

dry day while the channel was wearing. Mariners would no longer go by the gulf stream from Florida to Newfoundland. Let all the nations of the world who are interested in accomplishing this object, make a joint attempt, and the work would be soon completed. We hope statesmen will reflect seriously on the point which is brought to our remembrance by a resolution of the Ohio legislature.

FOR THE KINGSTON CHRONICLE. ON TEA.

Two centuries ago, no man would have ventured to predict, that an herb would be introduced into Britain which would become one of the necessities of life, and in some degree supersede the use of spirituous liquors, and bring an immense revenue to Government. But such have been the consequences of the importation of Tea. This plant is so generally used throughout the British dominions, notwithstanding its high price, and all that has been written and said against its effects, that it must evidently possess some peculiar properties which are not inherent in any other known vegetable substance whatever, and which render the infusion of it such a delightful beverage to all kinds of people. When we see the poor labourer expending part of his hard-earned wages in the purchase of Tea, and consequently denying himself more substantial comforts, we feel inclined to examine whether or not such privations are compensated for by the temporary pleasure he derives from its use, and to suspect, that his strong attachment to the plant must proceed in some degree from habit, and the example of others. But the love of tea, which prevails among the wealthier classes of the community, is less equivocal and extraordinary, as they can indulge in its use without abridging their other luxuries, and drink it in a state of strength and comparative purity.

The infusion of this plant appears to be a necessary of life every where—alike in the palace, and in the cottage. The dissipated use of it to remove the headache and depression attendant on debauchery. The woman of fashion takes tea that it may exhilarate her spirits, and by its invigorating effects, supply the want of sleep. It forms an enlivening requisite at almost every evening party, and is coveted as a cordial capable of alleviating extraordinary fatigues. It elicits satire from village matrons, and gives a zest to the circulation of scandal, and is often partaken of during study, by the scholar and philosopher, that it may prevent sleep, gently excite the mind, and awaken every faculty. This plant is therefore altogether unique in its effects upon the human frame, and appears to be adapted to all tastes, temperaments, and constitutions, as it is scarcely possible to meet with an individual who dislikes it. It also possesses the inestimable quality of producing an agreeable excitement which is not succeeded by any perceptible languor or depression, such as invariably follows even a moderate indulgence in wine or spirituous liquors. These qualities, which belong peculiarly to this delightful beverage, sufficiently account for the general estimation in which it is held; and I believe were its consumers forced to renounce all their luxuries, one after another, that which they would last relinquish would be tea. The navigator, or merchant, who first brought the plant from China, probably valued it merely as an unknown vegetable, or supposed that it possessed some medicinal properties. How carefully would he have treasured it, had he foreseen the consequences that have resulted from its introduction into Britain, or the immense revenue it has been the means of pouring into the national coffers, or the new channels of commerce it has opened to mankind!

Tea was first introduced into Britain about the year 1662; however it did not come into general use till more than a century after that period. The difficulty of procuring it, the extravagant price it bore, and a fear lest it should prove injurious to the health, were, in all probability, the causes that prevented it from being much in demand. However, when its virtues were once known, its consumption rapidly increased, and, at present more is consumed throughout the British dominions than in the whole of Europe. Thirteen millions of pounds are annually imported for the use of the inhabitants of Britain alone, while the continental consumption amounts to about five millions and a half only. The British Government has ever laid a high duty upon Tea, and drawn a large revenue from its importation. At present the duty amounts to nearly ninety six per cent. ad valorem; but, in 1784, it was no more than twelve and a half per cent. Much smuggling is of course the consequence of the high tax with which Tea is now burdened, and it has been found, that of the immense quantity annually consumed in Britain, more than one third is imported into the country in an illicit way. Government is thus yearly defrauded to an immense amount, and it certainly would be for the advantage of all parties, greatly to reduce the present high duties. Were this done, the inducements to smuggling would of course be lessened, and the tax being much seldom evaded, the revenue would suffer no diminution, and people would likewise be supplied with Tea at a much cheaper rate. That this would be the consequence of a reduction of the duties, may be proved by the fact, that in the year 1790, when they amounted to 12½ per cent only, 20,000,000 of pounds of Tea passed the custom house, being nearly

four times the quantity that had been openly imported during any of the preceding years, when the tax had fluctuated between 100, and 150 per cent.

One effect of the present high duties is to promote the adulteration of tea. That which is sold by retail is generally intermixed with a large quantity of vegetable substances, which possess neither the flavour nor the qualities of real tea. Mulberry, Shoe, Blackberry, and even Potatoe leaves, form a considerable proportion of almost every pound of tea we buy in the shops; therefore we can have little conception of the fragrant taste, and delightful aroma, that must be produced by an infusion of the unadulterated Chinese plant. Even those boxes that are purchased wholesale at the India House, do not contain the herb in a state of purity and perfection: for it has been found, that the Chinese, themselves, mingle quantities of the leaves that have already been infused with those that are taken fresh from the tree.

Tea belongs to that class of vegetable substances called narcotics, the most obvious effect of which, when introduced into the human body, is that of producing sleep; and tea, would act upon the system in the same way as opium, could it be taken in sufficient quantity. It may appear paradoxical to state, that the infusion of the Chinese plant, which is often drank for the purpose of preventing sleep, would be the means of bringing it on, if used largely; but such is the character of this, and of all other narcotics. If opium is taken in small doses, and at certain intervals, it will infallibly chase away slumber from the eyes of the most weary. This it does by occasioning an excitement of the system. If the portion introduced into the body, be large, the excitement it causes is so great, that the depression which succeeds will produce sleep, or at least an inclination for it— if small the excitement being moderate, will not be followed by any perceptible depression, or any desire to sleep. So it is with Tea, and to confirm this explanation of its enlivening effects, I may observe, that narcotics are partaken of, as exhilarants, by all nations. The Turks and Malays elevate their spirits by chewing opium continually, and the latter, when about to undergo any unusual fatigue, or engage in any great undertaking, always use an additional quantity. Tobacco, in different forms, is employed as a stimulant all over the world. Many people, when deeply engaged in calculations, researches, or arduous studies, take snuff in immoderate quantities because it awakens the faculties. The Kamtschatkans are in the habit of chewing a certain narcotic plant, which when used cautiously, causes vast excitement of mind, and even temporary delirium, but if indulged in to excess, produces deep sleep, torpor, and death. Ardent spirit, under various disguises, is the exhilarant most commonly drank among ourselves. It is a very powerful narcotic, as is daily proved by the effects it produces upon those who have taken it in immoderate quantities.

The idea that Tea is injurious to the health is now almost entirely exploded, and necessarily too, being disproved by the fact, that many millions of people use it daily in considerable quantities, without experiencing the slightest bad consequences. No new diseases have appeared since its introduction that may not rationally be ascribed to other agents. Those disorders, generally termed nervous, which have increased so much in frequency during the last fifty years, are neither produced nor aggravated by the use of tea, as many ignorant people suppose, but arise from the luxury and dissipation, mental and sensual, that have of late made such rapid progress among almost all classes of society. The infusion of tea is sometimes hurtful to the body, when drank very weak; but in this case, the deleterious consequences do not proceed from the tea, but from the quantity of warm water, that is poured into the stomach, without possessing stimulus enough to obviate its debilitating effects. The Chinese take great pains to cultivate the tea-plant, and endeavour to multiply it as much as possible, that an abundant and increasing supply may ensure them a continuance of the commercial advantages they derive from its exportation. The tea trade affords employment and subsistence to a large part of the immense population that burdens the Empire of China, and were a scarcity of the plant to take place as some travellers have predicted, it would create much misery in the east, be very injurious to the interests of Britain, and sour the tempers of half the matrons, and old maids, in His Majesty's dominions.

Kingston Chronicle

KINGSTON, SEPTEMBER 24, 1819.

London advices as late as the 9th of August have a place this day in our columns.

Numerous meetings for a radical reform have been held in England, and in many instances a turbulent and seditious spirit has manifested itself, which unless it had been kept in check by the judicious precautions of the Ministry, would have madly attempted to overturn the constitution, and introduce in its stead all the horrors of anarchy and revolution. The civil officers have been rudely insulted at Manchester, while in the peaceful discharge of their duty—and at Stockport a constable, who had in custody a notorious demagogue, was fired upon, and dangerously wounded. It is stated that in some parts of England,

persons are instructed secretly in the use of the pike—and that most seditious writings have been circulated for the purpose of exciting discontent in the minds of the people. It may, however, be confidently relied on, that the efforts of the disaffected, will be subdued without any danger to the constitution; for though a few unthinking and desperate persons may have been artfully led by the cry for Universal suffrage and Annual Parliaments to embrace the measures proposed for the attainment of these ends, the great bulk of the people is too well informed and too well convinced of the excellence of the constitution in its present form, to pursue such an ignis fatuus to so great a risk.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent issued a Proclamation on the 30th July, declaring his intention to suppress the above mentioned "wicked, seditious and treasonable practices"—warning all His Majesty's liege subjects from joining in these attempts to overthrow the law, and subvert the Government, and commanding all Magistrates and other peace officers to unite in their endeavours to preserve the public tranquillity, and bring to justice the authors and abettors of the late illegal and riotous proceedings.

Various and contradictory are the reports relative to the present state of political affairs in Spain, a country, which, sunk in slothful ignorance and superstition, has been long declining in power and descending in the scale of nations. The capricious and vacillating policy of Ferdinand, since his accession to the throne, has only accelerated the progress of the country towards the lowest point of weakness and degradation. That monarchy, which two centuries since, under the control of the gloomy Philip, was so formidable in the eyes of its neighbours, which threatened to overwhelm England with its armada, and its hosts of veteran warriors, and thus to pave the way for the subjugation of all Europe, is now scarcely able to man a frigate or equip a regiment of soldiers. Its extensive colonies in the new world profiting by this weakness, and want of energy, are throwing off the heavy yoke of obedience, though yet unqualified, perhaps, for the enjoyment of national liberty.

The expedition which has been so often and so pompously announced as on the eve of departure from Cadix for the purpose of overawing the Insurgents, and re-establishing the power of the mother country, has been lately broken up. A conspiracy had been formed by those who were unwilling to embark on an enterprise of such a doubtful issue—but it was instantly detected and crushed by the vigilance of the commander in chief, Count D'Abisbal. The effect of this conspiracy, however, has been to disconcert for a season the schemes of the Government, if not wholly to frustrate them, for it is not probable that in the present dilapidated state of their resources, they will be enabled to equip an armament sufficiently powerful to restore Spanish supremacy in South America.

The successful establishment of Savings Banks throughout Great Britain and in various parts of the United States, has, we perceive, lately induced the inhabitants of Montreal to form a similar institution in that town, for the prevention of pauperism. Though it is not yet our month since the Savings Bank at Montreal was opened for the reception of deposits, it has already received the sum of £688 8 6, from 89 depositors. We do not know of what descriptions of people the depositors are composed, as they are probably mechanics, labourers, and others with small incomes, who are presently availing themselves of the opportunity now offered them of providing against future want by securing and increasing the surplus of their present earnings.

It is now well ascertained and universally admitted, that these institutions have proved to be not only the best prevention to pauperism, but the most effectual remedy that has yet been devised for diminishing the evil in large and populous cities. And if they have been found so useful in large cities both as a preventative and a cure, why might they not be successfully introduced into our smaller towns and villages? On the 13th February last a meeting of the Vestry and other inhabitants of the Midland District was held at Bath for the purpose of adopting a plan for the relief of the poor of the District; and on that occasion it was resolved, "that as a measure of prevention it appears to be most advisable to attempt the introduction of SAVINGS BANKS, and a Committee of three persons was appointed to collect information on the subject, and to report thereon at a subsequent meeting held at Kingston on the 29th April. As we were necessarily prevented from attending that meeting we are unable to say how the proposal or the report respecting the Savings Bank was disposed of: by the resolutions then passed it does not appear to be noticed. But a Society was established at that time under the denomination of "A SOCIETY FOR BETTERING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR OF THE MIDLAND DISTRICT, having for its object the prevention of pauperism." One of the regulations of this Society requires "that there shall be two half yearly general meetings: one at Kingston during the Assizes, the other at Abolpsham during the January Sessions." According to this regulation the first general meeting will take place next week; and as the great object of this Society is to prevent pauperism we would once more take the liberty of suggesting to its members the propriety of again taking into their consideration the establishment of a Savings Bank, as the most effectual means of promoting one of the principal ends of their present institution.

It has this moment come to our knowledge that a Savings Bank was established last month in the 70th Regiment, quartered at this place, and upwards of 400 dollars were instantly deposited by the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the Regiment.

It is somewhat amusing to perceive the remarks of some of our Canadian Editors, as well as those of the U. States, respecting the late visit of Commodore Bainbridge to Kingston, where it seems he was received by the Commanding Officer of the Garrison, and the Commissioner of the Navy, with all that characteristic civility and politeness which British officers never fail to observe towards those of a foreign power with which their own government is at peace, and at all times when circumstances will permit of it. We agree with the Editor of the Canadian Courant in considering it "a

singular delicacy" on the part of the American Journalists to assert "that the object of his (the Commodore's) visit to this country, has been to acquaint himself with its localities, with a view to his expected command on Lake Ontario in the event of a future war," and to say the least of it, "it is a very bad compliment to that Officer." We do not, however, pretend to know, neither shall we make it our business to inquire, what Commodore Bainbridge's motive was in visiting Kingston: we leave the American Journalists to guess at that. We would only beg leave to inform the Editor of the Canadian Courant, that the Commodore did not perform "his voyage from Kingston to York in a small boat," as he supposes, but came from Niagara to Sacket's Harbour in the American Steam Boat, crossed direct from Sacket's Harbour to Kingston in the Schooner Lady of the Lake, and from hence passed down the St. Lawrence.

A very creditable subscription to the amount of £20 has been raised by the Company of Sappers and Miners, and Captain Kellsall's company of the 70th Regiment quartered at Fort Henry, for the relief of the widow and family of the unfortunate Man who was killed in the well last week.

Messrs. Pringle & Macaulay,

Having seen in a news paper, some Editorial remarks, alluding to a publication of what occurred to me at Troy, in the State of New-York, in terms calculated to impress the public mind with prejudice against me, as having been concerned in the stealing of a parcel of Montreal Bank Bills, I beg leave, through the channel of your paper, to request every candid person to have the justice to suspend his opinion, on this most cruel suggestion, for the present. In the mean time, however, I will merely state, that no suspected bills were ever in my possession, at Troy, or elsewhere. The professed object of the extraordinary proceedings against me, of which a correct statement will in due time appear, was that I might be sent back to Kingston, from whence it was pretended I had absconded, or would abscond. As soon as my health and circumstances permitted, I started home, and although I am yet very unwell, I am here, ready to meet any charge which any person is disposed to bring forward, on the subject; conscious, as I assure my friends I am, of being innocent of any direct or indirect participation in the infamous crime alleged to have been committed.

D. WASHBURN. Kingston, Sept. 23, 1819.

Robbery.

We are sorry to learn that the Store-keeper-General's office has lately been robbed of several hundred pounds in cash. A robbery to a considerable amount was also committed on Tuesday night at the shop of Mr. Martineau in the Lower Town.

La Chine Canal.

Last Monday was the day appointed for the meeting of the Stockholders, for the purpose of proceeding to the election of the necessary officers. None, however, took place, in consequence (we have been informed) of there appearing no person to represent the government; the power of attorney given to a gentleman of this city, for this purpose, being revoked by the death of our lamented Governor-in-Chief. The election has, therefore, been postponed till the appointment of such representative. Canadian Courant.

We regret to learn, that letters from Quebec announce the death of the Hon. John Young, member of the Executive Council. It is added that His Honor Chief Justice Monk, is dangerously indisposed.

MARRIED.

On Saturday the 18th inst. by the Rev. Official Stuart, Mr. James Clark, Watch-maker, to Mrs. Birch, relict of the late Lieut. Birch, R. Navy.

At Fredericksburgh on Thursday evening the 9th inst. by the Revd. Robert MacDowell, Mr. George Alexander Clark, to Miss Margaret Finkle, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Jacob Finkle.

DIED.

On Friday evening the 17th inst. Mr. George Douglas, merchant of this town, aged 38 years. On Tuesday the 21st inst. James Sinclair, son of Capt. James Sinclair, aged 3 years.

A MEETING of "THE SOCIETY FOR BETTERING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR OF THE MIDLAND DISTRICT," will be held at the Court House, in the Town of Kingston, on THURSDAY the 31st inst. at 12 o'clock. CHR. A. HAGERMAN, Secretary.

To Axemen.

THE subscribers will receive proposals from any person or persons willing to engage to clear sixty acres of new land on their premises in Ameliasburgh, Bay of Quinte, ready for seed by the first day of August next. The Ashes on said land will be required to be collected and carefully secured. Teams and Provisions will be furnished if required. For particulars apply to OWEN McDUGAL, Kingston, or to McDUGAL & McLELLAN, Bellville.

BLANKS.

For the Courts of Request, For sale at this Office.

Prices Current in the Kingston Market—Corrected weekly.

Table with columns: Articles, per, From, To, Remarks. Lists prices for various goods like Apples, Bread, Beef, Bacon, Butter, Barley, Beets, Cider, Cheese, Cabbages, Carrots, Ducks, Eggs, Fowls, Flour, Geese, Hay, Lard, Mutton, Oats, Peas, Potatoes, Parsnips, Pork, Straw, Turkeys, Turnips, Tallow, Veal, Venison, Wood.

WHEREAS John Graham, an Irish emigrant, sent his wife forward to Kingston from La Chine, on Thursday, the 26th of August, intending himself to follow by water—This is to request any person who may be acquainted with the circumstances, to inform his disconsolate wife by letter directed to the Post Office, who has been long anxiously looking for her husband at Kingston, whether he is still living, and where he is to be found. Kingston, Sept. 22, 1819.

Caution.

ALL persons are hereby forbid purchasing from any person but herself, the cast half of lots number two, in the first and second concessions of the township of Leeds, in the District of Johnstown, as she is the sole proprietor of said land. MARY FORNYEA. Kingston, Sept. 22d, 1819.

NOTICE.

ALL persons are hereby cautioned against purchasing a NOTE given by the Subscriber, to Daniel Pickett, for £47, dated the 18th of January 1815, and witnessed by David Spooner: Said note having been fraudulently obtained by the said Daniel Pickett. ANDREW McDONNELL. Kingston, Sept. 24th, 1819.

Kingston Branch of the Montreal Bank.

ANY sum required may be obtained at the Office for good Bills, on Montreal, Quebec, Bills of Exchange on London, or for Specie.—Notes also will be discounted at thirty, sixty, and ninety days. THOMAS MARKLAND, Agent. Kingston, 3d Nov. 1818.

Excentric Turkey Cock.—In our paper of 2d June, 1818, we noticed the case of a turkey cock, the property of Mr. Radcliff, parish of Ruthwell, which had actually hatched, and was busily employed in rearing 27 pouts and chickens, together with a brood of ten chickens, which he afterwards adopted as his own, although hatched by a different bird. A few weeks ago, this singular fowl began to cluck for the second time, and Mrs. Radcliff, finding it impossible to overcome this strange propensity, again furnished him with eggs and a nest; the two great objects of his ambition. The female turkey, having also begun to cluck, was accommodated in a similar manner, and a stranger, stepping into Mr. Radcliff's house, was shewn the singular spectacle of a hen and cock of the same species placed, at the distance of a few inches, on their respective nests, and eyeing one another apparently with the greatest affection. The two broods having come out about the same time, the whole, to the number of thirty, were consigned to the care and keeping of the cock. This duty he performed with the most scrupulous fidelity; but, unfortunately a ferocious swine attacked the brood before they were many days old, devouring some, and mangling others in such a manner, that they all died save a dozen. These he continues to gather nightly under his wings, and in the morning leads them out in quest of their daily food by every wile known to the most experienced mother.—Dumfries Courier.

From the London Tickler.

A Meditation or Contemplation by an unsuccessful Lottery Adventurer.—Why frets my soul because of a Blank! or why does it lament at having missed a Prize?—Suppose I had got one of the ten thousands—what then? What then, flap dash, down at a blow with the whole catalogue of my wants. But soft—Would not the destruction of those be the generation of others? and the destruction of these the generation of more? and so on? As sure as a gun.—At this rate what would be gained by a ten thousand pound prize?—Nothing. Or what have I lost by a blank?—Nothing at all. Why then a blank is just as good as a ten thousand pound prize. Who in their wits can doubt it? and consequently better than an inferior prize—as plain as a pike-staff. Then what are they who rejoice at a prize?—Fools. And what are they who grieve at a blank?—Blank fools. Sing tantara-rara fools all, fools all, &c.