St. John Chronicle,

AND COLONIAL CONSERVATIVE.

Volume XIX. SAINT JOHN, NEW-BRUNSWICK, FRIDAY, July 13, 1855. Number 29.

THE ST. JOHN CHRONICLE,

Is published every FRIDAY afternoon, by WILLIAM DURANT, at his Office in the Brick Building of Messrs. L. H. Deveber & Son, west side Prince William Street.

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

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

☞ Terms—12s. 6d., if paid within the year, 15s. if not paid until after expiration of the year.

All Letters, Orders, Communications, &c., must be post-paid, and addressed to

WILLIAM DURANT.

Chronicle Office, Saint John, N. B.

☞ The *Chronicle* is filed, and may be seen free of charge at Professor Holloway's Establishment, 244 Strand, London.

☞ V. B. PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent, *is the only authorized Agent* for this paper in the cities of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia and is duly empowered to take advertisements and subscriptions at the rate as required by us. His receipts will be regarded as payments. His Offices are—Boston, Scollay's Building; New York, Tribune Buildings; Philadelphia, N. W. corner Third and Chestnut streets."

Mutual Insurance Company.

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

Application for Insurance against Fire to be made at the Office of the Secretary, Wiggins' Brick Building, Princess-street.

SOAP & CANDLE MANUFACTORY.

GEORGE WOODS,

West side Water Street, between the Ferry Landing and Fish Market,

ST. JOHN, N. B.

August 29.

DOOLEY'S

MERCHANTS EXCHANGE HOTEL, Post Office Building, State Street, Boston,

Terms—ONE DOLLAR per day.

CHARLES W. WELDON,

Attorney at Law & Notary Public

OFFICE—Over Messrs. Rainney, Sturdee & Co Prince William-street, St. John, N. B.

May 28, 1852.

THOMAS GOW,

Plumber and Gas Fitter,

NEXT ADDISON SHUTT'S BRICK BUILDING,

WATER STREET.

HOUSE and SHIP WATER-CLOSETS; Hot Cold, and Shower BATHS; Feeding, Lifting, Common, and Engine PUMPS; SHIPS' SCUPPIPES, &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, 1852. THOMAS GOW.

SPRING IMPORTATION.—*Assorted Crates,* and assorted Centre EARTHENWARE, selected and packed suitable for country trade, and guaranteed free from breakage—offered very low for Cash by FRANCIS CLEMENTSON,

April 26 Dock-street.

WASHING POWDERS.—Received per Packet *Liberia*, and sold at one sixth the usual price by

FELLOWS & CO.

April 14.

English Wrought Nails.

By the John Barbour, sq., for sale.

152 KEGS, consisting of Four, Six, Eight Ten and Twenty-penny Rose and Clasp Nails;
Of Five and Six-penny Ox,
Nine and Ten-penny Rosey,
One and 3-4 to 2 1-2 inch Boat Nails,
Sheathing Nails,
Four and a half inch Spikes.

March 9. JOHN KINNEAR.

JUST RECEIVED and For Sale—15 doz. Cane and Wood Seat CHAIRS.

GEORGE NIXON,

April 27. Prince Wm.-street.

LAND FOR SALE.

500 ACRES of Land for Sale, 200 Acres of which are cultivated, situate on the South side of HAMMOND RIVER, parish of Hampton, the property of John CAMPBELL. There are two Good Dwelling Houses on the Lot, as also three Barns, two of which are 26 by 36 feet, and the other 24 by 84, with under Stables.

The above Property will be Sold in the whole, or in Lots, to suit purchasers.

Application to be made to John Campbell, Hampton Parish, King's County; or to Mr. Whetmore, Solicitor, or Mr. Hubbard, Auctioneer, St. John.

March 30th, 1855.

JUST RECEIVED AND FOR SALE—400 lbs. of Extra Goose FEATHERS; 500 do.; Russia do.;

3 new and handsome Patterns of Cloth Paper HANGINGS.

April 13. GEORGE NIXON.

Store Window Glass and Paper HANGINGS.

Just received from New-York:

148 BOXES German large sized GLASS, from 12x20 to 33x50 single thick; 20 Boxes Double thick Glass, for shop windows, sizes from 18x24 to 24x42; 5000 rolls of new patterns of PAPER HANGINGS, all prices.

Parties wanting large Glass, not on hand, I will order it at the shortest notice from New York, and cut it to fit the sash. GEORGE NIXON,

April 13, 1855. Prince Wm. street

Hats, Caps, &c.

Opened per "Eastern City," at the CHEAP HAT, CAP, and FUR STORE, North side of King street, the following descriptions of new styles HATS and CAPS:—

GENTS' Drab Napoleon HATS;
do. do. Gutta Percha do.;
do. do. Wide Awake do.;
do. do. Black Kossuth do.;
do. do. Warrior do.;
do. do. Beaufort do.;
do. Silk Glazed Bangor CAPS;
do. do. Empire do.;
do. Brown Cloth Emperor do.;
do. Black Satin Spring '55 HATS.

For sale at lowest market prices.

April 13. LOCKHART & CO.

Oysters! Oysters!

MAY be had at all times (both American and Shediac) with Temperance Cordial, or Mountain Dew, on application to the *Hibernian Hotel.*

April 16. JAMES NETHERY.

WANTED TO BORROW—£200 on a good Freehold Property in the city. Apply at the office of this paper. June 22.

NEW GOODS for Fall Trade.

COMMERCE HOUSE,

KING STREET.

OCTOBER 6TH, 1854.

HORSFALL & SHERATON

Have received per Steamers "CANADA," and "NIAGARA," and Packet Ships David G. Fleming, "John Barbour," "John Bannerman," and "Joseph Tarratt":

161 Packages of English and French Goods.

Being a part of their extensive purchases for the Fall Business; and comprising a good assortment of every description of

WOOLLENS, LINENS, COTTONS, SILKS, Furs, Hosiery, Gloves, Laces, and SMALL WARES of every description, which are offered to Wholesale Buyers at the lowest rates, and most favourable terms.

HOUSE FURNISHING.

NEW STYLES.—Oct. 2nd, 1854.

HORSFALL & SHARETON respectfully request the attention of persons furnishing house, to the following description of GOODS, the assortment of which is superior to any heretofore in this market, and are offered at rates to suit the most economical.

Rich Gilt and Mahogany Poles and Cornices, of superior style and finish;
DAMASKS and MOREENS, in all of the Fashionable Colours, with suitable Trimmings;
Silk Brocatelles, very rich;
Silk and Woollen DAMASKS;
Cords and Tassell, for Ottoman;
Rich Velvet, Pile, and Tapes CARPETINGS;
Brussels 3-ply Kid dermination; Scotch do.;
Hearth Rugs, Sheepskin and Rope Mats;
DRUGGETS, from 4.4 to 16-4;
English and American Floor OIL CLOTHS, new patterns, in all the useful widths;
BLANKETS, QUILTS and Counterpanes;
Table Linens and Sheetings;
Cloth, Worsted, and Linen Table COVERS, &c.

Oct. 4.

CANVASS, &c.

ON HAND and for Sale at low rates:—100 Bolts Leith CANVASS, No. 1 to 6;
5 Tons London and Domestic OAKUM;
4 Tons Hemp and New Zealand CORDAGE, from 6 thd. to 5 in. Apply to

JOHN WALKER,

Feb. 16. Peters' Wharf.

Timothy, Clover & Garden Seeds.

JUST Received—150 Bushels Superior Timothy SEEDS, the growth of this Province.

On hand, and to arrive:—7 bushels Northern Red Clover SEED; and a small quantity White Clover Seed.

Also—To arrive per Middleton:—A large assortment of GARDEN SEEDS, warranted fresh.

For sale by S. L. TILLEY,

April 18, 1855. No. 15, King-street.

Greater Bargains than Ever.

TREMENDOUS REDUCTION!

CLEARING OUT ENTIRE STOCK, TO MAKE ROOM FOR

Early Spring Importations!!

AT THE

VICTORIA HOUSE,

PRINCE WILLIAM STREET AND

BRITISH HOUSE,

KING STREET.

The Subscriber have THIS DAY, *still further marked down* ALL THEIR STOCK determined to CLEAR OFF *every article, before arrival of* Spring Importations.

☞ TERMS—CASH ONLY.

N. B.—All Goods marked in Plain Figures.

Feb. 24. J. DOHERTY & CO.

India Rubber Boots & shoes.

Received on Consignment from the Manufacturers:

110 CASES Ladies, Gents' and Children's Rubber Over SHOES.

The above are warranted to be of the best quality, and will be sold lower than any ever offered to the public.

Ladies Metallic RUBBERS, price 48;
Gents' do. ditto, " 48 6d.

A credit of three Months will be given on all purchasers over £15. B. O'BRIEN.

"*Waverley House*," *King Street.*

P. S.—Also a large assortment of leather Goods. January 5.

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, 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.

MEN & WOMEN'

RUB, RUB, RUBBER SHOES, For Sale Cheap.

ALEXANDER A. COUGHLAN.

Dec. 8, 1854. No. 3, Prince William Street

JOHN KINNEAR.—Prince Wm. Street,—Is receiving, just landing, and for Sale—50 Kegs Cut NAILS; 4 Bales Taper CORKS; 4 Barrels Crushed SUGAR; 3 Barrels FLUID; 3 Tierces RICE; 18 Dozen assorted CHAIRS.

March 23.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

ON and after Tuesday next, the Subscriber will be found at the premises lately occupied by Mr. Henry Austin, next door to Gabel's corner, same as before. GEORGE RIX PRICE.

April 20.

Paris Gloves.

OPENED this day, ex Steamer Africa, direct from Paris:—

Gent's Black French Kid GLOVES;
" Colored " " " "
Ladies' " " " "

☞ Warranted the best made.

Gent' best India Rubber BEACHS;
Girls' Fancy Straw HATS. For sale retail only.

LOCKHART & CO.,

May 1. King street.

MONEY WANTED.—I want to sell for money, 1 hhd. Cuba SUGAR, 1 bbl. PORK, and 9 boxes No. 1 Cavendish TOBACCO—duty paid. Price moderate.

ALEXANDER A. COUGHLAN.

March 28. No. 3, Prince Wm. Street.

We have obtained the Prize Medal.

WENTZ & SCHIENER,

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,	£30	0	0
Rosewood O. G. Piccolo,	35	0	0
do. Elegant do.	40	0	0
Cottage,	42	0	0
Semi-Cabinet,	45	10	0
Full Cabinet,	50	0	0
Elegant, with French front, tuns legs, and circular bottom,	65	0	0

The whole of the above Instruments are 6 4-3 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.

S. K. FOSTER'S

Ladies Fashionable Shoe Store.

Foster's Corner Germain Street.

NEW SUMMER BOOTS AND SHOES,

Just received per steamer America.

LADIES' Fashionable Boots—Paris make;
Ladies' superior London Boots and Shoes;
Misses', Girls, and Children's Boots and Shoes of all the newest and most fashionable styles;
Ladies' Satin, French Kid and Enamelled Boots, Shoes and Slippers;
Gentlemen's, Boys' and Youths' Boots & Shoes of every quality and style;
House Slippers, at 2s. 6d. a pair;
Pumella Boots, at 4s., 5s., and 5s. 6d.;
An almost endless variety of cheap Boots, and Shoes.

N.B.—Orders from all parts of the Province will receive prompt attention.

June 15. S. K. FOSTER.

May, 1855.

NEW GOODS.

NORTH AMERICAN CLOTHING STORE.

SEARS' BRICK BUILDING, NORTH SIDE OF KING STRT.

Wholesale and Retail Clothing and Outfitting Establishment.

R. HUNTER,

HAVING completed his Spring importations, respectfully solicits a call from intending purchasers—previous to their buying elsewhere—feeling confident that on examination his Stock will prove to be superior and the prices much lower than similar goods can be had at any other Establishment in the City.

The Clothing having been all made up on the premises on the most advantageous terms cannot fail in giving satisfaction. The Stock comprises a general assortment of

BROAD CLOTHS, Cassimeres, Doeskins, VESTINGS,
CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS,
Goodyears' Patent India Rubber Coats, Capes and Leggins, Hats, Gloves, &c.
Gents' Furnishing Goods, such as Shirts, Collars, Fronts, Bibbs, Stocks, Ties, Umbrellas, Hosiery, Gloves, Braces, Carpet Bags, Trunks, Valises, &c.

☞ Gents who would prefer selecting the Cloth can have their Garments made to order in the most fashionable style, by the best of workmen and at the shortest notice.

No second price—all Goods marked in plain figures.

R. HUNTER.

FIRST

Spring Importations!!

Per Steam Ships "Canada" and "Africa"; Just Received at the

VICTORIA HOUSE,

Prince William Street, and

BRITISH HOUSE,

King Street.

84 CASES and BALES of BRITISH DRY GOODS! Which will be opened and and ready for Inspection on MONDAY first, 2d April.

☞ These Goods having been carefully selected in the best European Markets under great advantages owing to the unparalled depression in the Manufacturing districts, and very great reduction in the prices of Goods, Purchasers can therefore rely on getting GREATER BARGAINS THAN EVER.

N. B.—Terms, CASH ONLY, and *no second Price.*

JAMES DOHERTY & CO.

St. John, 28th April, 1855.

P.S.—Further supply at Spring and Summer Goods to arrive per next Mail Steamers, and per ships "Achilles" from London, and "Thomas," "Lampedo" and "Middleton" from Liverpool.

J. DOHERTY & CO.

S. L. TILLEY,

NO. 15, KING STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.

WOULD call the attention of the public to his large and varied Stock of GOODS, received per ships Middleton, John Barbour, and Achilles from Liverpool, and steamers from the United States, viz:

DRUGS and CHEMICALS of all kinds;
Patent Medicines;
Brushes and Combs of nearly every description;
Shaving and Fancy SOAPS; *Perfumery;*
Fancy Articles; Spices of all kinds;
Dye Stuffs—Logwood, Redwood, and Fustic, Ground and in stick; Indigo, Alum, Copperas, Blue Vitriol, and Annotto;
Brandam's No. 1, WHITE LEAD, in 14lbs., 25lbs., 50lbs., and 1 cwt kegs. Red, Yellow, Blue, and Green PAINTS;
Raw and Boiled Linseed OIL; Spirits Turpentine and Varnish;
Olive and Porpoise Oil;
Pure E. I. CASTOR OIL, in tins;
Gold leaf; Glaziers' Diamonds, GLASS, Putty Lampblack; Glue, &c.;
CONFECTIONARY, in great variety, from the best Scotch and American manufactures;
SEEDS—Clover, Timothy, and Garden Seeds—warranted fresh.

For sale wholesale and retail at lowest market prices. June 1.

PAPER HANGINGS.—More new Patterns of PAPER HANGINGS, just received at the new Paper Store—4000 Rolls, all good patterns, now open. For sale low by

GEORGE NIXON,
Prince William Street.

June 15.

HOLLOWAYS PILLS AND OINTMENT—Just received and for sale by

October 28, 1853. FELLOWS & CO.

Wanted to Sell, a Mortgage of £240 10s., on a Freehold Property in King's Ward, value of Twelve Hundred Pounds.

Poetry.

THE GOOD OLD TIMES OF QUEEN MARY

In ancient times historians say,
When Rome's fierce Pontiffs bore the sway,
The spirit of intoleration
Hung like a cloud upon this nation;
And history records so much the fashion,
Cramming their creeds down all their neighbour's throats—
With threats of fire and faggot plying 'em;
For if the rascals did not turn their coats
They made no bones of stewing and frying 'em
Pretending all the while (which mighty odd is),
The utmost veneration for their souls,
They roast'd and tortured their poor crazy bodies
By broiling them, like rashers, on the coals!

Not even were the ladies spared! to improve 'm,
The holy priests into the fire did shove 'em;
However handsome, they'd no power to move 'em
If heretics, oh me! they set a roasting 'em:
What was the cause of that I can't divine;
Couldn't they sit like Christians o'er their wine,
And be content with merely *toasting* 'em!

It may seem strange in these enlightened days,
To hear of such medival ways;
But in those times so frequently 'twas done,
That people thought no more of the proceeding
Than you would now, in a shop window reading—
"JOINTS BOILED AND ROASTED EVERY DAY AT ONE!"
O then let's pray that Wiseman and his crew
May never have power to make of us a stew
By casting us alive into the flame,
Because our creed and theirs are not the same!

From *Carey's Satirical Collection*, altered and accommodated to the times.

Miscellany.

STORIES OF THE IRISH PEASANTRY.

BY MRS S. C. HALL.

Mind not high things: but condescend to men of low estate. St. Paul.

SURE IT WAS ALWAYS SO.

Concluded in this Number.

"Arra!" exclaimed Mrs. Cahill, setting down to watch out progress; when seated, as she would call it, comfortably, she said, "Ye are kindly welcome my lady, to divart yerself as long as ye plase at the well, since it is a well ye will have it, but take care of the ould tree. My great-grandfather planted it I have heard tell, for a shelter to the well, and I would be sorry it was hurt out of respect to his memory. Now, was it not provoking that this woman knew of the existence of that well, had its tradition from her great-grandfather, and yet had spent so many of the best hours of her life going to the hill-spring! I liked her however for reverencing the ould tree. In a little time the whole population of the village turned out to watch our operations; old James plied his axe and shaved right and well; the English girl plucked away the roots and flung aside the stones; young and old, men and women, looked on—some listlessly, some with anxiety; none offered to assist. "Come, will you not help?" I said at last.

'Yes, my lady, only we must go now to the hill-spring, or the fathers will have no praytees in time for breakfast. God send you good luck, my lady!"—and three or four girls went off.

'But you, you young man, poor James is tired; take the pick or the spade; it is for the comfort of you and yours we are thinking and working.'

'God save ye, my lady, ye have a tender heart; and we will go from this to Jericho to serve you; but in regard of labouring work, I was never used to it, madam. I am a fisherman, my lady.'

'And do you think I am used to it?' said the maid petulantly.

'Oh, no, bedad!' was the reply. 'We never thought you were used to any useful thing. Why it is a pity you should trouble yourself, miss!'

"To think, she said, that they will not help themselves."

"We must teach them patiently.'

Still it was very provoking to see them lounging and loitering about. At last the water began to ooze forth.

"See that now,' exclaimed Nancy. Who would have thought it, and it all so covered up."

'Sure it was always so,' observed another. 'In rainy times the water would shine through the grass; only Mrs. Cahill, ma'am, as the well was on your land, it was not our business to look to it.

'That is thrue for ye,' said the crabbed-faced sailor; sure I know myself it is not pace and quietness meddling with Nancy Cahill.'

'What is that you say, you—,' and Nancy seized a stone, which she would certainly have hurled at the last speaker, but that her arm was held down, while all exclaimed, 'Oh, Nancy, for shame—before the quality. Oh, Nancy.'

'Look,' said the turnagent, rising, and standing with her arms akimbo, "I am a quiet woman, a God-fearing and peace-loving woman; but by all the books that ever war shut and opened, if ye do not every one, barrin' the lady and her boy, quit my bit of land, see if I do not —.' I never shall forget the fierce expression of her countenance, as men, women, and children withdrew, muttering, "Sure it was always so," and left her in undisturbed possession of her estate.

'It is only a bit of a breeze,' muttered James; when it blows over, there is worse-hearted women in the world than Nancy Cahill.' She watched progress for another hour.

'There is water sure enough, and I suppose it was always so; but look at the throuble yer honour has had, and not sure that the earth will not fall in again as it did before; think of that now.'

'The earth will fall in, certainly, again, if it is not prevented,' I replied; "but I hope you are convinced that if a thousandth part of the time and labour had been spent in excavating the well, that was expended in fetching water from the hill-spring, the well would have been useful to this day.'

'That is thrue,' said Nancy.

The sun was high and fervent, so I went to my home for the time being, proud of my achievement and amused at the observations of my English servant.

I never saw such people spending an hour upon what could be done in a minute; I wonder will they do anything to the well while we are away—it really would not be believed in England.'

'And there real; is a well,' said my friend; 'I have heard so, but I remember pops saying it must all be a story, because, if it was not, surely they would have found it out. There is some legend, too, about it, at least I think so, I almost forget what it is—something about the first person who pulled the grass up over its mouth dying ere the morning.'

'Surely,' I replied, laughing, 'not if they saw two crows the first thing after sunrise.'

'There was, there is such a legend,' she said; 'I suppose they would not like to tell it to you, lest you should laugh at them; but I really think the superstition had a great deal to do in the way of strengthening the "it was always so" that you complain of.'

We agreed to go down in the evening, and see if any of the people had continued what was so pleasantly commenced.

When the evening came; we rambled there; it was a fine night. From some particular cause, the arrival, I believe, of visitors in the neighbourhood, there was a demand for fish, and the men had set forth in their cobier, but there were many women and children round the well. I was in great hopes that they had triumphed over their evil habit; I forgot for a moment that the habits of years are not often overcome in a few hours.—One point was achieved; they were convinced of the existence of water, for they had turned down saucers, little dishes, or whatever utensils of the kind they could collect over the plashy soil, and were dipping up the water so collected, and filling their kettles as fast as they could. Nancy was in capital humour; if the well really turned out to be a well, she had become a person of importance; but I thought she looked rather sadly at me.

'I ax yer honour's pardon,' she said, as, after talking and advising, we were going away; 'but lady dear, which of yez was it pulled up the first grass?'

'I did, Mrs. Cahill. Why do you ask?'

'Just out of curiosity, my lady—a-way I have.' She crossed her hands over her bosom, and added in a solemn tone, "God mark yo to grace!"

This question and observation confirmed me in the belief I had gathered from the kind and anxious looks they bent upon me, that the foolish superstition had in a great degree cramped their exertions, and that a fear, peculiarly Irish, of being laughed at, prevented their telling me the fact.

I did not rise so early the next morning; and when coming down stairs, I saw Nancy's head thrust in through the hall door, which had a great dislike to close, partly perhaps from a feeling of hospitality, which even Irish hall doors seemed to participate in, and partly from a certain awkwardness about the hinges, which, owing to their advanced age, were unwilling to move fast, if at all.'

'Well, Nancy,' I said, 'I hope the well gave you plenty of fresh water this morning?'

'Ya, then, it is myself that is glad for to see your face so cheerful like this morning, lady dear, thanks to be the Almighty for his mercy, Amen!' And once more she crossed her hands over her bosom.

'And pray, Nancy, why should my face not be cheerful,' I inquired.

'Yarra! it is myself does not know, so I do not. Only the gentry sometimes do be putting long faces on themselves for nothing. And are ye brave and hearty this morning, plase yer honour?'

'That I am, Nancy, thank you—never was better. I am always better in Ireland than any where else in the world.'

'Why, this, my lady,' answered Nancy, quaintly enough, 'if that is the way it is a pity ye should ever leave it. Myself thinks there is some charrum about ye; but, maybe, my lady, like the rest of the English farmers, you don't believe in the charrums.'

'Oh, yes, Nancy, I believe in a great many charms,' Nancy advanced fairly into the hall, and throwing her grey hair back from her eyes with both hands, looked steadily in my face, exclaiming, 'See that now.' 'Yes, Nancy, there is a great charm in the kindness and good nature of my poor Irish friends.'

Nancy looked disappointed and yet pleased.

'There is a great charm in industry, a great charm in patience, a great charm in perseverance. If we had not persevered with the well, you would have been journeying to the hill-spring to the end of your days, but I will see that trouble prevented before I leave you. And Nancy, if you will find me a four-leaved shamroque, I will promise faithfully to exert all my powers of belief in its charms.'

'God bless you, my lady; sure I never had the luck of finding sich a thing as that. I wish I had. Oh, my, but I am glad to see you well, ma'am; and sure we will have heart now to go on with the well ourselves, and God's blessing on ye.'

'And why had you not heart to go on with it before?'

'Oh, ma'am, there is no good in telling you; may be you would be putting it in a book.

'Perhaps I might, Nancy.'

'Ah, my lady, I and my people always kept out of disgrace.'

'Well, but Nancy, when they put St. Patrick and your own Daniel O'Connell in a book, and kings and queen; and they never consider it a disgrace. When there is nothing wrong done, what harm can there be in telling it?'

'Wishes, that is thrue; Margaret Regan has the Life of Saint Patsaick.'

'Well, and there is nothing disgraceful to the saint in it.'

'Wishes, no, that is thrue.'

'Well, then, do you not see, what possible harm could there be in putting the well in a book.'

Nancy paused; and then, as if a sudden idea had struck her, she exclaimed, 'Maybe, as I know the rights of it myself, I may as well tell you, for others will. Ye see, ma'am, long ever ago, before I was born, and my mother nothing but a dawshy slip of a girl running about the rocks, like our own childre, one of the fisher boys picked a very swarthy-coloured child off a wreck, and by the same token the mast of the vessel was to be seen at low water, off Greystone Point, for many a long sunny summer day, and many a short bitter winter one. Well, the very night Michael Grime (that was the boy's name) brought the child to the shiece, the very same night the well fell in.'

'But it might have done so if the poor dark child had not been saved. I dare say it had been in a bad state.'

'Sure it was always so in the memory of man; and what would all it to keep so, as it had done for scores of years.'

'My good Nancy, is not that tower more likely to tumble down now than when it was built.'

Nancy was, however, too cunning to be trapped. She saw the analogy at a glance and would not give in.

'Myself does not understand them things, but the well fell in any way,' she said, with a twist of her shoulders, adding; 'and the people said it was not for luck.'

'That I believe. How can anything be considered for luck that does harm.'

'Av, indeed. Well, the swarthy child, it was a girl, delighted in sitting by where the well fell in, in the hot sun, or under the beames of the cold pale-faced moon, it was all one, picking up bits of grass or stones, and throwing them among the plashing water; that hissed up out of the ground; and the roll of her great black eyes was not pleasant, and—'

I interrupted the narration by the question of "How did she live.'

'Is it this how did she live. Oh, I suppose up and down just with the neighbors; only to be sure, the best bit and sup was saved for her who had no one to look to her. God help us. Well, ma'am, the people observed, as I heard tell, that the well filled up wonderful; and at morning dawn and rising moon the swarthy child was there, nor would she suffer any to meddle with her or her doings, only sit and sing her song, like the sighing of a breaking heart, and would stay whispering about the houses, even in the people's sleep. Nothing would she do but gather stones and grass to put in the well, and sing.'

'Do you remember hearing what the words were she sung?'

'Yarra, no. Not all out. She sang with a furrin tongue. Only this much I do mind hearing—a wise woman interpreted pars of it, and the sense was this, that she would die on the grass planted by herself over the well, and leave her curse to the first hand that pulled the grass she sowed, and the curse she left was full and heavy—that the hand that did pull it might be cold ere the morning.'

I smiled and held out my hand to Nancy, and with the feeling of an Irishwoman, no matter how rude or untutored, she pressed it to her lips.

'It is not could, God be praised,' she said, 'but it is not as warm as yer heart.' I am free to confess that the pretty compliment softened the expression of Nancy's features wonderfully in my opinion.

'And what became of the girl?' I inquired.

'She pined, and pined, and pined, as a bird might that left too soon its mother's nest, and at last I heard tell she grew a shadow, and used to wrap the ould red cloak round her head, and her eyes would glare out from it like bonfires of a St. John's night—and at last she was found dead by the well.'

"Poor thing, and you never heard who she was?'

'Yarra, no! how should we? Some said one thing, some another. Many thought she was something of a mermaid, others, But, anyhow, there was no doubt of her being—'

'What, Nancy?'

"*Something not right.*" answered Nancy, turning away.'

'Stay, Nancy; is it possible that this circumstance gave rise to the superstition which prevented your opening the well?'

'Shooperstition!' repeated Nancy, greatly offended. "Yarra, ma'am! how can you call it shooperstition, did not my grandmother know the well to fill in.'

'Granted.'

'And the swarthy craythur, wherever she was, to leave her skin and bones over it.'

'Granted.'

'And her curse, that the first hand that removed the grass might be could before morning.'

'Granted.'

'Sure then that is not shooperstition; it is real truth.'

'My hand is not cold, and I pulled away finely at the grass.'

'God save us, sure ye did.'

'Believe me the Almighty loves his creatures too well to permit the foolish words of sinful people to act against those who love and trust him.'

'May be so,' said Nancy; "but was it always so.'

'Indeed it was. When you are in a passion, you wish a great deal of harm to your neighbours, and yet it does not come to pass.'

'God forbid,' she exclaimed, crossing herself.

'Amen to that, good Nancy; and now, as I hope you are satisfied that I am alive and well this morning, go down to your house, stir up those lazy men and boys; you know, Nancy, they will work if you order them. And bring me a pitcher of well water for my dinner.'

'Yarra, ma'am, clear water is very could in the stomach.'

'Now, Nancy, do not begin to undervalue the water the moment you've obtained it; but I will promise you all something stronger if you work hard. *Good porter.*'

We never suffered "it will do" to rest until we had achieved *it is done!* And the well was done, a comfort bestowed, and a superstition overcome, at a very small expense of time and trouble,—Nancy to this day is quite lady patroness of the well, and like all lady patronesses, a trifle capricious and tyrannical at times; but the pure fresh water is there with its thousand blessings, and the neighbours are practically convinced that even if a thing was "*always so*," there is no reason it should continue to be "ALWAYS SO."

A MOURNFUL MISSION.

On my return to England, amongst other commissions I had undertaken, was that of carrying to his mother, the sword, papers, &c., of a very young officer whom I have visited when dying from a wound at Scutari; I ascertained that she lived at the village of ——; getting out of a train some miles from it, I hired a carriage and set off on my melancholy errand; I was told Mrs. —— lived on the village common; I stopped at a shop on this green or common, and asked which was the house. My business was at once guessed, for I had the sword, &c., in my hand; they pointed out to me the dwelling I sought; leaving the carriage I walked across the green; after I had rung the bell at the garden gate, I turned round and saw the people stand at their doors in small groups, at many of the houses near the shop at which I had first enquired, all looking towards the spot where I stood; the nature of my mission had in some mysterious way spread right and left. Having partly explained the cause of my visit to a servant I was presently shown into a sitting room, evidently just quitted by some ladies; on the table and in different parts of the room, I could read some what of the sad tale I had yet to complete; there were many silent yet speaking proofs that it was a house of mourning. I recognized one picture of the poor fellow as I had known him, and another done at a different age. There was something in the whole aspect and atmosphere of the room, that seemed to tell of the scenes of the family grief which had so lately been acted there. I did not wonder at the length of time I had to wait; I could understand it well. When the door again opened Mrs. ——, his mother, a widow, came towards me; her grief not yet three weeks old, had evidently written years upon her; she showed herself worthy to be the parent of one who had been so loved in his regiment and had died so honoured. As women ever are in those moments of severe trial, she was strong to bear up under it, but nature from time to time would break through all power of restraint. Let me here say to all who may read these pages—never regard as trivial, any, the least circumstances of a death bed; you may hereafter to meet with those, to whom many things seeming then as trifles to you are as treasures to them. It is the sweetest of all returns made for services to the dying, the pleasure you can afterwards afford relatives, by answering their questions, in these small matters. It is not merely the lock of hair, the little heap of home letters, the journal, the watch, &c., that you take these mourners each one of these developes some little family trait of affection; and the domestic records in the mother's heart of the early life beget as they are told, question after question, on the events of the early death.

A true mourner counts all as gain that can bring out the lights and shades of the last day of the mourned. My task was soon at an end, painful in what it did, grateful grateful shown towards me in that I had done it. Well could I picture to myself what the walls of that room would yet for some days witness. The sword that had only dropped from the hand at Inkerman when the bullet pierced the heart—here was the monument to the soldier; those letters which kept up home's love in the scenes of war's strife; that journal written in a son's and a soldier's spirit, so full of life, hope and daring—here was his epitaph. "mindful of home, he died for country; that watch wound up the last night of life, stopping when the hand that wound it lay motionless by the side of the heart, now for ever at rest—this gave the date. Mother, sister, brother, you were in your grief few among many thousands, just so afflicted, or it may be worse, for to you it is given not to sorrow without hope. On my return to my carriage I found the news of what had brought me to the village was now far spread; many were the enquiries; much and deep the interest. "He was so young" said one, "and all here about so loved him."—*Osborne's Sentari and its Hospitals.*

Have the courage to receive a poor relation freely and kindly. His shabby appearance, or his ignorance, will appear to your advantage; for the mind is prone to draw comparisons. We have nothing to be ashamed of but our own errors.