

# The Examiner.

## AND SEMI-WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

"THIS IS TRUE LIBERTY WHEN FREE-BORN MEN—HAVING TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC—MAY SPEAK FREE."—MILTON'S EURIPIDES.

New Series.

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### POETRY.

#### IFS.

BY THE HON. MRS. NORTON.

Oh! if the winds could whisper what they hear,  
When murmuring round at sunset through the grove:

If words were written on the streamlet clear,  
So often spoken fearlessly above;  
If tall-tale stars, descending from on high,  
Could image forth the thoughts of all that gaze  
Entranced upon that deep cerulean sky,  
And count how few think only of their rays!

If the lulled hearing ocean could disclose  
All that has passed upon her golden sand,  
When the moon-lighted waves triumphant rose,  
And dash'd their spray upon the echoing strand.  
If dew could tell how many tears have mixed  
With the bright gem-like drops that nature  
Ed weeps;

If night could say how many eyes are fixed  
On her dark shadows, while creation sleeps!

If echo, rising from her magic throne,  
Repeated with her melody of voice  
Each timid sigh—each whispered word and  
tone,

Which made the hearer's listening heart re-  
joice:

If nature could, unchecked, repeat aloud  
All she hath heard and seen—must hear and  
see—

Where would the whispering, vowing, sighing  
crowd

Of lovers, and their blushing partners, be?

#### PICTURES FROM MEMORY.

Among the beautiful pictures  
That hang on Memory's wall,  
Is one of a dim old forest,  
That seemeth the best of all.  
Not for its gnarled oak olden,  
Dark with the mistletoe,  
Not for the violets golden,  
That sprinkle the vale below;  
Not for milk-white lilies,  
That lean from the fragrant hedge,  
Coquetting all day with the sunbeams,  
And stealing their golden edge;  
Not for the vines on the upland,  
Where the bright red berries rest,  
Nor the pinks, nor the pale sweet cowslip,  
It seemeth to me the best.

Lo once had a little brother,  
With eyes that were dark and deep—  
In the lap of that old dim forest,  
He lay in peace asleep;  
Light as the down of the thistle,  
Free as the winds that blow,  
We roved there, the beautiful summers,  
The summers of 'long ago';  
But his feet on the hills grew weary,  
And, one of the autumn eves,  
I made for my little brother  
A bed of the yellow leaves.

Sweetly his pale arms folded  
My neck in a meek embrace,  
As the light of immortal beauty  
Silently covered his face.  
And when the arrows of sunset  
Lodged in the tree-tops bright,  
He fell in his saint-like beauty,  
Asleep by the gates of light.  
Therefore, of all the pictures  
That hang on Memory's wall,  
That one of the dim old forest  
Seemeth the best of all.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### MARKET DAYS.

MR. WHELAN—

I do not intend troubling you with a long yarn on the origin of market days, as to when, where, and why they were instituted. Suffice to say, it is an old primitive custom handed down to the present time. In Great Britain and some parts of the Continent, there are many inland Market Towns, designated by the latter name, which are restricted to one or two days in the week, for vending their wares, which are sufficient to suit their wants, I suppose. But, Sir, this Island bears no analogy to the above places. I would wish to bring to the notice of the authorities and the public, the benefit that would result from altering the present arrangement of having markets twice a week only, and instead of that have them every day. In every city or town of any note in America, through which I have travelled, markets are held every day. It not only benefits the merchant by a regular and more constant flow of customers, but enables him to serve their eagerness with greater promptitude. Every-day markets would, in my opinion, enable the mechanic and labourer to purchase the common necessities of life to greater advantage, according to their every day limited wants. Every day markets would enable the farmer to come to town any day in the week most suitable to himself which, as I before stated, would cause a more constant and unhurried mode of doing business, and be more satisfactory in general. In conclusion, if you think these remarks worthy of your notice, you are at liberty to do as you please with them, as the writing of them has cost me but very little trouble.

#### OLD SPUNYARN.

Muddy Corner, Oct. 29, 1850.

N. B. While my pen is in order I would beg to notice the manner in which the carts are grouped about the Market House on market days, which could be easily avoided, by inserting a few large posts in the ground, at suitable distances apart with horizontal pieces of scantling attached, to fasten horses to, in order to give ingress and egress to the public.

#### Cleanings from late Papers.

##### ORIGIN OF THE CABINET.

Few things are more curious than the origin and growth of power now possessed by the Cabinet. From an early period the kings of England have been assisted by a Privy Council, to which the law assigned many important functions and duties. During several centuries this body deliberated on the gravest and most delicate affairs; but by degrees its character became known. It became too large for despatch and secrecy. The rank of Privy Councillor was often bestowed as an honorary distinction on persons to whom nothing was confided, and whose opinion was never asked. The

sovereign, on the most important occasions, resorted for advice to a small knot of leading ministers. The advantages of this course were early pointed out by Bacon with his usual judgment and sagacity; but it was not until after the restoration that the inferior council began to attract general notice. During many years old-fashioned politicians continued to regard the Cabinet as an unconstitutional and dangerous Board. Nevertheless, it constantly became more and more important. It at length drew to itself the chief executive power, and has now been regarded, during several generations, as an essential part of our policy. Yet, strange to say, it still continues to be altogether unknown to the law. The names of the noblemen and gentlemen who compose it are never officially announced to the public. No record is kept of its meetings and resolutions; nor has its existence ever been recognised by any act of Parliament. During some years the word Cabal was popularly used synonymous with Cabinet. But it happened, by a whimsical coincidence, that, in 1671, the Cabinet consisted of five persons, the initials of whose names made up the word Cabal—Clifford, Arlington, Buckingham, Ashley, and Lauderdale. These Ministers were therefore emphatically called the Cabal; and they soon made that appellation so infamous, that it has never since that time been used except as a term of reproach.—*Maccaulay's History of England.*

#### CONUNDRUM.

Pray can you tell why  
A hypocrite sly  
Can better decry  
Than can you or I  
Upon how many toes  
A pussy-cat goes?

#### ANSWER.

As the man of deceit  
Can best count her feet,  
Why so I suppose  
He can best count her toes!

Mr. Roger Travers has written a second letter to the Cork Constitution, detailing the appearance and dimensions of the sea serpent from a close view he has had of him. He writes—"I really feel afraid to hazard expressing in figures what I judge to be the dimensions of the animal, but I do believe that if it were stretched straight from head to tail it would be rather over than under thirty fathoms long, and of that length I am satisfied fully half is seven feet in diameter. The mouth is a most capacious organ, and opens something like that of an alligator. The small size of the gills, for I could discover nothing like the blowing-holes of a whale, rather surprised me. The nose I think is formed of a soft flesh-like substance, not bony—and from the broken condition of the external coat of scales, I am satisfied, as before observed, that the beast is now in its 'coating' state." He and four of his crew fired their rifles at the animal's head, but without any fatal effect. Another gentleman writes that he also saw him recently off the coast of Kinsale.

In 1847, a French journalist, commenting upon the kingcraft of Louis Philippe, wrote as follows:—

"An Old Book tells us that the crafty man is sure to be caught in his own snare. Cunning triumphs only for a time; but simplicity is victorious for ever. Louis Philippe! you have won by craft a throne in which you have been a target for bullets. By craft you may place your children on ill-gotten thrones; but

—Schoolmaster in Switzerland!—Napoleon of Peace!—Monarch of the Baricades!—Citizen King!—Son of the beheaded Egalite!—retribution is woven into the web of every day life—justice pervades as an electrical power the tides of human affairs; and God, always is the avenger of the helpless and betrayed upon the crafty and deceitful man."

#### GREAT CONVENTION TO BE HELD AT ST. JOHN.

The Rail Road Committee held a warm and enthusiastic meeting at the Mayor's Office, on Friday afternoon. Letters of the most encouraging nature were read by Mr. Jardine, received by him from Mr. Dickie, one of the Nova Scotia delegates at Portland; and from Mr. Poore, one of the leading railway spirits of Maine. An office has been opened in Portland, and organization to carry out the great object, is now established upon business principles. Several thousand copies of the Railway Report have been printed in Portland, for universal gratuitous circulation. Copies have been sent out to England by the Cambria, for distribution among editors, capitalists, railway contractors and railway owners. It was considered advisable at the meeting on Friday, to employ a competent person to go along the contemplated railway route, in this Province, and call public meetings, under the influence of leading persons, in every district. This is a course deemed to be absolutely necessary. The preliminary expenses have chiefly been incurred in Portland, for compiling, printing, and otherwise placing the affairs of the Company in a proper shape. To the people of Portland we are under great obligations for the lively interest they take in this important undertaking, and we should cheerfully assist them in defraying the small costs which they have necessarily to incur, seeing that it is to be one line, coupled with the probability that our neighbours will after all, be our main pillars in carrying the work through.

We copy from the 'Freeman' the remainder of Friday's proceeding, and this is the most cheering of all, as it shows the earnestness of the friends of the railway to have the work commenced in the spring. We are authorised to announce, says the Freeman, that the Committee have determined that a grand Rail-Way Convention will be held in the City of St. John, on Wednesday the 21st day of May, 1851, and the following days.

It is confidently anticipated that all preliminary arrangements will then be complete, and that the "first sod" will be raised on that day, which will truly be the opening of a new and glorious epoch for this country. Invitations will be forwarded in due time and in proper form to the Mayors of all the cities on this side the Atlantic interested in the undertaking, as Portland, Bangor, Calais, Halifax, Quebec, and to the Municipal authorities in Galway, Cork, Dublin, and the other cities of Ireland and England, in any way interested, and also to the Galway Packet Station Committee, the Directors of the several Irish Railway Companies, and of the Chester and Holyhead Company, &c., who are so immediately interested. St. John will witness such a gathering as was never yet beheld on this continent; and the representatives of the old world and the new will there meet, to ratify a lasting union, and to give the best guarantee—an identification of interests—that the peace of the world will be preserved.

From such an assemblage we will derive many and immediate advantages. The country will be known, and a just