

wars between the houses of York and Lancaster. Harrison speaks of wheat bread as being chiefly used by the gentry for their own table; and adds, that the artificer and laborer are "driven to content themselves with horse corn, beanes, peason, oats, tares, and lentils." There is no doubt that the average duration of human life was at that period not one half as long as at the present day. The constant use of salted meat, with little or no vegetable addition, doubtless contributed to the shortening of life, to say nothing of the large numbers constantly swept away by pestilence and famine. Till lemon juice was used as a remedy for scurvy amongst our seamen, who are also compelled to eat salted meat without green vegetables, the destruction of life in the navy was something incredible. Admiral Hozier buried his ship's companies twice during a West India voyage, in 1726, partly from the unhealthiness of the Spanish coast, but chiefly from the ravages of scurvy. Bad food and want of cleanliness swept away the people of the middle ages, by rapid steps, and though the limited medical skill of those days could never resist, Matthew Paris, a historian of that period, states there were in his time twenty or thirty hospitals for lepers.—*Working Man's Companion*, No. XIII.

### QUERY.

Is it the duty for a person to contribute to charitable and religious institutions, in any way, while he has creditors who have never received their just dues? The person who asks this question owes money that hitherto he has been unable to pay; and his income barely supporting himself and family?—*Communicated*.

We have ever been averse to answer questions like the above without knowing all the circumstances in the case.—If the good man who asks the question has no property but just enough for a comfortable subsistence for himself and those whom he ought to support, he certainly has nothing to give, unless he borrows some money to give away, which we should think he could not do with a good conscience.—But we should like to ask him if some whom he supports could not be made to support themselves? And whether, if he were more prudent in the furniture of his house, the provisions of his table, and the clothing of his family, he might not lay up something for his creditors, and yet do something for the cause of God? Does he allow no extravagance in any of these things? If he does, his conscience will reproach him on reading this, and we hope he will repent, and do works meet for repentance.

—*Christian Watchman*.

**Swan River.**—The following are extracts from a letter received in Lewes this week by a respectable inhabitant of Lewes, addressed to him by his son, who is a settler at Freemantle. The letter is dated April 5th, 1832:—"Flour is selling at 1s. per lb.; salt pork at the same price; salt beef is 8d per lb.; potatoes at 1s per lb; beer at 2s the quart; and if uncle likes to send 20 or 30 hogheads of beer out, I will sell it for him. I can do well by barrels of flour, or salt Irish pork, or boots and shoes for men and women, and children's clothing; also cotton prints—good are selling at 3s per yard, and some 4s a yard. The captains of ships are making their fortunes by the same goods when they come."—"Send me out by the first ship that comes a new draw net 40 or 45 yards long, well leaded and corked, for we have not any nets here, and we abound with fish. A man

might make a fortune by a net. Send plenty of net twine with it."—"Sophia wishes you to send her some bleached cloth; there is none in this country, and that we brought with us is used up."—"I have heard there has been very bad accounts of the country; but it is all false. The country is going on exceeding well; all here wanted is old English farmers out here; for we have grown crops of wheat seven sacks to the acre, rough broke up with the spade; and as for cabbages, the turns are so big they will not go in a bushel measure." The natives in the country are very troublesome to us; they killed seven Englishmen within the last two years; but I be still living in Freemantle town in a house of my own and have got a nice garden to it. The house and garden are worth about 100*l*. I have also two other allotments. —*Brighton Guardian*.

### THE BRITISH AMERICAN,

NOVEMBER 17, 1832.

We have no European news to offer later than our last.

The weather during the past week has been exceedingly cold for the season, accompanied with snow; and we are extremely sorry to add, that the accounts from every part of this Island, are, that a great portion of the Potato crop will eventually be lost, being locked up in the earth by the late heavy frosts. Many of our Farmers have also suffered, by gathering them too early, not being ripe, have rotted.

Letters from Quebec by the last Mail, represent the continuance of the Cholera in that city. Though the deaths occasioned by it were not numerous, still they were so much so as to excite constant alarm and uneasiness in the public mind. In Montreal the pestilence had, we are glad to state, wholly ceased.—*Gaz.*

We learn that within ten days nine persons have died of Cholera, at the parish of Pointe aux Trembles, about twenty miles above Quebec, on the road to Montreal; of that number four died in one house, and four in two other houses.

Monsieur Panet, Catholic Bishop of this diocese, has resigned, owing to his advanced age. Monseigneur Signay, Bishop of Fussala, and Coadjutor, of course succeeds him.

We understand that the Steamer Royal William, will move up to her winter quarters at Sorel or Three Rivers, in a few days.

**UNITED STATES.**—*Cholera in the West.*—The epidemic is so severe in Cincinnati as to interrupt business generally; and many are leaving the city. The Board of Health report, on the 13th inst. 27 deaths; about 40 cases remaining, 30 of which were reported as recovering. On the 14th. 32 new cases and 24 deaths; and on the 15th, 39 cases and 17 deaths.—*Boston Traveller*, Oct. 26.

**Sudden death of Charles Calvert, Esq. M. P.**—Acc. units have been received in Town this morning of the awful sudden death of Charles Calvert, Esq. the eminent porter brewer, and M. P. for the borough of Southwark, which took place on Saturday evening, near Ipswich, of cholera, after an attack of few hours' duration.—*London Paper*.

Napoleon, when dying, commanded that he should be buried in his Marengo Cloak. His son, implored, with tears in his eyes and uplifted hands, that he might be enveloped in a tricolored flag.

### Shipping Intelligence.

ENTERED.

Schr. Despatch, Robertson, Fox Island.  
Maria, Muri, Pictou.  
Shallop Jane Ann, Chambers, Tatmagouche.  
Schr. Perseverance, Brown, Miramichi.  
Dolphin, Suret, do.  
Brigantine George Henry, Begley, Dublin.  
Shallop Providence, Bouchet, Pictou.  
Schr. De la Aide, Le Blanc, Halifax.  
Do, Earl Gray, James, do.  
William Henry, Webber, St. John, N. B.  
Thorn, Payson, do.  
Nancy, Deagle, St. John's; Newfoundland.  
Victory, Terrio, Arichat.

CLEARED.

Schr. Anastasia, Halifax.  
Sarah, Kelly, Newfoundland.  
Maria, Muri, Halifax.  
Eagle, Rude, do.  
Despatch, Young, St. John's Newfld.  
Ramblor, Terrio, Boston.  
Ranger, Salmoud, Miramichi.  
Dolphin, Suret, do.  
Union, Seeds, Pictou.  
Shallop Providence, Bouchet, Pictou.  
Schr. De la Aide, Le Blanc, Halifax.  
Two Sisters, Irving, St. John's; Newfld.  
Maria, Bishop, Halifax.  
Harriet, Le Jenne, do.  
Nancy, Deagle, Arichat.  
Victory, Terrio, Halifax.  
Alert, Nelms, do.  
Perseverance, Brown Miramichi.  
Endeavour, Ramsay, do.  
La Reine Blanche, Bourot, Halifax.

To the Editor of the British American.

Mr. Editor,

Several years ago I have heard a charming song "What is Love?" I have not sufficient recollection of that pretty composition to make it answer my present desire, which is to write a parody upon it, beginning thus:

What is truth?

But as it would be a difficult task to paradise verses that were not versed in, I shall sing in prose.—"What is truth?" Moral truth consists in speaking things according to the persuasion of our minds and is called also veracity.—Truth is a term used in opposition to falsehood, for instance to a Newspaper (the present company always excepted) and why newspapers in direct contradiction to truth and morality are suffered to infest the world is owing to the weakness and folly of mankind. Supposing I let my land to a man to farm for a year, and he sows it with weeds, shall I let it to him for a second year? Yet year after year do we encourage this Poison Grass. The newspapers must have a crop of something, or they will not be popular—in other words they will not sell. I fear that we are daily surrendering to *Type* and his *Devil* those privileges which our forefathers have bled in the support of the right of exercising common sense and upholding that Constitution which has stood the test of centuries, the basis as it should be of the true freedom, but not the licentiousness of the press.—Observe, Mr. Editor, I mean to confine my remarks to lying newspapers, fact is one