Halifax Nova Scotian.

VOL. 22. CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1852. NO. 1190.

Winter Arrangement of Mails.

THE MAILS for transmission to the neighbouring Provinces, Newfoundland and the United States, during the ensuing Winter, will be made up every THURSDAY at noon, commencing on Thursday, the 16th December; and the Mails for England will be made up on that day and on the days following:

Thursday, December 30.	Thursday, March 11.	
Thursday, January 13.	Thursday, March 25.	
Thursday, January 27.	Thursday, April 7.	
Thursday, February 10.	Thursday, April 21.	
Thursday, February 24.		

THOMAS OWEN,
Postmaster General.

Letters for the Cape of Good Hope, Australia and India, via the Cape of Good Hope, will require to be forwarded on the 13th January and 11th March.

General Post Office, Nov. 29, 1852.

Education.

REV. WM. STEWART, Georgetown, is desirous to have a few young gentlemen wishing to be instructed in the Classics and Mathematics.

☞ Terms will be moderate, for particulars of which, apply at this Office.

Nov. 11, 1852.

The Colonial Life Assurance Company.

GOVERNOR.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.
Governor-General of Canada.

HEAD OFFICE,
22 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT IN HALIFAX FOR
Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island,

Hon. M. B. Almon, Banker.
Hon. William A. Black, Banker
Lewis Bliss, Esq.
James Stewart, Esq., Solicitor.
Medical Adviser—A. F. Sawers.
Agent & Secretary—Matthew H. Richey, Solicitor.
Charles Twining, Esq. Barrister.
John Bayley Bland, Esq.
Hon. Alexander Keith, Merchant.

The following gentlemen have been appointed Officers of the Company in Prince Edward Island, and will be prepared to furnish information as to the principles and practice of the Company and the rates of Assurance, viz.

Charlottetown—Medical Adviser—H. A. Johnson, M. D., Agent—E. L. Lydiard.
Georgetown—Medical Adviser—David Kaye, M. D., Agent—William Sanderson.
St. Eleanor's—Medical Adviser—Joseph Bell, M. D., Agent—Thomas Hunt.

MATTHEW H. RICHEY.

August 3.

Notice.

THE *TENANTS* of THOMAS HEATH HAVILAND, Esq., of Charlottetown, Numbers 43 and 56 and all other Lands in this Island, are requested to make immediate payment of the amount of Rent due by them to the Subscriber, who is duly authorised to receive and grant receipts for the same.

T. HEATH HAVILAND,
Barrister-at-Law.

Queen Square, Nov. 29, 1852. 1d.

Notice.

ALL Persons indebted either by Mortgage, Judgment, Bond, Promissory Note or otherwise, to THOMAS HEATH HAVILAND, Esq., late Colonial Secretary of this Island, are desired forthwith to make payment of the respective sums due by them as aforesaid to the Subscriber who is duly authorised by Power of Attorney, to receive and give the necessary discharges for the same. And all Persons to whom the said Thomas Heath Haviland, is indebted, are requested to furnish their Accounts for payment.

T. HEATH HAVILAND.
Barrister-at-Law.

Queen Square, Nov. 29, 1852. 1d.

SAMPSON.

WHEREAS JONATHAN WHITE, a son of the undersigned, aged nineteen years, has lately absconded from his home; and has without the authority or knowledge of the undersigned, taken up goods in his name at various Shops in Charlottetown, and has unlawfully disposed of certain goods and wares from the farms of the undersigned, situate at the West River and elsewhere. This is therefore, to caution all persons against such impositions, as the said Jonathan White has not and never had any authority from the undersigned for any such purpose; and also, against paying or accepting any orders, purporting to be drawn by the undersigned, without being previously advised thereof.

WILLIAM WHITE, sen.
[By McLEAN E. S. WHITE, his Attorney.]

Charlottetown, Dec. 6, 1852. 3in.

HALIFAX MARBLE WORKS,

Corner of Barrington & Blowers Streets,
NEAR MASONS' HALL.

MONUMENTS, TOMB TABLETS,
Grave Stones, &c.

MANUFACTURED TO ORDER IN A SUPERIOR STYLE, AND ON REASONABLE TERMS, BY

WESLEY & SINCLAIR,
HALIFAX NOVA SCOTIA.

Orders will be received and every information given, by applying to P. MACGOWAN, Esq., Agent, Charlottetown, P. E. Island.

Books Just Received,

LATHAM'S MAN and his migrations, Geral-Milco, the narrative of a residence in a Brazilian Valley
Hand Book of Life Insurance,
Norton's Literary Almanack,
The Naval Dry Docks of the United States,
Further supplies daily expected.

GEO. T. HASZARD.

Genuine Buffalo Oil,

IT is now understood by all that have given the Genuine Buffalo Oil a trial, that it is decidedly the best remedy now in use to promote the growth, continue luxuriance, and improve the beauty of the HAIR; it gives a satin softness and gloss which no other article does, and causes it to curl beautifully. For sale at the Drug Store of

M. W. SKINNER.

Medical Warehouse, Dalrymple's Corner,
October, 1, 1852.

Artificial Slate and Metallic Paint.

THE SUBSCRIBERS, agents for P. E. Island, beg to acquaint the public, that they keep on hand, a large Supply of these superior paints, which will be sold by the Pound, or the Hundred weight. They have also just received a quantity GROUND IN LINSEED OIL, put up in Packages of 28 and 56 Pounds.

GEO. T. HASZARD, Queen Square.
KENNETH McKENZIE, Pownal Street.

June, 29, 1852.

POETRY.

A PRAYER FOR THE MILLION.

God of the mountain, God of the storm,
God of the flowers, God of the worm!
Hear us and bless us,
Forgive us, redress us!
Breathe on our spirits, Thy love and Thy healing.
Teach us content with Thy fatherly dealing—
Teach us to love Thee,
To love one another, brother his brother,
And make us all free—
Free from the shackles of ancient Tradition,
Free from the oppressor's scorn for his neighbour;
Help us each one to fulfil his true mission,
And show us 'tis manly, 'tis Godlike to Labour!

God of the darkness, God of the sun,
God of the beautiful, God of each one!
Clothe us and feed us,
Help us and heed us,
Show us that Avarice holds us in thrall—
That the land is all Thine and Thou givest to all.
Scatter our blindness;
Help us to labour for Thee by day and the night—
To love mercy and kindness;
Aid us to conquer mistakes of the past;
Shine on our footsteps, cheer us and arm us,
The upper, the better, the mansions Thou hast;
And, God of the grave! that the grave cannot harm us.

J. R. ORTON.

Miscellaneous.

FATE OF A DRUNKARD.

BY DICKENS.

When the dim and misty light of a winter's morning penetrated into the narrow court, and struggled through the begrimed window of the wretched room, Warden awoke from his heavy sleep, and found himself alone. He rose and looked around him; the old flock mattress on the floor was undisturbed; every thing was just as he remembered to have seen it last, and there was no sign of any one, save himself, having occupied the room during the night. He had inquired of the other lodger and of the neighbours if his daughter had not been seen or heard of. He rambled through the streets, and scrutinized each wretched face, among the crowd that thronged them, with anxious eyes. But his search was fruitless, and he returned to the garret when night came on, desolate and weary.

For many days he occupied himself in the same manner, but no trace of his daughter did he meet with, and no word of her reached his ears. At last he gave up the pursuit as hopeless, and long thought of the probability of her leaving him, and endeavouring to gain her bread in quiet elsewhere. She had left him at last to starve alone. He felt that he was cheated and cursed her.

He begged his bread from door to door. Every half-penny he could wring from the pity or credulity of those to whom he addressed himself was spent in the old way. A year passed over his head; the sentence of jail was the only one that had sheltered him for many months. He slept under arches and in brick fields—any where there was some warmth or shelter from the cold and rain. But in the last stage of poverty, disease, and houseless want, he was a drunkard still.

At last one bitter night, he sunk down on a door-step, faint and ill. The premature decay of vice and profligacy had worn him to the bone. His cheeks were hollow and livid; his eyes were sunk, and their sight was dim. His legs trembled beneath his weight, and a cold shiver ran through every limb.

And now the long forgotten scenes of a misspent life crowded thick and fast upon him.

He thought of the time he had a home, a happy, cheerful home—and of those who had once been dear to him about him, and assumed the forms of his elder children seemed to rise up from the grave, and stand about him—so plain, so clear and so distinct they were, that he could touch and feel them. Looks that he had long forgotten, were cast upon him as indignantly as they had been cast in death, sounded in his ears like the music of village bells. But it was only for an instant. The rain beat heavily upon him, and cold and hunger and misery had taken hold upon him.

He rose and dragged his feeble limbs a few paces further. The street was silent and empty—the few passers by, at that late hour, hurried quickly on, and his tremulous voice was lost in the violence of the storm. The heavy chill again struck through his frame, and his blood seemed to stagnate beneath it. He coiled himself up in a projecting doorway, and tried to sleep.

But sleep had fled from his dull and glazed eyes. His mind wandered strangely, but he was awake and conscious. The well-known shout of drunken mirth sounded in his ear—the glass was at his lips—the board was covered with rich food—they were before him he could see them all—he had but to reach his hand and take them—and though the illusion was reality itself, he knew that he was sitting alone in the deserted street, watching the rain drops as they pattered on the stone; and that there were none to care for or help him.

Suddenly he started up in the extremity of terror. He had heard his own voice shouting in the night-air; he knew not what or why. Hark! A groan! Another! He seemed to have been there—half formed and incoherent words burst from his lips; and his hands sought to tear and lacerate his flesh. He was going mad, and he shrieked for help till his voice failed him.

He raised his head and looked up the long dismal street. He recollected that outcasts like himself, condemned to wander day and night in those dreadful streets, had sometimes gone distracted with their loneliness. He remembered to have heard many years before, that a homeless wretch had once been found in a solitary corner sharpening a rusty knife to plunge into his own breast, preferring death to that endless, weary, wandering to and fro. In an instant his resolve was taken, his limbs received new life; he ran quickly from the spot, and paused not for breath until he reached the river side.

He crept softly down the steep stone stairs that led from the commencement of Waterloo-bridge down to the water's level. He crouched into a corner and held his breath as the patrol passed. Never did a prisoner's heart throb with the hope of liberty and life half so eagerly as did that of the wretched man at the prospect of death. The watch passed close to him, but he remained unobserved; and after waiting till the sound of footsteps had died away in the distance, he cautiously descended and stood beneath the gloomy arch that forms the landing place from the river.

The tide was in, and the water flowed ht his feet. The rain had ceased, the wind was lulled, and all was for the moment still and quiet—so quiet that the rippling of the water against the barges that were moored there was distinctly audible to his ears. The stream stole languidly and sluggishly on. Strange and fantastic forms rose to the surface, and beckoned him to approach; dark gleaming eyes peered from the water and seemed to mock his hesitation, while hollow murmurs from behind urged him onward. He retreated a few paces, took a short run, a desperate leap, and plunged into the river.

Not five seconds had passed when he rose to the water's surface, but what a change had taken place in that short time in all his thoughts and feelings! Life, life, in any form; poverty, misery, starvation; anything but death. He fought and struggled with the water that closed over his head, and screamed in agonies of terror. The cares of his own sex rang in his ear. The shore—but one foot of dry ground—he could almost touch the step. One hand's breadth nearer, and he was saved—but the tide bore him onward, under the dark arches of the bridge and he sunk to the bottom. Again he rose, and struggled for life. For one brief instant—the buildings on the river's bank, the lights on the bridge under which the current had borne him, the black water and the fast-flying clouds, were distinctly visible—once more he sank and again he rose—bright flames of fire shot up from earth to heaven, and reeled before his eyes, whilst the water thundered in his ears, and stunned him with the furious roar.

A week afterwards the body was washed ashore some miles down the river—a swollen and disfigured mass. Unrecognized and unpitied it was borne away to the grave; there it has long since moulded away.

FATE OF A ROBBER AND HIS WIFE.

We translate the following from a late French paper: An individual passing through the wood in the department of Langres, at the commencement of the evening, was stopped by a man with a pistol in his hand, who demanded his purse or his life; the traveller gave him twelve francs, affirming that he had no more in his possession. The robber took the money, and the stranger fled from him with all possible speed, trembling with fear, but notwithstanding, well satisfied with escaping on such good terms. He soon arrived at a farm, where he thought himself secure; he claimed the hospitality of the inmate, after relating the unfortunate adventure, and imprudently added, that he had succeeded in concealing a large sum of money from the rapacity of the robber. The mistress of the house, who was then alone, offered him an asylum, and told him he should sleep in the hayloft: this offer was accepted with gratitude, the traveller preferred to lodge badly than to run any more risk by going farther. He had scarcely entered the hayloft, when the master of the house arrived: the latter announced to his wife, that fortune had been this time favourable to him; that he had met with a stranger, from whom he had obtained twelve francs.

The woman immediately knew that the person she had sheltered was the individual her husband had robbed, and she disclosed to him what had passed during the absence of the robber, and they agreed, that the man should mount the hay-loft when the stranger was asleep and precipitate him into the manure-heap, where the woman was to stand prepared with a hatchet ready to despatch him. Fortunately for the stranger, he overheard every word of this conversation and kept himself on his guard for the moment the robber should approach him; this happened a very short time afterward, when the stranger pretended to have fallen asleep. On the robber's approach, the traveller struck him a violent blow on the head with his stick, which had the effect of precipitating him into the room below, where the wife, with a single blow, severed the head from the body. The stranger made his escape, and, on his arrival at the next village, denounced the woman. She afterwards was arrested, and executed for the murder of her own husband.

(*From Wilmer & Smith's European Times, Nov. 27.*)

THE GOLD FIELDS OF AUSTRALIA.

The advices from Port Philip (Victoria), by the Eagle, are to the 2d September, nearly two months later than those previously received; but owing to the absence of any summary of the amounts of gold brought into Melbourne each week, it is impossible to obtain from them any precise estimate of the general yield. They indicate, however, that there had been no falling off, and that the animation and confidence of all parties in the colony was daily increasing. The only week in which the totals brought by escort are given, is that ending the 7th of August, when there were received 105,000 ounces. Owing to the irregularities of the government escort, large quantities were brought by private hand. The total exported to England, from the date of the first discoveries up to the 31st of July, was 1,265,640 ounces, or about £5,000,000 from Victoria, while from New South Wales, up to the 14th August, it came £2,207,012, at the colonial price of 65s. per ounce, or about £2,500,000 actual value. Of this latter sum, however, a considerable portion was from Victoria, so that there was no comparison between the production of the respective colonies. A further total of not less than £1,000,000 had been forwarded after the Victoria to Adelaide, South Australia. The people from Adelaide were universally the most successful, owing to their previous familiarity with the diggings in that instance is mentioned of one party having realised £6,000 in a single morning. New deposits were constantly announced, a place called Koorong, about 30 miles from Bendigo, another called Anderson's Creek, near Melbourne, being among the most prolific spots. Some fresh fields in the neighbourhood of Ballarat are also mentioned as realizing the highest anticipations. The price of gold had risen to 67s. 6d., in consequence of the arrival of the Sydney Chief, and the expected by the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Chusan, which left England 15th May, and the expectation of further supplies. The prosperity of the miners, and the probability of the ultimate establishment of a mint, had caused also an indisposition to take heavy sales. The rapidly accumulating wealth of all classes was unmitfested in a growing disposition to undertake important and costly enterprises. A bill introduced in the Victoria legislature, for a railway to run from Melbourne to Mount Alexander, which it was anticipated would cost near £1,000,000. It was also projected to connect Melbourne with the port of Hobson's Bay by a short line, and to construct a pier where the largest vessels could unload, the proposed capital being £100,000. A new bank, to be called the Bank of Victoria, with a capital of £1,000,000, had at the same time been projected. The arrivals at Melbourne, moreover, before the New South Wales legislature for a railway from Sydney to Melbourne, a distance of 600 miles. The last advices received at West Philip from England were to the 2d June, but the mail steamer Australian was then entering, when the Eagle left with Plymouth dates to the 5th of that month. From Sydney the latest accounts by the present arrival are to the 23d Aug. A motion for establishing a small mint was to be brought forward on the following day, and was expected to pass immediately, so that the materials might be obtained from England forthwith. Port Jackson had been declared a free port, the royal assent to the measure having been received. According to intelligence from Honolulu, a considerable immigration might be expected from the Sandwich Islands. From South Australia, news had been received the day before the sailing of the Eagle, that the long desired discovery of gold had taken place in that colony, a very extensive field having been pointed out about 15 miles from Adelaide to the south-east. Most of the experiments made on the spot, where the last vessels could unload, the Large remittances from Mount Alexander continued to be received at the Assay-office at Adelaide, and it was in contemplation to coin tokens of 20s. each, the government assayer having been instructed to procure the requisite stuff and machinery for that purpose. The Burra Burra Mine shares were steadily supported, and the price appears to have ranged between 130 and 135.

DREADFUL EARTHQUAKE IN CHINA IN MAY LAST.—In a late number of the *Pekin Gazette*, three appears an account of a terrible earthquake, that occurred a few months ago, in the province of Kan-suh, in the north-west of China. The governor of the province Shookingah states in a memorial to the Emperor, that the shocks commenced in the city of Chung-wei and its neighbourhood on the 26th day of May last, and were repeated many times during the space of fifteen days from that date. The devastation and loss of life caused was frightful. Upwards of 300 persons were killed; more than 400 seriously hurt, and several thousand houses destroyed. The public offices, granaries, prisons, and also the ramparts of the city were thrown down. These calamities having reduced the people to a state of the utmost want and distress, the Emperor has ordered immediate supplies of rice to be sent to the spot, and their payment of the land tax for the present year to be remitted.

MR. WM. WATLINGTON.—The *Berkshire Chronicle* enters at some length into the history of this gentleman, just deceased, whose long residence, great age, peculiar habits, and reputed immense wealth, rendered him one of the "notabilities" of Reading. It was generally, that he had died a millionaire, but his wealth does not appear to exceed £250,000. Most of it is left to remote kindred or strangers in blood. A bachelor to the end of his days, and never considered at any time as "a marrying man," it is said, that in the prime of manhood he was warmly attached to a lady, every way suitable both in fortune and position to render the "honourable estate of matrimony" a happy one. Some trivial event which occurred, induced him to think himself slighted, and the engagement was broken off. The lady removed to a distance, and a kind of correspondence was kept up by the interchange of a letter or two occasionally, or the transmission of a newspaper. At length the lady married. Years passed away—the husband died, and the correspondence, if such it may be called, was renewed. After a separation of more than 50 years they met once more, only a few weeks ago. "It was an incident for a romance. It is no part of our task to enter into such details; suffice it to say, that the interview was a most affecting one, and that it produced a visible effect on the nervous system of a man already, from the increasing debility of age, within sight of the grave." It is said, that Mr. Watlington's father (who was a provision merchant) when on his deathbed, desired his son to have nothing to do with public affairs, for that he might "serve the public all his life and get no thanks for it." "As he acted through life upon this advice," adds the *Chronicle*, "we cannot offer his memory the gratitude which public services demand, although they do not always secure it."

PROGRESS IN IRELAND.—The Irish correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, says:—

"It is not a bad indication that the country is rising, that already the Press has begun to discuss the question, To what party and to what measures is the incipient prosperity attributable? It is, no doubt, deplorable for the tourist to contemplate roofless cabins, and demolished villages, which jar upon the holiness and mar the beauty of many a scene in Western and Central Ireland. But the 772 properties, or portions thereof, sold in the encumbered estates Court, have been bought by 2335 new proprietors; only ten having got more than 20,000 each. Already are these new proprietors either cultivating the lands themselves,—by labourers brought from the poorhouses—beginning to become the receptacles *only* of their proper inmates,—who find themselves better off working for wages, than in the mud hovel and the potato garden; or letting them out in farms. And in all the other parts of the country—that had not required these changes—there is decided improvement; in markets, commerce, railway extension and manufactures—and in the habits of the people, indicated by the increased consumption of existing commodities, notwithstanding the immense emigration. Agencies of various kinds are at work to improve agriculture—in particular to increase the cultivation and improve the manufacture of flax, of which so much is imported; to promote manufactures. The worst is over. The country is starting on a new career—physical, educational, industrial; and, with the blessing of Heaven, we shall not be ever more writing of evils, and quarrels, and distress, and desolation."

VEGETARIAN MEETING.—We learn from the New York *Commercial Advertiser*, that a meeting of gentlemen who eschew flesh, and delight in the mastication of vegetables, was held at a water-cure establishment in New York, on the 23d inst., for the purpose apparently of interchanging narrations of their dietetic experience. One gentleman, who introduced himself as a vegetarian of ten years standing, is reported to have argued, that all the evils in the world are attributable to the use of animal food, and that a thorough reform can only be accomplished by the universal adoption of cabbages and other vegetable substances as the only articles of diet. He argued that it is impossible for mankind to be converted to religion so long as their passions are stimulated by eating flesh. Another vegetarian declared with enthusiasm, that for two years and a half he had abstained from animal food, that during that period he had been entirely free from headaches, and other ills of ordinary humanity, and that "he felt as if he had not a body to take care of!" This last expression is very creditable. We can readily imagine how a man may diet himself upon vegetables, until his form becomes so attenuated and his blood so thin, that he may begin to doubt his tangible existence, and accept the Berkleya theory. If all men were to become earnest vegetarians, we fear, that the majority would soon begin to feel, as if they had no bodies to take care of."

THE RAIL CAR.—VIVID DESCRIPTION.—Would you like the luxury of a new sensation!—Take your stand six feet from a railroad track in the night, and await the passage of the express train. There is no wind stirring; clouds close in the light of the stars; the hum of life has ceased; blackness and silence brood together upon the face of earth. Afar off the listening ears catch a dawning roar. Half heard and half felt—it grows into more distinctness—partly revealed in the trembling of the solid earth, and partly as a shapeless form filling the air. Every moment swells the roar, the volume, and deepens its terror. The earth now quakes under its tread—a gazing glare flashes living horror into the surrounding air—and you see crawling along its snaky track, with fiery hand outstretched to hurl destruction, a giant form sweeping from side to side with a heavy motion, a gigantic and terror-breathing monster, instinct with life and power, crushing the earth with its tread, and creating a whirlwind with its blasting breath, as it sweeps along. Is there any thing in the world which impresses the mind with a profounder sense of resistless power than that enormous mass, with its blazing eyes and smoking breath—rushing with the speed of a cannon ball, and startling the air with the terrific thundering roar of its flight! What could the savage think, seeing for the first time! Imagine such a flight across the country fifty years ago—unheralded by any rumor of its coming—revealing its existence by its presence, and rushing suddenly into oblivion, as it now rushes into the darkness, while you gaze upon the spot where it disappeared, and hear only the echo of its distant tread.—What rumours of it would fill the earth. The wonder of its grandeur—of its speed and power—would startle the credulity of the remotest village gossip.—*N. Y. Times.*

SINGULAR, IF TRUE.—The following, headed "communication," we find in the N. Y. *Commercial Advertiser*, of Tuesday last:—"Of the many great inventions to be seen at the fair at Castle Garden, the submarine tunnel of Mons. Alexander is the most wonderful. On Saturday last the second experiment was made in the presence of thousands of spectators, and, like the first, was entirely successful. The boat, with eight gentlemen, sunk to the bottom, (a depth of 37 feet) and remained there an hour and ten minutes; the gentlemen did not suffer the least inconvenience, and after partaking of refreshments came again to the surface. This is certainly one of the most wonderful inventions of the age, and promises to be of vast utility in recovering lost treasures, sunken vessels, taking gold from the beds of the rivers in California, &c. &c. Six or eight men can go down at a time and work the whole day without communicating with the surface. Such a vessel would be invaluable in the pearl fishery. We understand a company is now forming to purchase the patent, and the boat, with a view of sending her immediately to California.

KILLED BY A LEECH.—We understand that a man by the name of Garnett, residing in Greene county, having attended a special election recently held in that county, started for home, which was some distance off, about dark. On coming to a branch, hard thirsty, he dismounted and drank. He had not gone far before he commenced feeling a tickling sensation in his stomach, and on his arrival at home was quite unwell. Getting worse, a physician was called in, to whom he stated the circumstance of his drinking, while drinking from the branch, which produced his sickness. After trying several remedies a powerful emetic was administered, when a live leech was thrown up, which the sufferer had evidently swallowed at the branch above mentioned, it having remained alive in his stomach for several days. Although relieved from the leech, he died in a day or two afterwards from the injuries which it had inflicted.—*Charlottesville (N. C.) Jeffersonian.*

A HINT IN REASON.—At a banquet, when solving enigmas was one of the diversions, Alexander said to his courtiers, "What is that which did not come last year, has not come this year, and will come not next year?"

A distressed officer, starting up, said, "It certainly must be our arrears of pay."

☞ The King was so diverted, that he commanded him to be paid up, and also increased his salary.