, to further questioning, and finally elicited from the trader the narrative which struck me as so remarkable.

"I picked up Appollo about twelve years ago," he said, "on the north bank of the Orange River. He was then a child, not more, I should say, than ten or twelve years old; though you never can judge accurately of the ages of these natives. I found him all alone, and half dead with fever, under a little shelter of boughs and grass, where his people had left him when he was taken ill. They almost always desert their sick people and decrepit relations in that way. It is a shocking custom, and I think it about the worst part of their character; for in other respects, I must say, they are not altogether so bad as some travellers would make them out to be. I put the little fellow in one of my wagons, and dosed him with quinine and other medicines; and in a few days he was running about as well and lively as ever. He told me that his name was Tkwetlane, or some other such cruel-jaw affair with two or three clicks in it, that I would not attempt to pronounce. So thinking it best to give him a *Christian* name, I called him Appollo, in compliment to his good looks. He has remained with me ever since, and has always shown himself attached to me in his own way. He is a real savage still. No one but myself can control him; and he generally obeys my orders so long as he can remember them, which is seldom longer than a day. But I cannot make him a tectotaler or a man of peace, although I believe I have set him a fair example in both those lines. He will drink whenever he can get the liquor; and when he is excited by drink or provocation, he will fight like a mad tiger. Otherwise he is an honest, faithful fellow, and the best after-rider I ever had. But the affair to which I refer took place about four years ago; and if you care to hear the story, I have no objections to repeat it.

"I was on my way to Damara land with two wagons and about a dozen people. Two of them were Mozambique blacks, whom I had brought with me from Cape Town, and the remainder were Hottentots and Namaquas that I had picked up on the way. The two negroes were tolerably good servants; they had gained some knowledge of civilized habits in Cape Town. The others could do little besides hoeing to drive the wagons; though sometimes they were of service in following game, as I said, they sometimes rendered good service; but they were great cowards, and though some of them could handle fire-arms tolerably well, I never could get them to face any dangerous animals, such as a buffalo, or rhinoceros, and least of all a lion, with any steadiness. I shot two or three rhinoceroses with little support from any of them except Appollo, who always stood by me like a Trojan, though his teeth sometimes chattered, and his eyes became like saucers, when we approached the enemy.

"One afternoon," continued Hutton, I outspanned near a pool, where many animals of different sorts came at night to drink. We could see their tracks all about the margin. The Namaquas knew the place well, and urged me to encamp at a little distance off, saying that the lions were "*zite kwaai*," or very angry, in that region; and that if we rested near the water we should be very likely to lose some of our oxen, and might perhaps be ourselves attacked—for it is a curious fact, that when a lion has once tasted human flesh, he seems to acquire a peculiar relish for it, and will leave all other game untouched if he has a chance of seizing upon a man. I did not wish to run any risk, so far as my people, or oxen either, were concerned; and so, after making them all drink heartily, I drove off to a distance of about two miles, and outspanned in a small valley, out of sight from the pool. We kindled a large fire to keep off any wild beasts that might be prowling about, and then turned the oxen loose to pick up what little herbage they could find among the rocks about us. For myself, I felt a strong desire to have a shot at a lion, as I had not bagged one for more than three years. In fact, I had been unlucky in two or three shots, and began to fear that I should get out of practice in that sort of sport, which requires good nerves and experience more than anything else. I asked four or five of my best men, including Appollo, if they would watch with me at the pool, that night, for lions.—Three of them consented, and we left the others with the wagons, with strict injunctions to keep the fire burning, and not let the oxen stray to a distance. We reached the water just at sunset, and set at once to work with spades and hoes which we had brought with us, to dig a hole in the sand three or four feet deep, about twenty yards from the pool. In about an hour we finished our hiding-place, throwing up the earth about it so as to conceal us still better from the sight of the wild animals. We then settled ourselves comfortably in the trench, and lay there in readiness, waiting for the lions.

"We stayed there all night to no purpose. A good many animals came down to drink, but no lions. There were springboks, gamboks, zebras, quaggs, and some other creatures, but we did not waste our ammunition upon them, as we were in no want of meat; and, besides, a single shot would have alarmed the lions, and prevented them from approaching the water. However, as it happened, we fared no better for keeping quiet. As soon after dawn we came out of our grove, stiff, creepy, and sulky, without having had a glimpse of a lion, though we had heard them roaming in the distance. They had probably been attracted by our wagons and oxen; for they were prowling about them all night, as we afterwards learned. The people whom we had left with them were in mortal terror, but had sense enough to keep up a good blaze. The oxen in their fright crowded almost into the fire, and by good luck the lions did not venture to attack them.

"I now gave up all hope of meeting the game I had come out for; but I was determined not to return to the waggons without something to show for our night's watching. We had gone but a few rods from the pool, when a small scent of springboks came bounding through a thicket of thorn-trees just in front of us. They ran and leaped as though something had frightened them; but without waiting to see what it was, I fired both barrels in among them, and knocked over one of the largest. My men all blazed away at the same time, but without the smallest effect. I had just taken my gun from my shoulder, when an enormous lion walked out of the thicket and came slowly towards us. As he was not more than thirty yards off, and there was no time to reload, I was taken so completely by surprise that for the first few seconds I stood quite motionless, and uncertain what to do. But I then saw there was but one course for us. When a party of natives go out with their assagais and knives to attack a lion, as they sometimes do, their custom is, when they see a lion approaching, to sit down on the ground in a cluster. The lion, if he is in a fighting mood, singles out one of them and pounces upon him. Sometimes the unlucky man is killed at once by the first grip of the lion's teeth and claws, but more often he only receives severe hurt. Then the other natives throw themselves all together upon the animal. Some seize his tail and lift him up, which prevents him from turning upon them, while others stab him with their assagais, and cut him with their knives. But sometimes the victory is on the other side: the lion kills two or three of the natives, and the rest take to their heels. It seemed to me just possible that by sitting down together and showing a bold front, we might intimidate the lion, and prevent him from attacking us until I had time to reload. I called out loudly 'sit! sit!' and knelt down myself on one knee, at the same time preparing to reload, if there should be time. But casting a hasty glance around, I saw that all three of my men had taken themselves off at full speed as soon as the lion appeared, and were already half way to the hill which was just this side of the wagons. Appollo had started with the rest; but he told me afterwards, and I have no doubt with truth, that he thought I was running also—only not being so lightfooted as they were, I could not be expected to keep up with them. As the poor fellow did not dare to look round, he did not discover his mistake until they reached the wagons.

"In this way I was left alone, to face the lion. It was useless then for me to run. If I had started with the Namaquas he would have had one of us, and most probably myself, before we had gone fifty yards. My gun was discharged; and while we were digging the trench, I had given my hunting knife, which incommoded me, to Appollo; so that I was at that moment completely disarmed. I gave myself up for lost, as a matter of course; and as I was kneeling there, I just said what help my poor wife and children!" and waited for the lion to spring. But the fellow did not seem to be in any hurry. He came slowly up, slackening his pace by degrees; and at last, when he was about twelve feet off, he stopped and sat down on the ground like a cat, looking me full in the face. I sat down also, and looked at him in return—fixing my eyes upon his, and staring as hard as I could. When I was at school, I had read that the lower animals could not endure the steady gaze of a man; and although I cannot say that my own experience had ever confirmed this opinion, it occurred to me to make the trial with the lion. But I really don't think it had much effect upon him. Now and then he would shut his eyes, or look round to one side or the other, but that was all. Presently he lay down, with his paws drawn up under him, and his head resting on the ground, exactly like a cat watching a mouse. At the same time he kept licking his lips occasionally, as though he had just finished a meal. I saw at once what the rascal's intention was. He had just been feasting on some animal he had killed, very likely a springbok, and was not hungry. But he had made up his mind to have me for his next meal; and as lions like their food fresh killed, the scoundrel was keeping me until he had digested his breakfast. I did not doubt that the creature was watching me with the intention of waiting until I should fall asleep from exhaustion, and then springing upon me at the first movement I made. I was sure, I thought, so long as I could keep my eyes open; but if I went to sleep, I should certainly awake in the lion's jaws."

There was something so peculiarly frightful in well as unexpected, in the picture thus conveyed, that I could not restrain a shudder and an exclamation of horror.

"Oh, don't be alarmed on my account," said Hutton, with a laugh. "You see I am here all alive and whole. I only want you to understand what the danger really was before I tell you how I escaped. You now I had been up all night, and was naturally hungry and tired. I had brought a flask of water with me, and had now emptied it the morning, so that, by good luck, I was not at all thirsty. But for that, I do not know how I should have been able to hold out through the day. The sun came up bright and clear, as it usually is in those deserts, with a breeze of air which was reflected from the sand about me that it seemed to burn my skin. I had a broad-brimmed felt hat, with ostrich feathers round it, which warded off the direct rays, but still I think I never felt sun more oppressive; perhaps it was because I was weak from fasting and want of rest. Still, I kept my self-possession, and was constantly on the watch to take advantage of any opportunity for escape. There was just a chance that my men might muster courage enough to come down in a body to my relief; but I believed them to be too chicken-hearted to approach within a quarter of a mile of a lion, and besides, there was a probability that the brute, if he should see them approaching, would spring upon me, and put me out of suspense at once.

I asked if he did not try to load his gun.

"Of course I did," he answered; "but at the first motion I made, the old scoundrel lifted his head, and growled, as much as to say—'None of that, my boy, or if you do——!' If I had persisted it was clear that he would have been upon me before the powder was in the barrel. He was a huge old fellow—I think the largest lion I ever saw—with a long grizzled mane, and very knowing look. These experienced old lions are amazingly cunning. He knew perfectly well that my gun was a weapon of some kind or other; and I have no doubt he knew, too, of my people being in the neighbourhood, for every now and then he would look sharply in the direction of the waggons. On such occasions my heart beat violently, and the perspiration would start to my skin. Once a troop of zebras came suddenly by us. When they saw the lion they wheeled quickly about, snorted and dashed off furiously in another direction. The lion rose to his feet in an instant, turned half round and looked hard at them. Lions are particularly fond of the flesh of the zebra, and I had strong hopes that he would leave me, and go off after them. But I suppose the cunning rascal reflected that a bird in the hand was worth two in the bush; for he turned back and lay down again, grumbling, and staring harder than ever at me, as though he meant to say—'You see, my fine fellow, I have lost a zebra through you; and I mean to make some of you.' You may believe that my heart I bestowed a few witch's blessings on the beast; but I thought it best to keep silence.

"The next alarm came from the direction of my wagons. I saw the lion look earnestly in that direction, as he had done once or twice before, and then rise to his feet, and utter an angry growl, drawing back his lips and showing his teeth, as though he saw something that did not please him. I learned afterwards, that my men, urged on by Appollo, had armed themselves to the teeth, and advanced to the top of the hill. Standing there, with their wonderfully keen sight, they could perceive the lion keeping guard over me; but no sooner did they see the brute rise and turn towards them, than they all scampered back to the wagons, and jumped into them, frightened almost out of their wits. After a little while, the lion crouched down again before me, stretched out his paws and winked, and I thought seemed to give a growing tired of his watch. But it was clear that he had made up his mind to remain there till night, otherwise he would have settled my account without further delay.

"Towards evening, I heard a low roaring, which seemed to be at a great distance. It appeared to disturb my lion a good deal. From the sound, I knew it to be the roar of a lioness, and I thought it likely that the old fellow's mate was looking about for him. He got up and lay down again two or three times, moving about uneasily and scraping the ground, as though he was troubled in his mind; but he remained silent, and at last the voice of the lioness passed gradually out of hearing. This, I think, was the most anxious moment of the whole day to me; for if the lion had answered his mate, and called her to him, she would most likely have been hungry, and in that case would not have delayed an instant in seizing upon the nice supper which her husband was keeping for himself. I dare say the cunning old rascal was of the same opinion, and so thought it best to keep his own counsel.

"At last the night came. The stars were bright, but there was no moon. I could see objects indistinctly at a little distance, and could just discern the outlines of the hills to the eastward. The lion lay quiet, in a shaggy mass, a few yards from me. I knew that he was wide awake, and that he saw distinctly every motion I made. Occasionally I could see his eyes turned towards me, shining like two coals of fire. My last thing now was that, by remaining perfectly silent and motionless, I might tire him out, or keep him from attacking me until something happened. For this purpose it was necessary that I should remain awake—and this was really a matter of the greatest difficulty to me. I was completely worn out, as you may imagine, after being forty-eight hours without food or sleep, and my mind most of the time wrought up to the highest pitch of anxiety. The night was chilly, which alone would caused me to feel sleepy. Everything about me was as silent as the grave, and I had to make continual efforts to keep my eyelids open. Every now and then I caught myself nodding, and would awake with a sudden start of terror, at the thought that the lion might be just preparing to spring upon me. That was really a horrid time. I hardly like to think of it even now. I was like a condemned prisoner who awakes from a night mare to remember that he is to be executed in a few hours. I don't think I could have held out in that condition through the night. It was too much for human nature.'

Here the trader paused for a moment, looking serious and absorbed, like a man who has painful recollections recalled to his mind. But he presently roused himself, and proceeded with his story.

"Two or three hours after the darkness had set in, I could hear the animals coming to the water to drink. Some of them passed at a little distance from me, but I did not get a sight of any. The lion saw them plainly, but he only moved his head a little as they trotted by. There was no chance of his leaving me and going as I had hoped. All at once he lifted his head, looked toward me, and began to growl. 'Now,' thought I 'the time is come!' He rose on his feet and growled louder, all the while looking hard at me, as I thought. I braced myself up for a struggle, with my gun in my left hand and my handkerchief in my right. I had a notion of endeavoring to thrust the gun crosswise into his mouth, and then getting my right hand down his throat. It was a very poor chance, but the only one left, and I meant to die game. In fact, I had given up all hope. But in a few minutes the lion, to my surprise, became quiet again, and sat down. He did not lie down, as before, but kept his head stretched forward towards me, like a cat intently examining some object. At last he lay down again, as though he was satisfied about the matter that had disturbed him. But, in another ten minutes or so he rose up once more to his feet, and growled ferociously than ever. It struck me then that another lion might be cautiously approaching me behind, and that my particular friend was offering to my division of the spoil. If this were the case, my fate would soon be settled. Then I thought it just possible that my men might be making some attempt to save me, under cover of the darkness; but there was little likelihood of their mustering courage enough to do anything effectual. I was know fully awake, as you may suppose. The lion was standing up, growling continually, and moving from side to side, as if he felt uncertain what to do. At last he crouched, and I saw clearly that he was getting ready for a spring. At that moment I heard a loud yell behind me, and saw everything around lighted up by a blaze of fire. The yell was kept up constantly for a minute or two, and all at once somebody, looking as though his head and shoulders was all in a blaze, came running to overcome me and the lion. The brute gave a furious roar, more in fright than in rage, and went bounding off into the darkness. I was sure that the person with the fire was Appollo himself. The blaze had gone out, but the little fellow had