

with poetical licence, (and the present overflow of Newspapers necessarily drives them beyond the bounds of truth) yet the thing might have happened—shame to the country—to a reforming legislature; it may yet happen,—if England will not do its duty, the Colonial legislature should guard against the impudence and ignorance of such impostors,—when the Colleges of London and of Dublin are so careful of the education and capability of their students, can such trash be permitted to prostitute the title of Doctor? I am very happy to see that several medical gentlemen here can shew regular diplomas, I mean diplomas not the reward of money, but of attendance and examination, but even in this Island we can make a Doctor,—so could Mollier. What is the proper definition of a Doctor? A person who has passed all the degrees of a faculty and is empowered to teach or practise the same—thus we say, Doctor in Divinity, Doctor in Physic, Doctor of Laws. Now I beg to ask whether Mr. Palmer, or Mr. Brins, though they are the oldest Members of the Bar, dare to call themselves, or suffer themselves to be called Doctor? Would Mr. Jenkins or Mr. Wiggins assume that title? Suppose we were to analyse a few of our Island made Doctors and decompose their component principles. Mr. Hobler's Doctor was two years porter in a Poticary's shop,—had any of our Doctors the same, and barely the same qualification? Yet a regular bred medical man and one of those hop skipping kiddies go by the same title. I presume the most of your readers are acquainted with Dean Swift's satire on Serjeant Betsworth, where he compares the learned Serjeant to Lamb the Corn cutter, who is said to have refused a fee from the celebrated physician Radcliffe—

"Thus Lamb renew'd for cutting corners,

"A proffer'd fee from Radcliffe scorns,

"Excuse me Doctor—'fye a brotner!"

"We ne'er take fee, from one another."

But Mr. Hobler's mortar pounder had not the impudence to call himself a Doctor, he only assumes to be a *Medical Attendant*, and if any of the crew or passengers in his charge should be afflicted by infection, I can only give them the Clerk of the Crown's prayer "God send you a good deliverance." The applicant was bound from Scotland to Canada—not unlikely!

We had a fiery contagious Board of Health established here some short time ago, and among other duties, they were to distribute medicine to different parts of the Island—unquestionably the medicine has been distributed accordingly. And must I suppose be paid for, but I only suggest that the names of all the persons in the country who have received it ought to be published, and the amount of medicine yet remaining in the general dispensary.

Your most obedient Servant,

VIGIL.

## THE BRITISH AMERICAN,

OCTOBER 6, 1832.

The European Papers in our possession do not contain later dates than those already published a public, indeed they have of late exhibited a barrenness to an extraordinary degree, when we take into consideration the present state of Europe.

French affairs appear to be in a very unsettled state, the Ministry is as yet unformed.—In Germany great discontent is manifest by the proceedings of Austria and Prussia, backed no doubt by the despot Nicholas, to put down free discussions in the German states. Apprehensions are entertained relative to the final success of the ex-Emperor Don Pedro, who is still at Oporto. Although he gained a decided victory on the 23rd over his brother, yet want of cavalry, was followed by no beneficial results. The friends of liberty have been much disappointed. The ranks of Don Miguel the usurper, which was to be thinned by desertion, has not taken place. Mehemet-Ali, viceroy of Egypt, and the Grand Seigneur; their fleets were last seen at the Island of Rhodes,—an engagement was daily expected.

*To Correspondents.* Veritas's article on the annexation of this flourishing Colony to Nova-Scotia, will appear in our next. 'A Friend of the People,' and 'Transatlantic,' will also appear in our next.

*New Providence.*—By H. M. Schooner Nimble We have received our files of the Nassau Royal Gazette and Argus. We perceive that a dispatch published in the former paper, from H. M. Colonial Secretary, conveys his Majesty's gracious approval of the conduct of the Governor of the Bahamas, Sir James Carmichael Smyth, respecting his proceedings with regard to the Legislature of those Islands.—*Bermuda Gazette.*

Died at Ballybrack, near Cashendal, on the 7th inst, Archibald McCambridge, at the patriarchal age of 123 years and four months! The deceased was an industrious man, and, during his life, scarcely ever suffered one day's confinement from sickness; his habits were generally temperate, but by no means as abstemious as might be inferred from the great age he had obtained.—*Belfast Chron.*

## Shipping Intelligence.

ENTERED.

Schr. Experience, Lubert, Halifax; Brig Seafower, Wilson, Philadelphia; Schrs. Charlotte, Boister, Fox Island; Mary, Tobias, Passamoudy; Brig Bellina, Henry, Bideford; Schrs. Maid, McEchern, Gut of Canada; Barque Royal William, Peake, Plymouth.

CLEARED.

Schrs. Jane, M'Laughlin, Bathurst; Intrepide, M'Farlane, Miramichi; William, Deagle, St. John's Newfoundland; Experience, Lubert, Sydney.

To the Editor of the British American.

Mr. Editor,

Having lately come to reside in this Island, not blessed with a good education or

a great store of money, but observing that you do not refuse to publish a letter from a poor man, I make bold to address you. My neighbour and I will wait on you shortly, as joint subscribers to your newspaper; and, as we have been always instructed to conform to the laws of whatever country we may live in, it is our desire to procure a copy of the statutes of this Island, with such an index as a home bred or homespun man can comprehend. I never saw any of the printed laws here, except the last two acts, in one of which I observe that there is a sum of 80l. to be given to Commissioners for examining and reporting on the laws; and in the other I see that there is a sum of 203l. 6s. 3d. to be given to the Clerk of the House for his services, as such and for other services per his account: also, for articles by him provided for the use of the House of Assembly. I observe also, that there are sums to be paid to Mr. John Robinson and to Mr. William Birch, for small disbursements, and a sum of 83l. 2s. 5d. to the Printer for amount of his account. Seeing all those charges, and particularly the lump charges, I supposed that we could procure the statutes on reasonable terms, composed and printed in such a way as one could understand; but I have lately heard that in one of the volumes there is a partial index which we must carefully look through the volume to find out, and when we should find it, it would only add to our trouble, for it refers to the acts in such a manner, that we must be well acquainted with the statute to find it out in the index, and to the other volume there is no index. Now Sir, as my friend and me have contributed though in a small degree, to pay the Clerk for his services, and for the nameless articles by him provided, [probably the Royal Gazette, or a key to the Parliamentary pew in St. Paul's Cathedral,] as also to Mr. John Robinson and Mr. Wm. Birch for nameless small disbursements, (possibly powder for the Speaker's wig, unless he wears a Grizzle,) we humbly consider ourselves entitled to make some respectful enquiry herein, and particularly to ask whether we can obtain a printed copy of the statutes, with a proper index to refer to, and when and at what price?—certainly after the large sum paid to the Commissioners as well as 50l. to the Speaker, and 25l. to each of the Members, for the last Session only. We should expect to get the laws for nothing, or at least for a very small sum, but we are told that it is the Magistrates and the better order of People only, who are entitled to that privilege, as they are the only persons who can understand the Book. By giving this letter an early insertion in your valuable paper, you will oblige your most obedient Servant.

ANOTHER POOR MAN.

October 2, 1832.