

one would have inquired into the extent of his erudition." It would be well for such fellows as Duncan Maclean if he had. Duncan would no doubt, in that case, have had a better chance of imposing on the credulity of the majority of the electors of the First District. He is mortified to think, that he has no "mashes," no "swine," no cattle yard to attend to. Can "Master Brooks," can Duncan Maclean, or any one else, point out a man connected with the Government or Legislature of this Island who has not some private pursuit or business to engage his attention? It is, indeed, a fortunate circumstance, that Mr. Coles has leisure enough to superintend the breeding of his own cattle, and at the same time help to guard the public property against the incursions of the voracious herd to which Maclean has attached himself.

There are two tremendous accusations in "Master Brooks" against ourselves, which we hardly know how to dispose of: they are advanced as proofs of our ignorance, and of our incompetency to edit a paper. The first is, that we have misspelt the words "supersession" and "advertisements;" and the second, that we are very much enamoured of Shakespeare!!! We may or may not have been guilty of the first offence; but if we have, many of the best writers in the English language, have not always been remarkable for the most correct orthography; and we would prefer to sin a thousand times with the least of them to once with such a snarling, carping, trifling scribbler as D. Maclean. To the second charge we plead guilty without hesitation; but we must say, that that man is reduced to the very last extremity for a charge against a political adversary who would reproach him with a preference for the productions of an author whose memory the civilized world has delighted to honour for two hundred and fifty years, and whose works are destined to live as long as the English language and the English name.

MR. WHELAN:

Sir,—A great stir has been made in our little world about the late appointments, and in common with others, I should like to make a few remarks, because there is one in particular about which there is much incongruity. I mean that of Robert Hutchinson, Esq. In this promotion, Sir, His Excellency is "holding with the hare and running with the hound," or, to come more home to the point, he is aiding and abetting *Temperance and Intemperance*, or blowing "hot and cold" with the same breath.

You are well aware, Sir, that an immense portion of the crime committed in this community has its foundation in that bane of all human society—*Intemperance*! You are also aware that it follows as a natural consequence, that nearly the same proportion of the labour and trouble of the Magisterial office takes its rise from the same level; yet a man who is weekly, if not daily, in the habit of vending that which causes intemperance, is not only raised to the Magisterial office, but that of visitor of our Jail, and is clothed with the power to make those criminals work who have been incarcerated in that jail for crimes they have committed through the improper use of perhaps the very liquor sold by the said Robert Hutchinson, Esq.!! O tempore! O mores! to think in this enlightened day that such an individual above all men, should be selected to fill offices, while the law allows him to deal out poison to the simple with one hand and then punish the unfortunate with the other for using that poison!!!

When the great Mr. White was here the Sons of Temperance escorted him to Government House, and after his introduction to "our worthy Governor," the latter states in his reply to the address that he would advocate Temperance not *nominal*ly but *virtual*ly, and in this instance of Mr. Hutchinson's promotion we have a whole proof sheet of virtuous consistency. The immense services performed by Squire Hutchinson in bustling Sir Henry overboard, the ditto, ditto, by ditto, to show a kindly greeting to "our worthy Governor" on his arrival in the Colony, and last, not least, the incalculable honor he conferred on the Compact at the last Election, by acting Jehu for Black Bill to vote for Hon. Eddy Longlegs, amounted to such claims on the Government, that Robby was in *fancy* warming one of the cushioned chairs in the Legislative Council; but Sir Donald took another view of the case, and no doubt thinking he had wine-bibbers enough in that Body already, and remembering his promise to the Temperance Champion, considered it would not look the clean thing to promote Robby, punchcoons and all, to the big house, and therefore, in spite of the immaculate established Church holding up Robby to His Excellency as one of her inestimable Wardens, and a Brewer and Distiller as another, he would have his own way in this instance, and say to Robby, "go thy way for this time, when I have more convenient situations I will call for thee!" and so it appears he has most beautifully, by crowding three offices on him at once, perhaps to stop his mouth. But, Sir, what a show of inconsistency, on the part of the Government! Sir Henry was held up to the world as a most rare actor in incongruities, but "hang my buttons" if the present incumbent follows the pretty walk he has started on with the beginning of this year, Sir Henry will not be a patch upon him by the commencement of another year, whoever lives to see it.—Why, Sir, the very Compact party itself is in convulsions about the whole appointments, especially those noted in the Islander, and some of its members are giv-

ing vent to their spleen by stating broadly that they are the most d—e ones ever made here! Heigho for Royalty or the Representative of it! I would not part with my old slippers and easy chair for the whole "box and dice" of it. Would you, Sir?

RECHABITE.

Charlottetown, Feb. 9.

[We ask no apology of "Rechabite" for striking out of the above letter the odious appellative by which Mr. Hutchinson is designated throughout.—Ed. Ex.]

OFFICIAL GAZETTE!

The following notices have been left at our Office—we presume they are not authentic—certainly they have not been ordered "by authority:"

Colonial Office, 6th February, 1849.

Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to appoint the Honorable Edward Palmer to be Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, vice Sir Donald Campbell resigned.

Solicitor's General's Office, Feby. 6th, 1849.

The Hon. Edward Palmer has been pleased to appoint Daniel Brenan, Esquire, to a seat in the Executive Council, vice Captain Cumberland superseded.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING.

At a Special General Meeting of the Members of the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, held at the TOWN HALL, in Charlottetown, on Wednesday the 7th inst., for the purpose of obtaining the consent of the Members, that the Committee may be empowered to accept an Act of Incorporation from the Legislature, if it should be deemed consonant to the general interest to do so.

The Hon. William Swabey, President of the Society, in the Chair.

The following Resolution was moved by the Hon. Judge Peters, seconded by Daniel Brenan, Esq., and adopted by the meeting:

Resolved, That this Meeting empower the Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society to meet a Committee consisting of an equal number of Subscribers to the fund for encouraging Agriculture, and to join with them in drawing up an Act of Incorporation, and in applying to the Legislature for a Grant in aid thereof.

By Order of the Committee,
CHARLES STEWART, Secretary.

VERNON RIVER TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of this Society was held at Mount Vernon School-room, on Monday the 29th ult. The Annual Report being read, several persons addressed the Meeting, strongly recommending the principles of Total Abstinence, and reprehending the marvellous inconsistency of Christian professors, but more especially that of some Reverend gentlemen, who, in this enlightened day, continue to countenance the moderate drinking system, which is the nurse of drunkenness.

It was suggested to have a division of the Sons of Temperance formed for this place; the hint seemed to meet the cordial approbation of some at that meeting.

The spacious School-room was crowded on the occasion. A few persons joined the Society, which now numbers upward of 160 pledged Teetotallers. After which Office Bearers and Members of Committee were appointed for the present year, and the audience separated highly satisfied with the proceedings of the evening.—*Con.*

CENSUS OF THE POPULATION.—A comparison has been made with the Returns made at the last Septennial enquiry and the relative increase or decrease (as the case is) calculated. A few facts we subjoin as those, which are most strikingly apparent, but to do justice to the whole subject, we confess, is beyond our present limits or leisure. The increase in the whole population since 1841, has been 15,644 souls, including 330 Indians who were not then taken into account, making an addition of 324 per cent. When it is considered, that very little immigration has taken place in the mean time, and that the want of employment within the Island for the last three years, has caused many to leave our shores, the increase speaks well for the healthiness of the climate and the general prosperity of family relations. The increase in Prince County has been 30.9. 10ths per cent; in Queen's County, 32.1.6ths per cent; in King's County, 36.1.2 per cent. Queen's County, including Charlottetown and Royalty, contains about 800 more than the half of the inhabitants of the whole Colony.—More than two-thirds of the whole population were born in the country, and a little more than one-third of the living emigrants were natives of Scotland, and nearly as many natives of Ireland, and half of the residue are Englishmen. But the peculiar feature of the whole Returns, as regards the population, is that the females number nearly 1500 less than the male inhabitants, which may be augured as encouraging news to unmarried ladies.

With respect to the Agricultural returns, and these, it must be granted, are of more importance than any other, and will be so as long as Agriculture constitutes the chief pursuit of the people—there is great cause

for serious reflection: An increase is perceptible in Wheat and Oats, but by no means commensurate with the growth of the population, and a decrease in Potatoes and Barley not only sufficient to account for the large imports of Bread-stuffs during the last season, but to show the very high degree of prosperity we should have enjoyed, had Providence been pleased to crown the labors of the Farmer with their former success. The deficiency in Potatoes being no less than one third of the whole, (in round numbers) *one million and a half* of bushels, may be safely valued at not less than £50,000, and the decrease in the number of Hogs kept, which decrease is entirely to be attributed to the short crop of Potatoes, amounting to 15,659, may be reckoned at about £20,000, in the two items, £70,000. The deficiency in Barley is partly if not wholly owing to the spread of Temperance principles, and was fully met by the prohibition put on distillation and brewing during the Spring and Summer of last year. In a measure, to counter-balance the loss of the Potato crop, the Turnip must be counted, but this was only 150,000 bushels, and though far exceeding the growth of any year previous, we consider it is not one-tenth of what it ought to be, and what it might be if attention were paid to its cultivation. We cherish a hope, that the present interest and stir made in our Agricultural affairs, will bring about this to-be wished-for state of things. The increased quantity of land in actual occupation, in fee and under long leases, now nearly half of the whole country, shows nearly an equal proportion to the growth of population, while arable or fenced cleared land has increased 50 per cent, comprising now about one-sixth of the area of the country—a proportion which we think will bear comparison with any of the North American Colonies.—*Gazette.*

A SECOND SINDBAD.—If not the age of Truth, this at least may be called the age of wonders, and in after ages will probably be characterised as the age of Gold. Our latest wonder is, that a passage has been discovered from the Atlantic to the Pacific, much shorter than the North West Passage—our next may possibly be the wonder of millions, that it was not discovered long ago. We shall, however, tell the tale, as it was told to us, neither vouching for its accuracy, nor denying its truth. An exploring party from Honduras Bay, in removing some rubbish, came to a canal, the sides of which, it is said, were of solid masonry, and apparently belonging to the same order of architecture as the ruins of Yucatan. The party pushed on, following the course of the Canal, till they came to an immense chasm, the apparent depository of the waters of the canal. The water here was brackish. An adventurous Frenchman determined to solve the mystery, launched a frail skiff on the dark waters of the yawning abyss, and having completed in a short time his subterranean passage, discovered to his astonishment that the tiny bark which bore him was dancing on the waves of the Pacific. So runs the tale. A tale more wonderful than any narrated by Munchausen of the long bow, and if true, a voyage more perilous than any performed by Sindbad the Sailor.

ICE ON THE SIDEWALKS.—A peck of salt thrown on the sidewalks, will loosen the ice for the length of 25 feet. Salt is better than ashes, because it carries the ice off, and you have no danger of a scolding for bringing ashes on the carpets when you go into the house.

Admiralty 10th Jan. 1849.

NAVAL PROMOTION.—John R. Mayne, Esq., Master, (1815), to the rank of Commander in the Royal Navy.

BIRTH.

On Monday the 5th of February, inst., the Lady of T. Heath Haviland, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, of a Son.

MARRIED.

On the 17th ult., at Souris, by Alexander Leslie, Esq., J. P., Mr. James McFarlane, to Ann, third daughter of Mr. John Leslie, of St. Peter's Bay.

DIED.

On the 2nd inst. of Small Pox, at Hollow River, Lot 42, in the 21st year of his age, DONALD McLENNIS; brother to Hugh McLENNIS whose death from the same disease we published three weeks ago.

At York River, on Sunday, the 5th instant, in the 81st year of her age, Mrs. Frances Stagman, a native of Coothill, in the County of Cavan, Ireland. The deceased emigrated to this Island in the year 1801; she has left a large family of children, grand children, great and great grand children, to the number of 205, to mourn the loss of an affectionate parent and kind friend.

At Pictou, on Thursday the 30th ult., after a short but severe illness, which she bore with submission and resignation to the Divine will, JANE, the beloved wife of James Fogo, Esq., Barrister at Law, and eldest daughter of the Rev. John McKinlay, of that place.

At Charlottetown, on Thursday morning, 8th inst., after a protracted illness, CAPT. GEORGE HARRIS, a native of Poole, in the County of Dorsetshire, England, aged 44 years, leaving a wife and 5 children to lament his death.

At Pictou, on Wednesday morning, 31st ult., SARAH, wife of Thomas Dickson, Esq., aged 55 years.

PASSENGERS.

To Cape Tormentine in the ice-boat, Mr. Gibson, of the Bend of Petitsadac, N. B.
Last Monday, Mr. Augustine McDonald, from Boston, and Mr. Webster, of St. Peter's, from Newfoundland.