

Capt. Ingerfoll verbally reports, that the most active exertions were making in all the ports of France to equip and man their navy; and that a heavy impressment of seamen took place at Bordeaux on the evening previous to his sailing. This circumstance is unusual in France, and indicates something of moment.

PLYMOUTH, MARCH 10.

Yesterday, at 4 A. M. an Admiralty Messenger arrived in 32 hours from London, with important dispatches from the Pt. Ad. R. Ad. D'ACRES. In a few minutes orders were sent to the Colonel Commandant of the Marines, at Stonehouse and Mill Barracks, on the receipt of which the Barrack gates were immediately shut, and no person permitted to go in or come out of the Barracks. About 7 P. M. the town was alarmed with the marching of several bodies of Royal Marines, in parties of 12 and 14 each, with their officers and a naval officer, armed, towards the Quays. So secret were the orders kept, that they did not know the nature of the service on which they were going, until they boarded the tier of colliers at the New Quay, and other gangs the ships in Catwater, the Pool, and gin-shops. A great number of prime seamen were taken out, and sent to the Admiral's ship. They also pressed landmen of all descriptions; and the town looked as if in a state of siege. At Stonehouse, Mutton Cove, North Corner, Morris Town, and in all the receiving and gin-shops at Dock, several hundreds of seamen and landmen were picked up and sent directly on board the flag ship. By the returns this morning it appears that upwards of 400 useful hands were pressed last night in the three towns. Too much credit cannot be given to the different officers and their gangs for the spirit, secrecy, and address and humanity with which they executed their orders; one press gang entered the Dock Theatre, and cleared the whole gallery except the women.

Came in from the Westward a large frigate, name unknown. Certificates were this day delivered by the Adjutant to the non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates of the South Devon regiment of Militia, to prevent their being impressed. The rigging of the *Plantagenet*, 74, Capt. HAMMOND, now fitting for sea in Hamoaze, goes on briskly, her lower rigging is almost over head.—Sailed the *Gannet*, 14, Capt. BASS, with dispatches for the West-Indies. It is said that near 600 men have been impressed in this neighborhood. It is reported that several ships are ordered to be got ready for commission at this port; among them the following are spoken of: *Malta*, *Conquerant*, *Spencer*, *Spartiate*, and *Mars*, of the line. So earnest are they in procuring men that large detachments of marines are gone off to Dartmouth and Modbury for that purpose.

PORTSMOUTH, MARCH 11.

Late last night failed the *Amphim*, 32 guns, Captain HARDY, and *La Loire*, 40 guns, Captain MAITLAND, the former for Cork to procure seamen, and the latter for Guernsey. The order for impressing seamen is still continued with the greatest vigilance, and not a single vessel of any description, lying in the harbour but what has been completely searched and the men, and even boys, taken out. It is with the utmost difficulty that people living on the Point can get a boat to take them to Gosport, the terror of a press-gang having made such an impression on the minds of the water-men that ply the passage.

(NEW-BRUNSWICK.)

SAINT JOHN, May 21, 1803.

THEATRICAL.

On Monday the 2d inst. was performed at the Theatre in Fredericton, before His EXCELLENCY the LIEUT. GOVERNOR, and a numerous and crowded audience, the Comedy of *SPEED THE PLOUGH*, by the Gentlemen of that place. It is but justice to say, that this performance was equal to any one of the kind that has ever been exhibited in this Province. The principal characters were supported with remarkable spirit and propriety, and discovered great Theatrical talents; and the whole excited an interest and received those bursts of applause that were strongly indicative of the great merit of the performers.

To this succeeded the Farce of *THE MOCK DOCTOR*, and so warm were the plaudits of the audience, that both Performances were again exhibited with increased effect on the Evening of the Thursday following, to an audience equally crowded and brilliant; some Gentlemen who had seen this Comedy performed in London, thought one or two of the principal characters by no means inferior to the same parts on the English stage. It was introduced by an occasional Prologue written by a Gentleman at Fredericton and closed with the Epilogue attached to the printed Comedy with some slight variations; copies of which we have procured and present for the amusement of our readers; they were both spoken in the character of *Robert Handy*, junior.—[The lines marked with inverted comma's in the Epilogue were not spoken.]

We are informed that another Play will be performed at the same Theatre in the course of the next month.

PROLOGUE.

IN those vast Towns where lux'ry takes her seat,
Where crowds at Theatre's promiscuous meet,
To please a vicious taste, the poet's rhyme,
Is often nonsense gilded with sublime.

Prologues must rant—Speakers must stamp, and pause,
Strut—and look knowing—to obtain applause.

To paltry arts like these—I'll not descend,
In every countenance here I view a friend.
The air we breathe is wholesome, pure and good,
And our strong minds require substantial food:
Here active industry (as yet) prevails,
Ourselves, our children, live by Ploughs and Flails.

We need not pamper'd opinions—half a score
To drive the wretched from the great man's door,
Nor systematic soups to feed our poor,
The man who labours here has nought to dread,
He's sure to earn his honest daily bread—
In such a land—you'll certainly allow
Our play's well chosen—It is *Speed the Plough*.
Nor can it with your humors disagree
To hear a Prologue from a Buck like me.

Hem!

Remember Lasses tho' you're rigg'd so neat,
It is not long since in this very Street,
Squaws (sans chemise) were making strange grimaces
Just where you trip so sweetly in THE GRACES.

All things are here improving by degrees,
And you my fair ones we will strive to please—
Our little party on your candor rely,
An inexperienced set, we'll do our best,
Scenes we exhibit all from real life
And first present Old Ashfield and his Wife.

N. B. While the two last lines are in utterance the Curtain is gradually drawn up and discovers Old Ashfield and his Wife in the first Scene of the Play.

EPILOGUE.

SO here I am—once more to bear a bob,
And for our Author do a friendly job;
Perhaps you don't know how to clap a Play!
Mind me—hand rattle hand—thus [claps his hands]
that's the way.

No doubt you think, though second fure to none,
I'm rather sanguine about number one;
Ask all the world, who every thing would try
And all the world will answer I! I! I!
Your sprightly Damsels seeking active fame
Will rival School-Boys in each active game,
Give 'em but rope enough, they'll shine in skipping
While many a lucky Rogue may catch them tripping,
Others; with beauteous arm and lovely shoulder,
Conspicuous to each accurate beholder,
Vaulting on toe, with tamborine and bells
Surpass the heroines of—Sadler's Wells!
Nor less our Beaux excite our admiration;
Their shoulders too are worthy observation;
Not bare indeed, but eased in tenfold fluffing—
They need not, if they like not, feel a cuffing;
Nay what's more frequent, and preserves as much
They save the pressure of a Bailiff's touch.

Stuffing's a charm attracts us every minute;
E'en female bosoms find protection in it;
Exposed to open charms and powerful flattery,
Why not gain conquests by a well masked battery?
"Some precious patterns for this nice breast work,
"Tis say'd, were lately brought from fam'd New-York
"And (thus provided) we've a right to hope
"Our skilful females here will keep 'em up."

But truce to satire—Folly's lost in doubt,
And this age enter'd e'er the last went out;
None knew—so none to blame could find pretext
Whether we find this Century—or the next.
"You're a bad man!" cries wealthy madam Dump,
To her fond spouse who took her by the lump,
"To hide a wench last week behind the screen!"
"Last week my love—last Century you mean,"
"Sure!" says Miss Lydia Lank, an ancient maid,
"You will not countenance that painted jade!"
"I hate to name the odious word—miscarried!"
"And yet the wanton mix was never married!"
"That's an old story!" Old two months or so.
"Two months! you dream!" a Century ago!
"Damme!" Cries Dath "each age has its beginning,
His chin quite buried in five rounds of linen!
"Think you we drive thro' life with too much haste
"Tis neck or nothing with us lads of taste!"
"Your taste!" Cries Dad "I fear your credit shocks
"The rise of Cravats proves the fall of stocks:
"Save then to day, to-morrow we'll want some,
"To-morrow squaretoes! that's an age to come!"

Since then from changeful times uncertain state
Our very foibles now are out of date;
Cheer with your friendly smiles our growing joy
A scanty harvest must our hopes destroy.

To brighten future prospects, all should now
With hand and heart unite to—*Speed the Plough*.

DIED] Last Sunday evening, Mrs. CATHARINE OLIVER, wife of William Sanford Oliver, Esq.

EXCHANGE COFFEE-HOUSE.

WILLIAM GEORGE CODY,

MOST respectfully informs the Public, that he has taken the EXCHANGE COFFEE-HOUSE in this City, where he purposes to establish a genteel House of Entertainment, in which line he offers his services, and hopes from his attention and desire to accommodate, he will receive the favors of his Friends and meet the approbation of the Public in general. He has provided himself with a Stock of the very best LIQUORS, and his Employers may depend, that no exertions on his part will be wanting to merit their confidence and patronage.

Travellers and others may be accommodated with Genteel Board on the most reasonable terms.
Also, Good STABLING for HORSES.

Saint John, 18th May, 1803.

GAUGING.

GODFREY LEYDICK respectfully informs the Public in general, that he still continues the Office of GAUGER for this City and Province, and will thank his Friends for a continuance of their favors, which he will endeavour to merit by a strict and faithful attention to their commands.

SAINT JOHN, 11th MAY, 1803.

One Hundred Dollars Reward.

WHEREAS at the time the late Mr. M'MONAGIE was unfortunately drowned, there were LOST in the same Sleigh, Two pair of Saddle Bags, one containing about ONE HUNDRED POUNDS in gold and silver, the other a few GUINEAS. The above Reward will be given to any Person who may find the said Saddle Bags and deliver them to the Subscriber, with their contents, or a proportion of the Reward will be given for either of the Saddle Bags, according to the sum they contained, and is delivered free from embezzlement. And whereas there are strong suspicion that one or both of the said Saddle Bags have been found, and are concealed with a fraudulent design—in order to bring to just punishment, any person who are guilty, the same Reward will be given to those who will make discovery so that they may be prosecuted, and the money recovered; and as there may be more than one person concerned in such fraud, any of them who will make such discovery will be Rewarded, and no prosecution entered against him. Measures are taken to discover those who are guilty; they will find it their interest to come forward and receive the Reward which will be paid on their delivering up the property, and may prevent shame and disgrace to themselves and their families.—Enquire of

WILLIAM PAGAN.

SAINT JOHN, 20th APRIL, 1803.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons having any Demands against the Estate of A PATRICK POWER, late of this City, Mariner, deceased, are requested to present them to either of the Subscribers (properly attested) within Six Months from this date—And those indebted to said Estate, are desired to make immediate payment to

JOHN TOOLE, or FRANCIS WATSON, Administrators.

Saint John, 11th December, 1802.

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