

grotesque than the other, they cannot refrain from muttering between their teeth: "*Frasnaoui maboul!*"—"Mad Frenchmen!"

The learning of the Moors extends no further than the reading of the Koran and the knowledge of its divers precepts. The man who can write, quote, and interpret the numerous *suras* of holy book, is looked upon in the light of a *figghi* (learned). According to them, everything is contained in its sacred pages; and if Mahomet has not spoken therein of the innumerable discoveries which have been made since his death, it is only because he did not choose to do so.

The Moors have as many modes as the French of expressing friendship, deference, and even humility.

Equals salute each other by placing the hand upon the heart and pronouncing reciprocally the *Salaam Alaikoun* (Peace be with you). Sometimes, they embrace by kissing each other on the right shoulder. When people are intimate, or when they see each other frequently, they are satisfied with mutually touching the ends of their fingers, and then carrying them to their mouths, as if to kiss them: if, however the person be an unbeliever, they merely address them a good morning (*Sbathal Krreir*). Between inferiors and superiors a different custom is observed, the inferior kissing the hand of his superior.

There is no end to the compliments that pass between two Moors on meeting; they say: "Peace be with you!" "How are you?" "In what state is your health?" "Perfectly well, thank God!" "And you how is your father?" "How is your son?" "How is your Horse?"—But they never inquire, how is your wife, your sister or your mother! This would be a great breach of propriety—I might almost say it would be an indecency in their eyes. What is most ludicrous, is that when two Moors meet and begin their reciprocal compliments, they do so without stopping, and answer one another while pursuing their way in opposite directions; as that, one going to the right and another to the left, continue to question each other, and answer, even long after they are able to hear greeting effusions. It is true that the habit of speaking from afar on the plains gives to the voices of these men more strength and power, and a greater degree of acuteness to the ear than is commonly the case in Europe.

The *Medeni*, or inhabitants of the town, practice most of the trades necessary to the wants of the city; but, although they excel in the fabrication of certain articles, as morocco leather, stuffs, dyes, embroidered cloths, in mechanical arts they display a carelessness and a routine which will leave their productions, for some time, far behind those of Europe. The Moor of Algiers is either shoe-maker, weaver, fruiterer, or grocer, but principally tobacco-merchant, barber, and coffee-house keeper. The commerce of the interior is almost entirely in the hands of the Jews.

The favourite amusements of the Moors (who, upon the whole, are a sober people, preferring luxurious clothing to good living) are horse-exercise, shooting at a mark, repose beneath the shade of a few trees, the pipe, coffee, chess and drafts—meeting and chatting in the coffee houses, at the barbers, and in the neighbourhood of the cemetery gates. In their cockery they are a little more refined than the Arabs, and, though it is composed of pretty nearly the same materials, the *couscousou* almost invariably forms the standard dish. In towns, however, it is prepared with more delicacy; they add to it butter and beef, or mutton, with pumpkins, and above all, capscums and tomato.

Pastry fried in honey enjoys a well-merited celebrity, and would not be out of place on the tables of our epicures; neither would the preserves of roses and other conserves, the preparation of which is one of the greatest qualifications of a Moorish woman. Their ordinary drink is water; nevertheless since the French occupation of the country, the law of Mahomet has fallen into disrepute, and the Moors do not scruple to indulge in wine or liquors, which were before permitted only to the Jews. The *rakki*, a sort of bad aniseed, has many admirers; coffee is a general beverage.

Rich *Medeni* wear long, fresh bright-coloured robes, decorated with elegant embroidery, most commonly covered with the *burnous*, a great cloak, provided with a hood of extremely fine texture and dazzling whiteness, used by all the inhabitants of Barbary.

The head-dress of the Moors consists of a white turban, composed of a very long piece of muslin, which is rolled spirally four or five times round the head, the end falling gracefully down on one side.

A few Moors wear stockings, but the greater part go with bare legs. They let the beard and moustaches grow, but shave their heads, with the exception of a long tuft of hair which they leave on the crown. The angel Gabriel, they say, will, after their death, raise them by this tuft, and thus transport them into paradise. When, however, they undertake their pilgrimage to Mecca, they allow the hair to grow until they have accomplished their vow.

The greater portion of the details into which we have just entered were furnished the author of this article whilst in France, a short time ago, by a gallant officer, who well deserved his cross of honour and his promotion in the African army, in the service of his country. Often, in the course of this sketch, we shall take the liberty of availing ourselves of his curious and faithful reminiscences.

The Manners of the Moors we have just been describing, doubtless present a strange contrast to the European civilisation which the new colonists established in Algeria have lately introduced. But let us remark, *en passant*, that too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the tact and politic mildness which are displayed by the conquerors, who do not oppose the customs of the country, except when they have an immoral tendency. They simply contrast with them the example of industry, the blessings of education, and the purity of Christianity.

But we must not forget that the civil state of Algeria requires attention as well as the political. The idea of a Colony unites

these two aspects. A vast and new country must excite in our minds a moral interest to fix and satisfy the other branches; nothing can be more curious and attractive than the richness and beauty of the soil in which the young society is germinating.

(To be continued.)

Written for the Loyalist.

REVIEW OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS OF NEW BRUNSWICK, 1844.

Having promised the readers of the *Loyalist* a Review of the proceedings of their Representatives, and the other Branches of the Legislature, during their late sittings, we shall at once proceed, without any preliminary observations, to take a cursory glance in the first place of the Bills which have been passed; and in order to take them in their proper order we here give their titles, numbered for our convenience:—

1. A Bill, entitled 'An Act relating to the collection of Duty on Timber and other Lumber.'
2. A Bill, entitled 'An Act imposing Duties for raising a Revenue.'
3. An Act to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the County of Kent to levy an assessment to defray the contingent expenses of the County.
4. An Act to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte to make further provisions for the payment of the Treasurer of that County.
5. An Act to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte to levy an assessment to pay off the County Debt.
6. An Act for altering the times of holding one of the Terms of the General Session of the Peace and Inferior Courts of Common Pleas of the County of Carleton.
7. An Act to authorize the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry of Saint Ann's Church, in the Parish of Sackville, to sell certain Land, and to dispose of the money arising from the sale thereof in the purchase of other Lands.
8. An Act to continue an Act relative to Desertion from Her Majesty's Forces, and to punish unlawful dealings with Soldiers and Deserters.
9. An Act to authorize the Justices of the Peace in and for the City and County of Saint John to make compensation to the Assessors of Taxes for the City and Parish of Saint John, and the Parishes of Simonds, Lancaster and Saint Martin's, for the year 1843; also to the Assessors of Taxes for the Parish of Portland for the year 1842.
10. An Act to amend an Act, intituled "An Act to regulate Vessels arriving from the United Kingdom with Passengers and Emigrants."
11. An Act to lay a tax on Dogs in the Towns of Dalhousie and Campbellton, in the County of Restigouche.
12. An Act to amend an Act, intituled "An Act to regulate the fencing, occupation and grazing of the several Marshes, Low Lands and Meadows in the County Westmorland."
13. An Act to authorize the Justices of the Peace in the County of Carleton to levy an assessment to pay off the County Debts.
14. An Act to remove the old Gaol of the City and County of Saint John.
15. An Act to continue and amend the Act incorporating the Charlotte County Bank.
16. An Act to empower the Justices of the Peace for the County of Gloucester, in their General Session, to regulate the Fisheries in the said County.
17. An Act to reduce the Duties imposed upon Ships or Vessels arriving at the Port of Saint John, to provide for the support of sick and disabled Seamen, not being Paupers, belonging to the Province.
18. An Act to authorize the erection of a Marine Hospital at Dalhousie, in the County of Restigouche, and to make further provision for sick and disabled Seamen, not being Paupers, belonging to this Province, so far as the same may relate to the Port of Dalhousie.
19. An Act to amend an Act, intituled "An Act to repeal an Act to encourage the destroying of Wolves, and an Act to grant a Bounty on the destruction of Bears in this Province, and to make other provision in lieu thereof."
20. An Act to authorize the use of a part of the building erected for a Market House on the Western side of the Harbour, in the City of Saint John, for other purposes than a Market.
21. An Act to authorize the Trustees of Saint John Church, in Richmond, to sell Lands.
22. An Act in addition to an Act, intituled "An Act to prevent Nuisances within the City of Saint John."
23. An Act in addition to an Act, intituled "An Act for the erection of an Alms House, and to establish a Public Infirmary in and for the City and County of Saint John."
24. An Act to alter the Division Line between the Parishes of Kingston and Norton, in King's County.
25. An Act in addition to an Act, intituled "An Act for erecting a Parish in the City of Saint John, and incorporating the Rectors, Church Wardens and Vestries of the Church of England in the several Parishes in this Province."
26. An Act to receive certain Acts relating to the prevention of the importation and spreading of Infections Distempers within the Counties of Charlotte and Northumberland, and to extend the provisions of the same to the Counties of Gloucester and Restigouche.
27. An Act to amend an Act imposing Duties for raising a Revenue.
28. An Act to appropriate a part of the Public Revenue to the payment of the Ordinary Services of the Province.
29. An Act to appropriate a part of the Public Revenue for the services therein mentioned.
30. An Act to provide for opening and repairing Roads and erecting Bridges throughout the Province.
31. An Act to incorporate the Fredericton Boom Company.
32. An Act more effectually securing the Navigation of the River and Harbour of Saint John, in the City and County of Saint John.
33. An Act to establish the value of certain British Coins in this Province, and to amend the Acts relating to the establishment of a Legal Tender.
34. An Act to provide for a drawback upon Flour exported in certain cases.
35. An Act to amend an Act, intituled "An Act to make more effectual regulations relating to Pilots within this Province."
36. An Act to enable the Justices of the Peace of the City and

County of Saint John to pay off a portion of the debts now due by the County of Saint John

37. An Act further to continue an Act to provide for the prompt payment of all demands upon the Provincial Treasury.
38. An Act further to amend the Law relating to Wills, Legacies, Executors and Administrators, and for the Settlement and distribution of the Estates of Intestates.
39. An Act further to amend the Laws relating to Bankruptcy in this Province.
40. An Act to repeal an Act, intituled "An Act to provide for the greater safety of Passengers on board Steam Boats," and to make further provision in lieu thereof.
41. An Act to encourage the Fisheries of this Province.
42. An Act further to facilitate the means of supplying the City of Saint John with Water.
43. An Act to prevent the spread of a Disease now existing in certain parts of the Counties of Gloucester and Northumberland.
44. An Act to afford relief to Persons unfortunate in business in certain cases.
45. An Act to restrain the provisions of the Fifth Section of an Act, intituled "An Act for the support of the Civil Government of this Province," and establish sundry regulations for the future sale and disposal of Timber in certain cases.
46. An Act to facilitate the collection and recovery of small debts due to the Crown, arising from the sale of Crown Lands and Timber.
47. An Act to regulate the Management and disposal of the Indian Reserves in this Province—(with a suspending clause).
48. An Act for the division of the County of Carleton into two Counties, and to provide for the Government and Representation of the new County—(with a suspending clause).
49. An Act to incorporate the Arestook Boom Company—(with a suspending clause).
50. An Act to enable Her Majesty's Government to carry into effect within this Province the provisions of the Fourth Article of the treaty of Washington—(with a suspending clause).
51. An Act for the relief of the Rev. S. D. Rice—(with a suspending clause).
52. An Act to enable the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the time being, to License the Rev. S. D. Rice to solemnize Marriage in this Province.
53. An Act to authorize the Justices of the Peace of the City and County of Saint John to raise a sum of money for the payment of certain Debts due by the County of Saint John.

No. 1. THE EXPORT DUTY BILL.

So much has been said about this Bill—it having passed almost in its present state during the preceding session—that we shall be very brief in our remarks. The following appears to be among its advantages. In the first place it is expected to add several thousands annually to the Revenue, while the actual charge to the lumberer is reduced to about one-third, the expence of surveying timber in the woods being saved. In the second place it was the only way by which a tax could be levied on timber cut on that part of the Upper St. John now belonging to the State of Maine, which is perfectly fair, for as Maine (in our opinion) never had any right to the territory, but merely made a "hargain" for the sake of the timber growing thereon, no one can blame us for turning the tables upon them. The third argument in its favour is the moral effect it will have upon those engaged in the trade—we do not mean the "moral effect" turning the tables will have, but the removal of the very strong temptation to smuggle which the former system held out; and in addition to this, it will confer great advantages of a pecuniary nature upon the lumberman.

We have heard but two arguments brought against the Bill entitled to any consideration, and one of these is, that timber cut on the rivers St. Croix and Restigouche will be shipped from the opposite shore, in Maine and Canada, and the duties be thereby evaded. This may be so, but surely no one will argue that this should have prevented the Bill from passing if there is a reasonable prospect that the revenue will be increased, even though all the timber cut on those streams should be shipped duty-free; and the lumberers themselves to whom this boon (for such it must prove, if the statement be true,) is offered, should be the last to complain. The other objection to the measure is of a more serious nature. It is a question of right, the timber growing on lands purchased from the Crown by individuals, or companies, being subjected to the same export-duty as that growing on lands now in possession of the Crown. The subject should not be treated lightly: it has often been argued that "private interests must subserve the general good;" but doctrines of this nature does better in theory than in practice; people may support this as an abstract principle, but few indeed would like to become the injured parties. True, it is not only impossible for any law to be enacted satisfactory to all parties concerned, but probably there never was, nor never will be a measure passed by the Legislature of any country by which certain individuals are not more or less injured—new measures are like convulsions, something must be thrown out of place until nature becomes accustomed to the change. But although Legislators in certain cases are necessarily compelled to turn a deaf ear to individual complaints, one of their first duties is justice, and where a measure in contemplation is decidedly unjust to any particular class of Her Majesty's subjects, our rulers should pause before they give it their sanction, or else make proper exemptions or provisions for the sufferers. The example of the British Government in the abolition of slavery, is worthy of all imitation. Slavery, however unjust, had been for ages guaranteed by British laws, under the sanction of which adventurers and capitalists from the United Kingdom had settled in the West Indies, and cultivated the sugar-cane by the aid of slave-labour. To have abolished