

General McGregor.

The following information, we have received from one of General McGregor's Officers, who left him about 30 days ago:—

After General McGregor's disgraceful flight from Porto Bello, he arrived in the armed brig Hero, at Port au Prince. Two transports from Ireland and one from London, which had lately arrived to join his standard, were then lying at Aux Cayes. The Captain, who was also owner of the brig, was taken sick, and conveyed on shore. McGregor, taking advantage of this circumstance, sailed for Aux Cayes, leaving the Captain behind. A fever had already much reduced the number of men from Europe, and 150 only, of those that remained, determined to adhere to the General. These he divided between the London transport, and the Hero, which he now named La McGregor. He promised to take them to the island of St. Andrew's, an insignificant spot which he had captured previous to his attack upon Porto Bello, where he had left a small garrison, there to wait for arms and reinforcements, which he said he expected to receive. He proceeded, however, no farther than the outside of the harbour, where both vessels remained at anchor during a fortnight. The fever, in the mean time, was daily sweeping off from 10 to 12 of his troops.—It was reported that a British frigate was off at sea, waiting to seize him, for carrying off the brig. Whether from fear of that, or some other cause, he at length weighed anchor, and let her drive on shore near to town, where she was soon wrecked with every appearance of its having been done intentionally.—Several of the sick lost their lives, and the survivors their baggage. He still talked of taking the remnant of his followers to St. Andrews in the transport; but her captain refused to proceed, and afraid of being compelled, sailed, as it was supposed, for Jamaica, with most of the surviving troops on board, and without giving McGregor any notice of his intention.

With the avails of the wreck, which was sold for about 2000 dollars, the General is supporting his followers, who are now reduced by desertion and death, to four officers and fifteen men. The former he has knighted, having lately instituted an order! The last scheme he has projected, and one which he has sent to England is, that if any company of merchants will advance him £90,000 he will engage to raise an expedition capable of subduing and maintaining the Isthmus of Darien, that, with the assistance of the Indians, he will cut a channel across the Isthmus; and that the exclusive right of navigating the channel shall be vested in said company for 21 years!

From the Quebec Gazette September 23.

The Halifax Mail arrived on Tuesday brought papers from that place to the end of August. It is stated that orders had been received by the July Packet, for the complete breaking up of the Naval Establishment there. Accounts had been received that the Memorial of the Nova Scotia Legislature had reached England, and it was said that Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton were to be reannexed to Nova Scotia.

The following Letter on the subject of the Duties on the North American Lumber Trade, is copied from a St. Johns, New-Brunswick, paper:

St. Johns, August 31.

Timber Duty.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in London, to a Mercantile House in this City, dated the 8th July.

"The Customs Consolidation Act has passed, a copy of which I will send you as soon as 'tis published. By it a Duty of 2s 6d. per load, is to be paid on the import of Timber from our American Colonies. From this, however, we are exempted by former Acts till March, 1820; and by great exertions a promise has been obtained that the benefit of such exemption shall be extended to the period of March, 1821. Little or no opposition has been made to this Duty, from its apparent insignificance. The ship owners are silent, inflicting only that the Importers, not they, must pay it; and to my great astonishment, the Liverpool Gentlemen say they can afford to pay it, and absolutely instructed their Members accordingly.

"The Foreigners, however, have been foiled; they had the assurance to demand a deduction of 10s. from their Duty, and an addition of 10s. to ours; but, in consequence of some successful representations on the increasing trade and importance of our Colonies, whatever might have been the former intentions of Government, the result has been the Duty of 2s. 6d. only."

Extract of another Letter.

"A Duty of 2s 6d. per load, (40 ft.) which is agreed to be laid on Timber from the Colonies, with the expectation that this is only a beginning, and that it is intended to be increased, will tend to discourage the importation.

"There is no expectation of any reduction of the Duty on Foreign Timber."

The family of His Grace the late Duke of Richmond, our lamented Governor in Chief, consisting of Ladies Mary, Louisa and Sophia Lennox, Lord William Lennox, and suites, embarked yesterday on board the Ocean Transport, which failed immediately for England.

Major M'Leod, and Lieut. Fitzroy, Aides de Camp, also went passengers in the Ocean.

Wonderful Eggs.

Extract of a letter from River Ouelle, dated 18th September, 1819.

(Translation.)

"In the afternoon of the 12th August last a young girl 11 years old, named Marie Danjou, being employed in feeding the poultry belonging to Henry Boucher of the parish of River Ouelle, with whom she lives, noticed the Cock ill treating one of the hens, and gave him a kick having at the time in her hand a small stick to keep him off. At this moment, another of the hens (which she calls Huppe for each of them has a name) seeming to take part with the Cock, flew furiously on the back of the young girl. She mentioned the circumstance to the people of the house a few minutes after. It must be observed that the wren that day, a comb in her hair and had on a blue and white calicoe gown with rather a yellow tinge, and torn at the skirt."

"The next day about three o'clock in the afternoon, the brother of the young girl Martial Danjou, aged 10 years, having gone to examine the hens nests and bring in the eggs, found the hen called Huppe on the nest. As soon as she had left it, he took the egg which she had laid on which he observed, with much surprize, a figure of his Sister and the Cock. She is drawn in the attitude and dress of the moment; her comb in her hair, her yellowish blue gown torn in the skirt, the stick in her hand, her foot raised under the tail of the cock and her head turned towards the hen, who had flown at her from behind."

"This day the 18th Sept. about two o'clock in the afternoon, the young girl found in the same nest, another egg, on which there are figured two small animals, I take the smallest to be a mouse or a rat, and the other a cat. Henry Boucher takes the smallest to be a figure of his small dog the other the cock."

"The proprietor of these extraordinary Eggs is going to Quebec, where he intends showing them to the curious."

Quebec Gazette.

FOR THE KINGSTON CHRONICLE.

THE SEA SERPENT.

The appearance of the Sea Serpent has again been announced in the Newspapers of the United States. The ridicule and incredulity, formerly excited by the numerous attested accounts of its existence, and descriptions of its form, universally published, must be fresh in the memory of every one. People indeed shewed their judgment, when they refused implicitly to believe the various statements that were given concerning this anomalous production of nature, but many proved their ignorance and want of liberality, by maintaining an obstinate scepticism upon the point. Unbelief founded on prejudice, and unsupported by proof, is as repugnant to those principles that extensive knowledge implants in the mind, as that discriminating credulity which makes its possessors admit and give credit to any thing that gratifies their appetite for the marvellous. If many sensible persons had taken as much pains to ascertain the correctness of the circumstances that were published relative to the Sea Serpent, as they did to turn them into ridicule, our doubts, concerning its reality, would by this time probably have either been dissipated, or proved to be well founded.

Had the Sea Serpent appeared in any other coasts than those of the United States, or been seen by the people of any other nation, the doubts concerning its existence would have been comparatively trifling, and easily got over. But, some cause which I am unable to account for, has, in the opinion of most persons, rendered the veracity of the lower orders of the Americans very exceptional, and those who attest the existence of the Sea Serpent are principally of this description. In addition to this, their newspapers are continually filled with the most extraordinary relations, and, every week presents to the public a greater variety of wonders than are to be found in all the journals the world produces besides, within the same space of time. If any of these suspicious paragraphs are really false, we cannot suppose that the Editors are aware of it, but they would do well to be more particular about the authorities from which they receive communications of the kind I allude to. I make these remarks merely because I think the accounts of the Sea Serpent have met with much less credit than they are entitled to, for though it may be difficult to prove that this animal has really been seen off the coasts of the United States, there can be no doubt that such a creature actually exists.

The attention of naturalists, was first seriously drawn towards the Sea Serpent by the appearance of one among the Orkney Islands, in the year 1808, which in several particulars very much resembled that lately seen near the American shore, only it was not so large. Poutoppeddan, in his natural History of Norway, describes the Sea Snake very minutely, and says, that when seen upon the surface of the ocean, it has the appearance of a number of large casks floating one after another. Vorschen, who was a Norwegian navigator, and a man of the utmost reputed veracity, states, that once when sailing in the Northern seas, an animal of the serpent kind, raised itself upwards of thirty feet out of the water, close by the side of his sloop, and having fallen across it, got so entangled among the rigging, that the vessel would have been pulled to the bottom by the struggles of the monster, if the men had not cut the

ropes with hatchets, and thus set it at liberty. This animal, according to Vorschen, had a head resembling that of a horse, deep-red eyes, and a shaggy mane. We may justly suppose, that the above account is not altogether free from exaggeration; but still, if the ground-work is true, which there seems no reason to doubt, the story may be cited as a corroboratory proof of the existence of the Sea Serpent. Not very long ago, several parts of the skeleton of a nondescript animal of great magnitude were thrown on the shore of one of the Shetland Islands, by the tide, and the form and position of the vertebrae, or bones of the spine, proved, that they belonged to some unknown individual of the Snake kind. The Norwegian fishermen, according to their own accounts, have frequent opportunities of seeing a monster, which they term the Sea Serpent; and which, in its principal characters, as described by them, bears a great resemblance to the animal that has lately been observed along the coasts of the United States. It is mentioned, in an old collection of voyages and travels, that the Master of a small fishing vessel, having cast anchor near the coast of Denmark, sent a boat on shore, with four men in it, who, when about a mile and a half distant from the brig, observed four bodies shaped like casks floating on the surface of the sea. These proved to be part of an animal, which raised its head at their approach, and, on being fired upon, plunged under the water, and swam off. Immediately after its disappearance, they perceived a part of its body, rise to the surface of the sea, about forty yards distant from the spot where its head had been seen, thus proving that its length was enormous.

The Sea Serpent is so seldom met with and has been seen by so few people, that many conceive its uncommonness to be a strong argument against its existence. But, a general survey of nature will prove, that all animals are scarce in proportion to their magnitude, and that those that are largest produce the fewest offspring. The Whale never brings forth more than two young at a time, and that only once in the space of twenty months, (ten being the period of gestation, and other ten the time during which she supports the young;) while the cod and herring drop many thousand spawn every season. The elephant produces only one of its kind in the course of three or four years; though the mouse, and rabbit, have a generation, amounting to five or six, every few weeks. In conformity with these facts, we may rationally suppose, that the Sea Serpent multiplies very slowly, and that there are but few individuals of the species in existence. If we consider the immense extent of the ocean, and the comparatively small number of vessels that occupy it, we will not think it extraordinary, that the Sea Serpent has so seldom been seen. Even in the most frequented seas, a vessel often pursues its voyage during weeks together, without meeting a single sail, and how much less chance has it to fall in with an animal so rare as the Sea Snake undoubtedly is!—In the Greenland sea, where whales are very numerous, those, who go to fish for them, have often to wait many days before one appears upon the surface of the water.

In the opinion of some, the described magnitude of the Sea Serpent, is an argument against its existence. It is a very futile one, for we have a knowledge of several marine animals that in size appear to rival the unexaggerated dimensions of the Sea Serpent. I need not allude to the whale, which, in unfrequented parts of the ocean, often exceeds one hundred feet in length, nor to the amphibious walrus, an enormous mass of clumsiness and deformity. The sepia, or cuttle fish, grow to an immense magnitude, and have been known to attack boats full of men; but the reader would think I made an attempt upon his credulity, if I mentioned some of the facts concerning this kind of animal, that were first related by the ancients, and have since been proved by modern observation. But who shall presume to scan the wonders of the great deep? who shall dare to set limits to the forms and dimensions of those various animated things, which people the measureless and whelming abyss of water, that rests upon the bosom of the earth? In the dark and fathomless gulfs of the ocean, how many terrific and hitherto unimagined creatures revel in all the sublimity of an existence that man can never know of! Solitary, undisturbed, and unappalled, they may have increased in magnitude for centuries, and made their habitation among those gigantic piles of ice, which, with a fearful grandeur, diversify the bosom of the Northern oceans, and are nightly illuminated by the chilly radiance of the Aurora Borealis. There, the greatest, and most magnificent individuals of the animal world probably remain—hitherto unseen by man, and known to the Omnipotent eye alone!

The various facts, relating to the Sea Serpent, which we are in possession of, shew that its natural habitation is in the Northern seas; and, that which has appeared so often near the American shore, has probably been forced, by some particular cause, to abandon its native haunts. Individuals, of various species of fish, have occasionally been found in latitudes that were altogether unnatural and uncongenial to them; but the cause of this anomaly remains to be discovered.

It is to be hoped, that those naturalists who reside in the coasts which the Sea Serpent is said to frequent, will not incredulously reject any accounts they may receive of its appearance, but shew

their desire for the advancement of science, by endeavouring to remove the obscurity that has hitherto involved the history of this rare and interesting animal production.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE KINGSTON CHRONICLE.

SIR, Having noticed in your last Chronicle some observations on the Prospectus of the Evangelical Herald, that seemed to reflect on the conductors of that intended publication, for not mentioning the Christian Recorder, I beg leave to state some things which I hope will remove any unfavorable impression from your mind.

I publicly assure you that the Evangelical Herald is by no means undertaken with any hostile views towards any denomination of Christians. And very far would the Editors be from throwing any reflection on the worthy character under whose inspection the Christian Recorder appears to the world, or even by our silence to insinuate any thing unfavorable to his work. The high reputation which he sustains as a scholar, his liberality of sentiments to other christians, and his great usefulness and diligence in promoting the moral prosperity and improvement of our interesting Province, will not allow us to consider his work as "a work of nought." I do assure you, for myself and coadjutor, that we wish him "God speed" in his benevolent enterprize and unwearied exertions to diffuse the blessings of education and the principles of Christianity.

The reason why there was no mention made of the Christian Recorder in the Prospectus of the Evangelical Herald was that it was in contemplation long before and the plan arranged prior to the appearance of the Christian Recorder. The writer of this article had entered into a correspondence with the printers in Montreal as to the terms of publishing the Evangelical Herald, which correspondence was laid before the Presbytery of the Canadas as early as the 13th of January last, when a committee was appointed to take into consideration the expediency of a Provincial publication, and to report on the best means for carrying the object into effect. It is however to be remarked, that the work in question is not under the direction of that Committee, or the Presbytery.

But finding the report of the Committee would be deferred until the next meeting of the Presbytery, the present conductors resolved to undertake it themselves. And supposing it would be more convenient to be printed in Kingston, it was agreed that the Editor for the upper part of the Province should ascertain at the Office of the Chronicle the terms on which it could be printed. At the time of this arrangement of the Editors of the Evangelical Herald, they had no knowledge that any such work as the Christian Recorder was in contemplation. I therefore trust, Sir, that this statement of facts, and this candid declaration, will be sufficient to remove any belief that we consider the Christian Recorder as a work of nought. On the contrary I consider it a useful publication, and trust the Evangelical Herald will be a humble coadjutor in the glorious work of promoting the benefit of the Protestant Churches in the country; by advancing their piety, knowledge and usefulness; by bringing in review before our readers the happy union of Christians, their unparalleled exertions and glorious success which attends them.

The insertion of the above will much oblige,

Yours, THE BROCKVILLE EDITOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE KINGSTON CHRONICLE.

SIR, You have published some doubts respecting the import of certain expressions in the prospectus of the Evangelical Herald. The following is the state of the case. After the meeting of the Presbytery, and before the Editors separated, they resolved to proceed in the work, and agreed upon the plan. And for my own part, I had not so much as heard that the Christian Recorder was in contemplation to be published, and therefore could not possibly consider it as "a thing of nought."

I apprehend you have entertained a wrong idea, that the prospectus was written about, or after the time that you were desired to give your proposal for printing the proposed work. I confess it was a natural conclusion, and without being informed, you would not know otherwise. But it was published in substance as it had been drawn up and in my possession long before that time.

THE EDITOR AT FREDERICKSBURG.

Kingston Chronicle

KINGSTON, October 1, 1819.

The accounts from England are of a late date, but furnish intelligence of no very pleasing nature. The meeting of reformers at Manchester, which had been for some time postponed, at length took place on the 16th August, and was attended with very melancholy results. After reading the riot act, the civil Magistrates, supported by the Yeomanry Cavalry, and some regular troops, proceeded to disperse the mob, in effecting which object many lives were unfortunately lost.—Hunt, the leader, and a number of other demagogues of less notoriety, by whom the poor people had been seduced into a belief that a radical reform, or more properly speaking, a total subversion of the existing Constitution, was imperiously required for the salvation of the country, and that the most violent measures should be adopted to obtain this end, were apprehended, and will assuredly be punished according to their deserts. Tranquility, it would however appear,

is yet far from being fully re-established in Manchester, for it is stated that many thousands were assembling from the neighboring villages, who had been secretly drilled in the use of the pike and scimitar on deeds of violence. Such disturbances are indeed deeply to be lamented, but as His Majesty's Government have closely watched the proceedings of these incendiaries, and have by a prudent foresight collected a force sufficient, with the aid of the loyal part of the population, to check and overpower them, it is now to be hoped that since the apprehension of the ring leaders, these unhappy commotions will subside, and the people become sensible of the arts employed to delude them, and that the banners of the Law and Constitution will finally wave triumphant over the flags of the disaffected, and all the other insignia of sedition.

Our readers will observe in another column of this day's paper, an attempt of the Editors of the Evangelical Herald, severally to explain certain expressions contained in the Prospectus of their intended work, which expressions evidently involve in them a question relative to a simple matter of fact. As such, we formerly intimated, that we were, at a loss to understand these expressions, and we must confess that the explanation attempted "respecting their import" is still more unintelligible to us. We might ask these Gentlemen, if the Prospectus of the Evangelical Herald was ever published in any form prior to the date of its appearance in the Upper Canada Herald of the 7th September? The Brockville Editor tells us indeed, that "the Evangelical Herald was in contemplation long before, and the plan arranged prior to the appearance of the Christian Recorder." He tells us of his correspondence with the printers in Montreal about the publication of the work, that this "correspondence was laid before the Presbytery of the Canadas as early as the 13th January last, when a Committee was appointed to take into consideration the expediency of a periodical publication," &c. He informs us that "the work in question is not under the direction of that Committee, or the Presbytery," but has been undertaken by "the present conductors," namely, himself and the Editor of Fredericksburgh; the latter of whom, "it was agreed, should ascertain at the office of the Chronicle, the terms on which it could be printed." "At the time of this arrangement," adds the Brockville Editor, "they had no knowledge that any such work as the Christian Recorder was in contemplation." With the plan of the Evangelical Herald, or the arrangements made for its publication, it is not our business to interfere; these are not the points in question. But to ascertain a matter of fact, we may be allowed to inquire whether the same Prospectus which is dated the 3d September, and appeared in the Upper Canada Herald of the 7th September, was actually written and published as early as March last, when the first number of the Christian Recorder was published. We can only say, in the words of the Editor of Fredericksburgh, that we "had not so much as heard of it." Besides, we happen to have some evidence in our possession, that certain arrangements mentioned in that Prospectus were not made as late as the 19th July last, and therefore even admitting that the substance of the Prospectus had been written and published twelve months ago, it could have been but very lately revised and altered so as to accommodate it to the circumstances in which it now appears in the Upper Canada Herald. The principal question then between the Editors of the Evangelical Herald and ourselves is this, were they, when they last revised their Prospectus, and sent it in its present form to the press, really ignorant that the Christian Recorder had been in circulation if not since March, at least since April last? If they were ignorant of it at this time, they might as well tell the public so plainly, and then they would be understood. And if they knew it, they ought to be candid enough either to acknowledge that they do not consider the Christian Recorder as a work "solely appropriated to the diffusion of Divine Truth," or to admit that it was an oversight in them when they sent their prospectus to the press, to say "that there was no such work in the Canadas."

We shall be happy to insert the Poetry signed W. S. F. if the subscriber who desires its insertion will call and correct the manuscript copy which he has sent us.

DROWNED.

On Saturday the 25th September, PETER INSTAND, and his nephew, ALEXANDER INSTAND, by the upsetting of a small boat, in which, with a boy, they were crossing from Kingston to Point Frederick, the boy reached the shore in safety by swimming; and it is supposed that Peter Instand might have saved himself in the same way, if, after getting near the shore, he had not attempted to return to the assistance of his sinking nephew.

Peter Instand was aged 34 years, a native of Glasgow, and a Warrant Officer in His Majesty's Ship Montreal. His nephew, Alexander, was a young man of 18 years of age, and had only arrived from Scotland a few days before. Peter Instand, we are informed, has left a wife and two children, with other relations, who depended on him and his nephew for a subsistence.

On Monday night, THOMAS RODGERS, a Sergeant of the 70th Regiment.—He had embarked in a wooden canoe, and was crossing from Point Henry to the fort on Point Frederick, when by some mischance, the canoe was over-set, and the unfortunate man sunk to the bottom.

To the Farmers.

THE subscriber being supplied with as much BARLEY as his Stores will conveniently hold, begs that the Farmers will withhold bringing any more for Six Weeks, when he will be prepared to receive it again at the same price.

THOMAS DALTON.

Kingston Brewery, September 30th, 1819.