St. John Chronicle.

AND COLONIAL CONSERVATIVE.

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THE ST. JOHN CHRONICLE,

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

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

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CHARLES W. WELDON,
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May 28, 1852.

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ST. JOHN, N. B.
August 29.

WM. SLEETH,
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MERCHANTS EXCHANGE HOTEL,
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Terms—ONE DOLLAR per day.

We have obtained the Victory.

KENNAY & SCRIBNER,
PIANOFORTE MANUFACTURERS
South side King Square, St. John, N. B.
HAVING taken the First and Second Prizes, and the Diploma for their instruments, at the Provincial Exhibition, beg leave to inform the public that they can supply Pianofortes at the following prices:

Square Front Mahogany Piccolo,	£36	0	0
Rosewood O. G. Piccolo,	35	0	0
Do. Elegant do.	40	0	0
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Full Cabinet,	50	0	0
Elegant, with French front, fluss legs and circular bottom,	65	0	0

The whole of the above Instruments are 6 1-3 Octave to A above.

N. B.—All Instruments manufactured by K. & S. will be warranted for three years.

Every description of English and American Pianofortes tuned and repaired. March 18th.

THOMAS GOW,
Plumber and Gass Fitter,
NEXT ADJOINING HARRIS'S BRICK BUILDING,
WATER STREET.

HOUSE and SHIP WATER-CLOSETS; Hot Cold, and Shower BATHS; Forcing, Lifting, Common, and Engine, PUMPS; SHIPS' SCUPPERS, &c. &c.—on the most approved principles LEAD PIPE of all sizes, and SHEET LEAD constantly on hand.

☞ LEAD BENDS made to order.
July 2, 1853. THOMAS GOW.

Building ex the Middleton.

CRUSHED and Bastard White SUGAR;
Boiled and raw Linseed OIL;
Cases of Salad OIL; bags Black PEPPER;
Cream of Tar, and Blue and White STARCH;
Dried CURRANTS and COOKING RAISINS;
Bath Brick and Black Lead;
ARROW ROOT and Caraway SEED;
Candle WICK and BORAX.
For sale by JOHN KINNEAR,
April 10. Prince Wm. street.

GRANITE HALL.

No. 1 DOCK STREET.

OWING to the mildness of the Season, and the consequent slow sales of WINTER CLOTHING, I have marked down my Stock at an

IMMENSE REDUCTION.

On former prices, to effect a clearance without any reserve, as the whole stock must be cleared in six weeks WITHOUT FAIL.

Persons in want of Garments of any description "that they can rely on as being good," can have their wishes fully gratified by a selection from one of the largest stocks of first class Clothing in the City, having been got up expressly for retail trade and fully equal to cut, style and material to the best CUSTOM WORK.

Dec. 30 T. R. JONES.

BRASS FINISHING.

THE Subscriber would inform his friends and the public generally, that having employed a competent person on his staff prepared to furnish with dispatch any description of finished CASTINGS which may be required, at the lowest possible rates.

☞ *On Hand*—An assortment of HINGES and HASPS, such as are usually required for Ships' Cabin Doors, &c., which will be sold low.

WM. HAY WARD,
Shipwright Brass Foundry, adjoining the Roman Catholic Chapel.
Feb. 3 3m.

(561) CROWN LAND OFFICE, May 8, 1854.

PUBLIC Notice is hereby given, That the first series of sales by Auction, at this Office, of Timber Berths for the ensuing season, will take place on the undermentioned days:—

July 11th.—Restigouche and Nepisiguit Rivers,
" 12th.—Miramichi and Richibucto Rivers, &c.
" 13th.—Petitcodiac, Musquash and Saint Croix Rivers, &c.
" 14th.—Grand Lake, Kennebecassis, Otonoecto and Little Rivers, &c
" 15.—Nashwaak, Pokiok, Beckaguimic, Tobique and Green Rivers, &c.

Berths under Licence during the present season only will then be offered; and particular lists thereof will be published shortly. The upset price will be *twenty* shillings per square mile. Applications for Licence of grounds which were not under Licence during the past season, or which may not be sold on the above mentioned days, will not be received until the 31st day of July.

(7w) R. D. WILMOT, *Sur. Gen.*

(517) CROWN LAND OFFICE, May 3, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council has been pleased to direct that all Certificates of Residence and Improvement, under Act 12 Victoria, cap. 4, commonly called "The Labour Act," shall be in the following form, viz:—

"I certify that I know the Lot of Land in (*describe the place*) applied for under the Act 12 Victoria, cap. 4, by (*name of the applicant*); that he is now residing on the said Lot, and has continued to do so for upwards of twelve months last past, and that he has cleared and cultivated about—acres of the same.

(*Name and designation of the person certifying.*)
Date if Certificate.

(6w) ROBT. D. WILMOT, *Sur. Gen.*

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON
Fire and Life Insurance Company,
Instituted in 1836,
Incorporated by Special Acts of Parliament.
Capital, Two Millions Sterling.
Unlimited liability of the Stockholders of the Company.
Subscribed Capital, £1,500,000.

Instalments called in,	£197,197 10 0
Accumulated funds,	346,972 4 9
	£544,169 14 9

TRUSTEES:
SIR THOMAS BERNARD BIRCH, Bart., M. P.
ADAM HODGSON, Esq., S. R. THOMPSON, Esq.

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SWINTON BOULT, Esq., *Secretary.*
EDWARD ALLISON, } AGENTS,
ADAM JACK, } St. John, N. B.

The Agents are prepared on the part of the Company, to offer a very liberal scale of Premiums, and beg to solicit orders from all parts of the Province.
August 20, 1853.

New Brunswick Hotel.
Charlotte street, nearly opposite the Country Market, Saint John, N. B.

THE Proprietor of the above Establishment thankful for past favors, would respectfully inform the travelling Public, that having erected a large addition in rear of the main Building, he is now prepared to furnish ample accommodation to 70 or 80 Boarders. The Proprietor is determined to leave no means untried to merit the patronage of the community.

Travellers arriving late at night will find the House always open and ready to receive them.

The Sleeping Rooms are large and well ventilated, and the improvements and conveniences which have been made render it emphatically the House of the stranger.

It has always been a Temperance House and the Proprietor is determined to adhere strictly to the Total Abstinence principle.

This House is centrally located, and is well supplied with well furnished apartments, clean beds, good fare, the best attention, and reasonable charges, which should render it worthy the support of Travellers.

A Large STABLE has been erected on the premises, capable of accommodating 70 Horses.

Good Hostlers are always in attendance.
July 8, 1853. E. W. FLAGLOR

REMOVAL.

THE Subscriber has removed his STONE CUTTING Establishment from Dock Street, to the Premises formerly occupied by the Hon. R. L. Hazen, Union street, and immediately opposite the residence of Messrs. Lawton, about twenty rods from his former place of business, and desires of his friends and the public to take notice that he has on hand, in addition to his former Stock, a lot of

MONUMENTS,

varying in price from £3 to £60, suitable for the New Cemetery, or other places of burial in town or country; which he will certainly dispose of at a cheaper rate than any other establishment in the city to parties disposed to make the most of their ready money.

M. FITZGERALD.

St. John, April 29, 1853.

N. B.—All kinds of STONE CUTTING for building and other purposes executed to order at the cheapest possible rates.

JOHN HARRY,
Silver Smith, Jeweller & Engraver,
North side of King Street, St. John, N. B., a few doors below the *Waverley 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, defies competition.

JEWELLERY made, to order and repaired.

—All Kinds of Engraving neatly executed.

Teachers, Parents, 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.

At Wholesale Only.

300 DOZEN low price Shawl Pins, various patterns; 80 dozen Coat Links; 60 gross Agate Buttons; 180 dozen Catholic Pictures, in neat glass frames; 8 dozen Ladies' Leather Statchels; 40 dozen Berlin Bracelets; 10 gross Silk Purses; 120 bundles Fiddle Strings; 1,200 bundles Steel Beads and a variety Steel Purse Fittings, just landed ex John Barbour, for sale at the Fancy Arcade, Corner King and Cross Sts.

April 28. J. CROUCH.

BURNING FLUID.—5 brls. superior ex "Bremen," from Boston.

March 24. W. O. SMITH

Dedicated by special Authority to the Queen of England.

In Parts at 1s. 3d., and Divisions, handsomely bound in Morocco cloth, gilt, 9 4-2

The British Colonies,

THEIR HISTORY, EXTENT, CONDITION, AND RESOURCES:
Illustrated with Maps of each possession, and Portraits of the most celebrated Promoters and Defenders of the Colonial Empire of Great Britain.

Adapted for the use of Statesmen, Merchants, Manufacturers, and intending Emigrants, containing the best authenticated statements relating to the geography, geology, climate, animal and vegetable kingdoms, character, customs and social state; religion, education and crime; agriculture, manufactures, mines, and fisheries; the most recent official details concerning the population, government, taxation, and expenditure, imports and exports customs' duties shipping, defences, staple products, live stock, cultivated and waste lands, banks, coins, paper money, weights and measures, wages, &c., with a copious Colonial Gazetteer, and every description of useful and interesting information.

BY R. MONTGOMERY MARTIN, ESQ., Editor of "The Illustrated Atlas, and Modern History of the World."

It has been deemed that full and correct information concerning the Extent, Condition, and Resources of the British Colonies would be acceptable to all classes of the community, and strengthen the natural ties arising from Kindred Common Origin, and Language.

Published by JOHN TALLIS 160 London. Office in St. John over Kemp & Adams's Market Square.

ROGER HUNTER, AGENT.

Saint John, April 21, 1854.

Halifax Tailoring Establishment.
Now opposite Mr. Sears' Residence, and First Shop from the corner of Princess and Germain Streets.

THE Subscriber begs leave to return thanks to his numerous friends, and the public generally, for the handsome support that has been extended to him, and assures them he will ever be ready to attend any order that may be given him for execution. He further wishes the attention of the public to his unrivalled Stock of CLOTH, CASSIMERES, VESTINGS, &c., &c.

Having carried on business in the West of England, he has had extensive experience in Cutting both Military and Naval uniforms as well as every other kind of Fashionable Dress. Subsequently he has been employed as Cutter in the first Establishment in Halifax for seven years, where he took the premium for Cutting Coats; and it was admitted by one of the best Cutters in New York that he is the best Cutter of Spring Bottom Pants in North America.

Persons wishing to learn the most scientific mode of Measuring and Cutting Coats may obtain information at this Establishment.

☞ Garments Made and Trimmed on the most reasonable terms.

August 19, 1853. C. H. BARTLETT.

HIBERNIAN HOTEL,
REMODELLED.
BOARDERS, BOARDERS, BOARDERS,

THE Subscriber wishes to inform the Public that he is now prepared to receive a number of Permanent or Transient Boarders, on the following terms, viz:

Yearly or Monthly,	£10	0	0	per annum.
Weekly,	0	17	6	
Daily,	0	3	6	
Breakfast,	0	1	3	
Dinner,	0	1	6	
Tea,	0	1	3	

Cold LUNCHEONS at any hour from 10 a. m. till 10 p.m. SOUPS on Mondays and Thursdays; and by good attendance, Clean Rooms and choice Cordials (including a wee drop of the Craythur,) he hopes to merit a share of public patronage.

N. B.—Chinese Shediac OYSTERS always on hand; also, Cold Roast Fowl supplied to private Families, at the shortest notice.

Sept. 30. JAMES NETHERY.

HORSE SHOEING.

Shop one Door north of the Country Market, King Square.

WILLIAM GABRIEL begs to Tender his sincere thanks to his friends and the Public for the extensive patronage hitherto received from them; and he takes this method further to inform them that he is prepared at all times to execute orders in his line of business, in the be t possible manner, and in the style that is most suitable to this Country.

January, 20, 1854.

S. K. Foster's
HOME MANUFACTURES,
For Spring and Summer Trade.

GENTLEMEN'S best Walking BOOTS—English Leather;
Boys' Calf and Kip BOOTS;
Youths' Calf, Kip, and Grain BOOTS;
Gentlemen's Patent Wellington Dress BOOTS
Gentlemen's Elastic Side Walking Boots;
Gentleman's Patent Calf Elastic Side Dress BOOTS;
Boys' and Youths' Patent Elastic Side Boots;
Boys and Youths' Calf, Kip, Patent and Grain BOOTEES;
Gentlemen's Calf, Patent, Kip and Grain *Buttons*;
Misses' and Children's Patent and Fancy Boots and Shoes;
Women's and Girls' Strong BUSKINS;
Women's Cheap House SLIPPERS.
Wholesale and Retail.
April 7. S. K. FOSTER

NOTICE.

THE undersigned beg to inform their patrons, and the public generally, that their house will in future be represented by Mr. Roger Hunter, as Agent for the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The former Agent, Wm. H. Bashford, being no longer in their employ. All subscribers to their publications will, from this time forth, be regularly supplied with their books by sending in their names, or calling at the office of the Agent, Barlow's Corner, 2nd floor.

Feb. 10. JOHN TALLIS & CO.

VALUABLE BOOKS.
BOUND AND IN PARTS.

TALLIS'S Illustrated Atlas;
Tallis's Illustrated LONDON;
Tallis's Illustrated CRYSTAL PALACE;
Tallis's Edition of Flowers of Loveliness, by the Countess of Blessington;
Tallis's Edition of the Beauties of Moore;
Tallis's Illustrated Shakspeare;
Tallis's Illustrated BIBLE.
ROGER HUNTER, Agent.
March 24. Barlow's Corner St. John.

WANTED.—Two good Cabinet Makers, to whom constant employment and good wages will be given. None need apply but men of steady habits.

M. N. POWERS, *Undertaker,*
Germain-street
March 31.

MOLASSES; MOLASSES.—Just Received per "Rio Grande from Cienfuegos

40 Hhds	Muscovado Molasses very superior
20 Tierces	
10 Barls	

March 4, 1853. ROBT. ARMSTRON.

Select Reading.

MAHOMET'S VISION OF THE SEVENTH HEAVEN.

An asylum being provided for Mahomet in the house of Mutem Ibn Adi, one of his disciples, he ventured to return to Mecca. The supernatural visitation of Genii in the valley of Nakhah was soon followed by a vision or revelation far more extraordinary, and which has ever since remained a theme of comment and conjecture among devout Mahometans. We allude to the famous night journey to Jerusalem, and thence to the seventh heaven. The particulars of it, though given as if in the very words of Mahomet, rest merely on tradition; some, however cite texts corroborative of it, scattered here and there in the Koran.

We do not pretend to give this vision or revelation in its amplitude and wild extravagance, but will endeavour to seize upon its most essential features.

The night on which occurred is described as one of the darkest and most awfully silent that had ever been known. There was no crowing of cocks nor barking of dogs; no howling of wild beasts nor hooting of owls. The very waters ceased to murmur, and the winds to whistle; all nature seemed motionless and dead. In the mid watches of the night, Mahomet was roused by a voice crying 'Awake thou sleeper!' The angel Gabriel stood before him. His forehead was clear and serene, his complexion white as snow, his hair floating on his shoulders; he had wings of many dazzling hues, and his robes were sown with pearls and embroidered with gold

He brought Mahomet a white steed of wonderful form and qualities, unlike any animal he had ever seen; and, in truth, it differs from any animal ever before described. It had a human face, but the cheeks of a horse; its eyes were as jacinths, and radiant as stars. It had eagle's wings, all glittering with rays of light; and its whole form was resplendent with gems and precious stones. It was a female, and from its dazzling splendour and incredible velocity was called Al Borak or Lightning.

Mahomet prayed to mount this supernatural steed, but as he extended his hand, it drew back and reared.

'Be still, oh Borak!' said Gabriel; 'respect the prophet of God. Never wert thou mounted by mortal man more honoured of Allah.'

'Oh Gabriel!' replied Alborak, who at this time was miraculously endowed with speech; 'did not Abraham the friend of God, bestride me when he visited his son Ishmael? Oh Gabriel! is not this the mediator, the intercessor, the author of the profession of faith?'

'Even so, oh Borak! this is Mahomet Ibn Abdallah, of one of the tribes of Arabia the Happy, and of the true faith. He is chief of the sons of Adam, the greatest of the divine legates, the seal of the prophets. All creatures must have his intercession before they can enter paradise. Heaven is on his right hand, to be the reward of those who believe in him; the fire of Jehenman is on his left hand, into which all shall be thrust who oppose his doctrines.'

'Oh Gabriel!' entreated Al Borak; 'by the faith existing between thee and him, prevail on him to intercede for me at the day of resurrection.'

'Be assured oh Borak!' exclaimed Mahomet, that through my intercession thou shalt enter paradise.'

No sooner had he uttered these words, then the animal approached and submitted to be mounted, then rising with Mahomet on its back, it soared aloft far above the mountains of Mecca.

As they passed like lightning between heaven and earth, Gabriel cried aloud, "Stop, oh Mahomet! descend to the earth, and make the prayer with two inflections of the body.'

They alighted on the earth, and having made the prayer—

'Oh friend and well beloved of my soul!' said Mahomet; 'why dost thou command me to pray in this place?'

'Because it is Mount Sinia, on which God communed which Moses.'

Mounting aloft they again passed rapidly between heaven and earth, until Gibriel called out a second time, 'Stop, oh Mahomet! descend, and make the prayer with two inflections.'

They descended, Mahomet prayed, and again demanded, 'why didst thou command me to pray in this place!'

'Because it is Bethlehem, were Jesus the Son of Mary was born.'

They resumed their course through the air, until a voice was heard on the right, exclaiming, 'Oh Mahomet, tarry a moment, that I may speak to thee; of all created beings I am most devoted to thee.'

But Borak pressed forward, and Mahomet forbore to tarry, for he felt that it was not with him to stay his course, but with God, the all-powerful and glorious.

Another voice was now heard on the left, calling Mahomet in like words to tarry; but Borak still pressed forward, and Mahomet tarried not. He now beheld before him a damsel of ravishing beauty, adorned with all the luxury and riches of the earth. She beckoned him with alluring smiles: 'Tarry a moment, oh Mahomet, that I may talk with thee. I, who, of all beings, am the most devoted to thee.' But still Borak pressed on, and Mahomet tarried not; considering that it was not with him to stay his course, but which God the all powerful and glorious.

Addressing himself, however, to Gabriel, 'What voices are those I have heard?' said he; 'and what damsel is this who has beckoned to me?'

'The first, oh Mahomet, was the voice of a Jew; hadst thou listened to him, all thy nation would have been won to Judaism. 'The second was the voice of a Christian; hadst thou listened to him, thy people would have inclined to christianity.'

'The damsel was the world, with all its riches, its vanities, and allurements; hadst thou listened to her, thy nation would have chose the pleasures of this life, rather than the bliss of eternity, and all would have been doomed to perdition.'

Continuing their aerial course, they arrived at the gate of the holy temple of Jerusalem, where alighting from Al Borak, Mahomet fastened her to the rings where the prophets before him had fastened her. Then entering the temple, he found there Abraham, and Moses, and Isa (Jesus), and many more of the prophets. After he had prayed in company with them for a time, a ladder of light was let down from heaven, until the lower end rested on the Shakra, or foundation-stone of the sacred house, being the stone of Jacob. Aided by the angel Gabriel, Mahomet ascended this ladder with the rapidity of lightning.

Being arrived at the first heaven, Gabriel knocked at the gate. 'Who is there?' was demanded from within. Gabriel. 'Who is with thee?' Mahomet. 'Has he received his mission?' He has. 'Then he is welcome.' And the gate was opened.

The first heaven was of pure silver, and in its resplendent vault the stars is suspended by chains of gold. In each star an angel is placed sentinel to prevent the demons from scaling the sacred abodes. As Mahomet entered, an ancient man approached him, and Gabriel said, "Here is thy father Adam, pay him reference.' Mahomet did so, and Adam embraced him, calling him the greatest among his children, and the first among the prophets.

In this heaven were innumerable animals of all kinds, which Gabriel said were angels, who, under these forms, interceded with Allah for the various races of animals upon earth. Among these was a cock of dazzling whiteness, and of such marvellous height, that his crest touched the second heaven though five hundred years' journey above the first. This wonderful bird saluted the ear of Allah each morning with his melodious chant. All creatures on earth, save man, are awakened by his voice, and all the fowls of this kind chant hallelujahs in emulation of his note.*

They now ascended to the second heaven. Gabriel as before, knocked at the gate; the same questions and replies were exchanged; the door opened, and they entered.

This heaven was of all polished steel, and dazzling splendour. Here they found Noah, who embracing Mahomet hailed him as the greatest among the prophets.

Arrived at the third heaven, they entered with the same ceremonies. It was all studed with precious stones, and too brilliant for mortal eyes. Here was seated an angel of immeasurable height, whose eyes were seventy thousand days' journey apart. He had at his command a hundred thousand batallions of armed men. Before him was spread a vast book in which he was continually writing and blotting out.

'This, oh Mahomet,' said Gabriel, 'is Israel, the angel of death, who is in the confidence of Allah. In the book before him he is continually writing the names of those who have to be born, and blotting out the names of those who have lived their allotted time, and who, therefore, instantly die.'

They now mounted to the fourth heaven, formed of the finest silver. Among the angels who inhabited it was one five hundred days journey in height. His countenance was troubled, and rivers of tears ran from his eyes. 'This,' said Gabriel, 'is the angel of tears, appointed to weep over the children of men, and to predict the evils which await them.'

The fifth heaven was of the finest gold. Here Mahomet was received by Aaron with embraces and congratulations. The avenging angel dwells in this heaven, and presides over the element of fire. Of all the angels seen by Mahomet, he was the most hidious and terrific. His visage seemed of copper, and was covered with wens and warts. His eyes flashed lightning, and he grasped a flaming lance. He sat on a throne surrounded by flames, and before him was a heap of red hot chains. Were he to alight upon earth in his true form, the mountains would be consumed the seas dried up, and all the inhabitants would die with terror. To him, and the angels his ministers is intrusted the execution of divine vengeance on infidels and sinners.

Leaving this awful abode, they mounted to the sixth heaven, composed of a transparent stone, called Hassala, which may be rendered carbuncle. Here was a great angel, composed half of snow and half of fire; yet the snow melted not, nor was the fire extinguished. Around him a choir of lesser angels continually exclaimed, 'Oh Allah! who has united snow and fire unite all the faithful servants in obedience to thy law.'

This said Gabriel, 'is the guardian angel of heaven and earth. It is he who despatches angels unto individuals of thy nation, to incline them in favour of thy mission, and call them to the service of God; and he will continue to do so until the day of resurrection.'

Here was the prophet Musa (Moses) who, however, instead of welcoming Mahomet with joy, as the other prophets had done, shed tears at sight of him.

'Wherefore dost thou weep?' inquired Mahomet. 'Because I behold a successor, who is destined to conduct more of his nation into Paradise than ever I could of the blacksliding children of Israel.

Mounting hence to the seventh heaven, Mahomet was received by the head patriarch Abraham. The blissful abode is formed of divine light, and of such transcendent glory that the tongue of man cannot describe it. One of its celestial inhabitants, will suffice to give an idea of the rest. He surpassed the whole earth in magnitude, and had seventy thousand heads; each head seventy thousand mouths; each mouth seventy thousand tongues; each tongue spoke seventy thousand different languages, and all these were incessantly employed in chanting the praises of the Most High.

While contemplating this wonderful being, Mahomet, was suddenly transported aloft to the lotus tree, called Sedra, which flourishes on the right hand of the invisible throne of Allah. The branches of this tree extended wider than the distance between the sun and the earth. Angels more numerous than the sand on the sea shore, or of the beds of all the streams and rivers rejoice beneath its shade. The leaves resembled the ears of a elephant; thousands of immortal birds sport among its branches, repeating the sublime verses of the Koran. Its fruits are milder than milk and sweeter than honey. If all the creatures of God were assembled, one of these fruits would be sufficient for their sustenance. Each seed encloses a houri, or celestial virgin, provided for the felicity of true believers. From this tree issue four rivers; two flow into the interior of Paradise two issue beyond it, and become the Nile and Euphrates.

Mahomet and his celestial guide now proceeded to Al Mamour, or the House of Adoration; formed of red jasinths or rubies, and surrounded by innumerable lamps, perpetually burning. As Mahomet entered the portal, three vases were offered him, one containing wine, another milk, and the third honey. He took and drank of the vase containing milk.

'Well hast thou done; auspicious is thy choice,' exclaimed Gabriel. 'Hadst thou drank of the wine, thy people had all gone astray.'

The sacred house resembles in form the Caaba at Mecca, and is perpendicularly above it in the seventh heaven. It is visited every day by seventy thousand angels of the highest order. They were at this very time making their holy circuit, and Mahomet, joining with them, walked round it seven times.

Gabriel could go no further. Mahomet now traversed, quicker than thought, an immense space; passing through two regions of dazzling light, and one of profound darkness. Emerging from this utter gloom, he was filled with awe and terror at finding himself in the presence of Allah, and but two bow-shots from his throne. The face of the Deity was covered with twenty thousand veils, for it would have annihilated man to look upon its glory. He put forth his hands, and placed one upon the breast and the other upon the shoulder of Mahomet, who felt a freezing chill penetrate to his heart and to the very marrow of his bones. It was followed by a feeling of ecstatic bliss, while a sweetness and fragrance prevailed around, which none can understand but those who have been in the divine presence.

Mahomet now received, from the Deity himself, many of the doctrines contained in the Koran; and fifty prayers were prescribed as the daily duty of all true believers.

When he descended from the divine presence and again met with Moses, the latter demanded what Allah had required. "That I should make fifty prayers every day.'

'And thinkest thou to accomplish such a task? I have made the experiment before thee. I tried it with the children of Israel, but in vain; return, then, and beg a diminution of the task.'

Mahomet returned accordingly, and obtained a diminution of ten prayers; but when he related his success to Moses, the latter made the same objection to the daily amount of forty. By his advice Mahomet returned repeatedly, until the number was reduced to five.

Moses still objected. 'Thinkest thou to exact five prayers daily from thy people? By Allah! I have had experience with the children of Israel, and such a demand is vain; return therefore, and entreat still further mitigation of the task.'

'No,' replied Mahomet, 'I have already asked indulgence until I am ashamed. With these words he saluted Moses, and departed.

By the ladder of light he descended to the temple of Jerusalem, where he found Borak fastened as he had left her, and, mounting, was borne back in an instant to the place whence he had first been taken.

This account of the vision, or nocturnal journey, is chiefly according to the words of the historians Abelfeda, Al Bokhari, and Abue Horeira, and is given more at large in the Life of Mahomet, by Gagnier. The journey itself has given rise to endless commentaries and disputes among the doctors. Some affirm that it was no more than a dream or vision of the night, and support their assertion by a tradition derived from Ayesha, the wife of Mahomet, who declared that, on the night in question, his body remained perfectly still, and it was only in spirit that he made his nocturnal journey. In giving this tradition however they did not consider that, at the time the journey was said to have taken place, Ayesha was still a child, and, though espoused had not become the wife of Mahomet.

Others insist that he made the celestial journey bodily, and that the whole was miraculously effected in so short a space of time, that, on his return, he was able to prevent the complete overturn of a vase of water, which the angel Gabriel had struck with his wing on his departure.

Others say that Mahomet only pretended to have made the nocturnal journey to the temple of Jerusalem, and that the subsequent ascent to heaven was a vision. According to Ahmed ben Joseph, the nocturnal visit to the temple was testified by the patriarch at Jerusalem himself. 'At the time,' says he, 'that Mahomet sent the envoy to the emperor Heraclius, at Constantinople, inviting him to embrace Islamism the patriarch was in the presence of the emperor. The envoy having related the nocturnal journey of the prophet, the patriarch was seized with astonishment, and informed the emperor of a circumstance coinciding with the narrative of the envoy. 'It is my custom,' said he, 'never to retire to rest at night until I have fastened every door of the temple. On the night here mentioned, I closed them according to my custom, but there was one which it was impossible to move. Upon this, I sent for the carpenters, who, having inspected the door, declared that the lintel over the portal and the edifice itself had settled to such a degree, that it was out of their power to close the door. I was obliged, therefore, to leave it open. Early in the morning, at the break of day, I repaired thither, and behold, the stone placed at the corner of the temple was perforated, and there were vestiges of the place where Al Borak had been fastened.—Then said I, to those present, this portal would not have remained fixed unless some prophet had been here to pray.''

Traditions go on to say, that when Mahomet narrated his nocturnal journey to a large assembly in Mecca, many marvelled yet believed, some were perplexed with doubt, but the Koreishites laughed it to scorn. 'Thou sayest that thou hast been to the temple of Jerusalem,' said Abu Jahl; 'prove the truth of thy words, by giving a description of it.'

For a moment Mahomet was embarrassed by the demand, for he had visited the temple in the night, when its form was not discernible; suddenly, however the angel Gabriel stood by his side, and placed before his eyes an exact type, of the sacred edifice, so that he was enabled instantly to answer the most minute questions.

The story still transcended the belief even of some of his disciples, and Abu Becker, seeing them wavering in their faith and in danger of backsliding, roundly vouched for the truth of it; in reward for which support, Mahomet gave him the title of Al sheddek, or the testifier to the truth, by which he was henceforth distinguished.

As we have already observed, this nocturnal journey rests almost entirely upon the tradition, tho' some of its circumstances are vaguely alluded to in the Koran. The whole may be a fanciful superstructure of Moslem fanatics on one of these visions of ecstasies to which Mahomet was prone, and the relation of which caused him to be stigmatised by the Koreishites as a madman.

* There are three to which, say the Moslem doctors, God always lends a willing ear; the voice of him who reads the Koran, of him who prays for pardon; and of this cock who crows to the glory of the Most High. When the last day is near, they add, Allah will bid this bird to close his wings and chant no more. Then all the cocks on earth will cease to crow and their silence would be a sign that the great day of judgment is impending.

The Rev. Dr. Humphrey Prideaux, Dean of Norwich, in his life of Mahomet accuses him of having stolen this wonderful cock from the tract of Bava Bartha of the Babylonish Talmud, "wherein," says he "we have a story of such a prodigious bird called Zig, which, standing with his feet on the earth reacheth up to the heavens with his head, and with the spreading of his wings darkeneth the whole orb of the sun, and causeth a total eclipse thereof. This bird the Chaldee paraphrast on the Psalms says is a cock, and that he crows before the Lord; and the Chaldee paraphrast on Job tells of his crowing every morning before the Lord, and that God giveth him wisdom for that purpose.

WHAT IS THE HARDEST MODE TO DIE?

To be shot dead is one of the easiest modes of terminating life; yet, rapid as it is, the body has leisure to feel and reflect. On the first attempt by one of the frantic adherents of Spain, to assassinate William, Prince of Orange, who took the lead in the revolt of the Netherlands the ball passed through the bones of the face and brought him to the ground. In the instant that precedes stupefaction, he was able to frame the notion that the ceiling of the room had fallen and crushed him.

The cannon shot which plunged into the brain of Charles the XII, did not prevent him from seizing his sword by the hilt. The idea of an attack, and the necessity for defence, was pressed on him by a blow which we should have supposed too tremendous to leave an interval for thought. But it by no means follows that the inflicting of fatal violence is accomplished by a pang. From what is known of the first effect of gun shot wounds, it is probable that the impression is rather stunning than acute. Unless death be immediate, the pain is as varied as the nature of the injuries, and there are past counting.

But there is nothing singular in the dying sensation, though Lord Byron remarked the physiological peculiarity that the expression is invariably that of languor, while in death from a stab, the countenance reflects the traits of natural character, of gentleness or ferocity, to the last breath.