

POST'S CORNER.

The following spirited Poem was written by Mr. Walter Scott, to the air of an old Scottish Pibroch.

The Gathering of Clan Connell, A Pibroch.

Pibroch of Donnell Dhu, Pibroch of Donnell! Wako thy wild voice anew, Summon Clan Connell. Come away, come away; Hark to the summons; Come in your war array. Gentles and Commons! Come from deep glen, un' From mountains so rocky, The war pipe and pennon, Are at Inverlocky; Come every hill-plaid And true heart that wears one; Come every steel blade And strong hand that bears one. Leave the deer, leave the steer, Leave nets and barges; Come with your fighting gear, Broadsword and targes; Leave untended the herd, The flock without shelter; Leave the corpse uninterred— The bride at the altar! Come as the winds come, When forests are ruffled— Come as the waves come, When navies are stranded— Faster come, faster come, Faster and faster, Chief, vassal, page and groom, Want and master! They come, fist they come, See how they gather; Wide waves the eagle plume Blended with heather. Cast your plaid, draw your blades, Forward each man set! Pibroch of Donnell Dhu, Now for the onset!!

From the Kingston. (Jam.) Royal Gazette, of Aug. 10.

Died, in Hannah's Town, on Tuesday night, at a very advanced age, JOHN REEDER, a well known black man, as having been many years Captain of the Charlestown Maroons. He is the person who in the year 1781, after a most severe personal conflict, killed the noted & desperate robber Three-Fingered Jack, who was supposed by the negroes to be possessed of supernatural powers, and deemed invulnerable from all attacks. In consequence of this service Reeder received an annual stipend from the government of this island. He did not know his exact age, but said only a few days ago, that he was a stout boy at the first peace with the Maroons in the year 1739.

Three-Fingered Jack.—The following account published by Dr. Mosely in the treatise on Sugar, of the combat between John Reeder and Three-Fingered Jack, a notorious runaway, which took place on the 27th January, 1791, near Mount Libanus, in St. Thomas's in the East, will be read, it is presumed, with some interest, on account of his recent death. John Reeder received the reward of one hundred dollars offered by the proclamation of Major General John Dalling, then Governor of this Island, and afterwards had an annual stipend of twenty five pounds, which was increased of late years to 30 pounds, and paid under the poll tax law.

Formerly there was no regular method of treating the yaws in the West-Indies. It was thought to be a disorder that would have its course and if interrupted, that it would be dangerous. It was then the custom, when a negro was attacked with it, to separate him from the rest, and send him to some lonely place by the sea side to baffle, or into the mountains, to some Provision-Ground, or Plain-tain-Walk, where he could act as a watchman and maintain himself, without any expence to the state; until he was well; then he was brought back to Sugar work.

But this rarely happened. A cold, damp, smoky hut, for his habitation; snakes and lizards his companions; crude, viscid food, and bad water, his only support; & shunned as a leper, he usually sunk from the land of the living.

But some of these abandoned exiles lived, in spite of the common law of nature, and survived a general mutation of their muscle, ligaments, and osteology; became also hideously white in their woolly hair and skin; with their limbs and bodies twisted and turned by the force of this distemper, into shocking grotesque figures, resembling woody excrescences, or stumps of trees; or old Egyptian figures that seem as if they had been made of the ends of human and beginning of the brutal form; which figures are, by some antiquaries, ta-

ken for gods, and by others for devils.

In their banishment, their huts often became the receptacle of robbers and fugitive negroes; and, as they had no power to resist any who chose to take shelter in their hovels they had nothing to lose and were forsaken by the world; a Tyger would hardly molest them. Their desperate guests never did.

The host of the hut, as he grew more misshapen generally became more subtle; this we observe in England, in crooked scrophulous persons; as if nature dislike people's being both cunning and strong.

Many of their wayward visitors were deeply skilled in magic, and what we call the black art, which they brought with them from Africa; and, in return for their accommodation, they usually taught their landlord the mysteries of signs, spells and sorcery; and illuminated him in all the occult science of Obi.

These ugly loathsome creatures thus became oracles of woods & unfrequented places; and were resorted to secretly, by the wretched in mind, and by the malicious for wicked purposes.

Obi, and gambling, are the only instances, I have been able to discover among the natives of the negro island in Africa, in which any effort at combining ideas has ever been demonstrated.

The science of Obi, is very extensive.

Obi, for the purpose of bewitching people, or consuming them by lingering illness, is made of grave dirt, hair, teeth of sharks, & other creatures, blood, feathers, egg-shells, images in wax, the hearts of birns, and some potent roots, weeds, and bushes, or which Europeans are at this time ignorant; but which were known, for the same purposes, to the ancients.

Certain mixtures of these ingredients are burnt, or buried very deep in the ground, or hung up a chimney or laid under the threshold of the door of the party to suffer; with incantations, songs, or curses, performed at midnight, regarding the aspects of the moon. The party, who wants to do the mischief, is also sent to burying-grounds, or some secret place, which spirits are supposed to frequent, to invoke his dead parents to assist him in the cure.

A negro, who thinks himself bewitched by Obi will apply to an Obi-man, or Obi-woman for cure.

These magicians will interrogate the patient, as to the part of the body most afflicted. This part they will torture with pinching, and drawing with gourds or calabashes, beating, and pressing. When the patient is nearly exhausted, with this rough magnetising, Obi rings out an old rusty nail, or a piece of bone, or an ass's tooth, or the jawbone of a rat, or a fragment of a quart bottle, from the part; & the patient is well the next day.

The most wrinkled and most deformed Obian magicians are most venerated. This was the case among the Egyptians and Chaldeans. In general, Obi-men, are more sagacious than Obi-women in giving or taking away diseases; and in the application of poisons. It is in their department to blind pigs and poultry, and lame cattle.

It is the province of the Obi-women to dispose of the passions. They sell foul winds for inconstant mariners; dreams and phantasies for jealousy; vexation, and pain in the heart, for perfidious love; and for the perturbed, impatient, & wretched, at the tardy acts of time, to turn in prophetic fury to a future page in the book of Fate, and amaze the ravished sense of the tempest-tossed current.

Laws have been made in the West-Indies to punish the Obian practice with death; but they have had no effect. Laws constructed in the West-Indies, can never suppress the effect of ideas, the origin of which is in the centre of Africa.

I saw the Obi of the famous negro robber, Three-fingered Jack, the terror of Jamaica in 1780 and 1781. The Maroons who slew him brought it to me.

His Obi consisted of the end of a goat's horn, filled with a compound of grave dirt, and human fat; all mixed into a kind of paste. A black cat's foot, a dried toad, a pig's tail, a slip of parchment of kid's skin, a slip of parchment of kid's skin with characters marked in blood on it, were also in his Obian bag.

These, with a keen sabre, & two guns, like, Robinson Crusoe, were all his Obi; with which, and his cour-

age in descending into the plains & plundering to supply his wants, and his skill in retreating into difficult fastnesses; commanding the only access to them, where none dared to follow him, he terrified the inhabitants, and set the civil power, and the neighbouring militia of that island at defiance for two years.

He had neither accomplice nor associate.—There were a few runaway negroes in the woods near Mount Libanus, the place of his retreat; but he had crossed their foreheads with some of the magic in his horn, and they could not betray him. But he trusted no one. He scorned assistance. He ascended above Spartacus. He robbed alone; fought all his battles alone; and always killed his pursuers.

By his magic, he was not only the dread of the negroes, but there were many white people, who believed he was possessed of some supernatural power.

In hot climates females marry very young; and often with great disparity of age. Here Jack was the author of many troubles; for several matches proved unhappy.

"Give a dog an ill name, and hang him."

Clamors rose on clamors against the cruel sorcerer; and every conjugal mishap was laid at the door of Jack's malicious spell of tying the point on the wedding day.

God knows poor Jack had sins enough of his own to carry, without loading him with the sins of others. He would sooner have made a Medea's cauldron for the whole island, than disturb one lady's happiness. He had many opportunities; and though he had a mortal hatred to white men, he was never known to hurt a child, or abuse a woman.

But even Jack himself was born to die.

Allured by the rewards offered by governor Dalrymple, in a proclamation, dated the 12th of December, 1780, and by a resolution which followed it, of the house of assembly, two negroes, named Quashee and Sam, both of Scotts Hall, Maroon-town, with a party of their townsmen, went in search of him.

Quashee, before he set out on the expedition, got himself christened, and changed his name to James [John] Reeder.

The expedition commenced; and the while party had been creeping about in the woods for three weeks, and blockading, as it were, the deepest recess of the most inaccessible part of the island, where Jack, far remote from all human society, resided, but in vain.

Reeder and Sam, tired with this mode of war, resolved on proceeding in search of his retreat, and taking him, by storming it, or perishing in the attempt.

They took with them a little boy, a proper spirit, and a good shot, and left the rest of the party.

These three, whom I well knew, had not been long separated, before their cunning eyes discovered, by impressions among the weeds and bushes, that some person must have lately been that way.

They softly followed these impressions, making not the least noise. Presently they discovered a smoke.

They prepared for war. They came upon Jack before he perceived them. He was roasting plantains, by a little fire on the ground, at the mouth of a cave.

This was a scene, not where ordinary actors had a common part to play.

Jack's looks were fierce and terrible. He told them he would kill them.

Reeder, instead of shooting Jack, replied that his Obi had no power to hurt him; for he was christened; and that his name was no longer Quashee.

Jack knew Reeder; and, as if paralyzed, he let his two guns remain on the ground, and took up only his cutlass.

These two had a desperate engagement several years before, in the woods; in which conflict Jack lost the two fingers, which was the origin of his present name; but Jack then beat Reeder, and almost killed him, with several others, who assisted him, and they fled from Jack.

To do Three-Fingered Jack justice, he would now have killed both Reeder and Sam; for, at the first, they were frightened at the sight of him; and the dreadful tone of his voice; and well they might; they had besides no retreat, and were to grapple with the bravest and strongest man in the world.

But Jack was cowed, for he had prognosticated that white Obi would

get the better of him; and, from experience, he knew the charms would lose none of its strength in the hands of Reeder.

Without farther parley, Jack, with his cutlass in his hand, threw himself down a precipice: at the back of the cave.

Reeder's gun missed fire, Sam shot him in the shoulder. Reeder, like an English bulldog, never looked, but, with his cutlass in his hand, plunged headlong down after Jack. The descent was about 30 yards, and almost perpendicular. Both of them had preserved their cutlasses in the fall.

Here was the stage, on which two of the stoutest hearts that were ever hooped with ribs, began their bloody struggle.

The little boy, who was ordered to keep back out of harm's way, now reached the top of the precipice, and during the fight, shot Jack in the belly.

Sam was crafty, and coolly took a round about way to get to the field of action. When he arrived at the spot where it began, Jack & Reeder had closed, and tumbled together down another precipice, on the side of the mountain, in which fall they both lost their weapons.

Sam, descended after them, who also lost his cutlass among the trees and bushes getting down. When he came to them, though without weapons they were not idle; and luckily for Reeder, Jack's wounds were deep and desperate, and he was in great agony. Sam came up just time enough to save Reeder; for Jack had caught him by the throat, with his giant's grasp. Reeder was with his right hand almost cut off, and Jack's rearing with blood from his shoulder and belly; both covered with gore and gasps.

In this state Sam was umpire, & decided the fate of the battle. He knocked Jack down with a piece of rock. When the lion fell, the two tigers got upon him, and beat his brains out with stones. The little boy soon after found his way to them. He had a cutlass with which they cut off Jack's head and three fingered hand, and took them in triumph to Morant Bay. There they put up their trophies into a pail of rum; and followed by a vast concourse of negroes, now no longer afraid of Jack's Obi, they carried them to Kingston and Spanish-Town; and claimed the reward of the king's proclamation, and the house of assembly.

* This Obi, or, as it is pronounced in the English West-Indies, O-beach, had its origin, like many customs among the Africans, from the ancient Egyptians.

Obi is a diemon, a spirit of divination and magic. When Saul wanted to raise up Samuel from the dead, he said to his servants, "Seek me a woman (eminent for Obi) that hath a familiar spirit."

His servants replied to him, "There is a woman (mistress in the art of Obi) that hath a familiar spirit, at Endor."

When the witch of Endor came to Saul, he said to her "Divine unto me (by thy witchcraft of Obi) by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up whom I shall name unto thee."

I Samuel, chap. xxviii. v. 7 and 8 + House of Assembly, 29th December, 1780.

Resolved, That over and above the reward of one hundred pounds offered by his majesty's proclamation, for taking or killing the rebellious negro called Three-Fingered Jack, the further reward of freedom shall be given to any slave that shall take or kill the said Three-Fingered Jack; and that the House will make good the value of such slave to the proprietor thereof.

And if any one of his accomplices will kill the said Three-Fingered Jack, and bring in his head and hand wanting the fingers, such accomplice shall be entitled to his free pardon, and his freedom as above, upon due proof being made of their being the head and hand of the said Three-Fingered Jack. By the House, Samuel Howell, Cl. At.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

A DAY IN LONDON.

From a Work just published in New-York.

In the following description of some of the moral features of London, we may see more to gratify curiosity than excite either envy or admiration.

"In the morning all is calm: not a mouse stirring before ten

o'clock, the shops are open. Mill-women with their perfectly neat suspended aprons, and their long black aprons, shaped to fit the shoulders, and rounded with small tin medals, cream, ring at every door with iterated yells to hasten the servants, who come half asleep, receive a measure as big as they being the usual allowance of a family, for it is necessary to explain that milk is not either food or drink here but a tincture—a medicinal bit in drops, five or six, at noon, a cup of tea, morning and evening. It would be difficult to say what taste or what quality these drops may impart; but so it is, and nobody thinks of questioning the propriety of the custom. Not a single carriage, not a cart is even passing. The first considerable stir is the drum and military music of the guards marching from the barracks to Hyde Park, having at their head three or four negro giants, stiffly high, gracefully and strong, the founding cymbal. About three-four o'clock, the fashionable set show some signs of life, issuing forth to pay visits, or rather leave cards at the doors of friends, never to go in the crowd of assemblies, but to the shops, see lights blazing in Bond-street, an ugly, inconvenient street the attractions of which it is difficult to understand. At six or six, they return home to dress for dinner. The streets are then lighted from one end to the other, or rather edged on either side with two lines of little brightish diamonds, indicative of light, but yielding a fact very little; these are the lamps. They are not suspended in the middle of the streets as at Paris, but fixed on Irons eight or nine feet high ranged along the houses. The want of reflectors is probably the cause of their giving so little light. From six to eight the noise of the wheels increase; it is the dinner hour. A multitude of carriages with two eyes of flame staring in the dark before each of them, shake the pavement and very houses, following and crossing one another at full speed. Stopping suddenly, a footman jumps down, runs to the door, and lifts the heavy knocker, gives a great knock, and smaller ones in quick succession, then with all his might flourishing as on a drum, with a art and air, and a touch, which denote the quality, the rank, and the fortune of his master.

"For two hours, or nearly, there is a pause: at ten a redoublement comes on. This is the great crisis of dress, of noise and of rapidity—a universal hubbub: a sort of uniform grinding and shaking, like the experienced in a great mill with a pair of stones; and if I was afraid of appearing to exaggerate, should say it came upon the ear like the falls of Niagara heard at two miles distance. This crisis continues undiminished till 12 or 1 o'clock, then less and less during the rest of the night—till at the approach of day, a single carriage is heard now and then at a great distance.

"Great assemblies are called, ronts of parties, but the people will give them, in their invitations only say that they will be at home such a day, and this some weeks before hand. The house in which they take place, is frequently stepped from top to bottom; beds, drawers, and all but ornamental furniture, is carried out of sight to make room for a crowd of well dressed people, received at the door of the principal apartment by the mistress of the houses tending, who smiles at every new comer with a look of acquaintance. Nobody sits; there is no conversation, no cards, no music, only elbowing, turning and winding from room to room; then at the end of a quarter of an hour, excepting to the hall door to wait for the carriage, spending more time than you have done above stairs with your masters. From this rout you drive to another, where, after waiting your turn to arrive at the door perhaps half an hour, the street being full of carriages, you alight, begin the same round, and end in the same manner."

Notice is hereby given,

That the subscriber has obtained from the orphan's court of Calvert county letters testamentary on the personal estate of William Weems late of Anne Arundel county, deceased; all persons claiming against the said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, near Tracy's Landing, on or before the 21th day of April next, they otherwise by law be excluded from any benefit of the said estate, and those claims shall be made immediate payment, to wit:—

Elijah Weems, Ex'r. of Wm. Weems deceased. October 21, 1816. 6w*

Chancery Sale.

By virtue of a decree of the Chancery Court the subscriber will expose to Sale, by Public Auction, at Caton's Tavern, on Friday the 14th of November next, two Houses and Lots in the City of Annapolis, now in the possession of Mr. James Holland and Mrs. Whittington.

They will be sold separately on a credit of twelve months. Bonds, with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale, will be required. James Share, Trustee, Annapolis, Oct. 17.

Sale Postponed.

By virtue of a decree of the Chancery Court the subscriber will expose to public sale, on Friday the 14th day of November next, if that day is not a fair day thereafter, (Sundays, excepted) on the premises, The Real Estate

Of Amos Chambers, deceased, consisting of a House and Lot in the Town of New-Lisbon, in the Baltimore and Frederick turnpike, and a Tract of Land containing about 165 acres lying near Col. Thomas Hood's, It is deemed necessary to give a further description of the premises as it is preferred that those who wish to purchase will view the premises previous to the sale.

The sale of the house and lot to commence at 10 o'clock; the other at 12 o'clock. Terms of Sale. The purchaser to give bond with security for payment of the purchase money, in 6, 12 and 18 months, with interest thereon. On the completion of the sale, and on payment of the whole purchase money, the interest thereon is annulled. The date is a deed.

John Shipley, Trustee. Oct. 15.

MARYLAND,

Anne-Arundel county sct.

On application to me the subscriber, chief judge of the third judicial district of the state of Maryland, in the recess of Anne Arundel county court, by petition in writing of Peter Simering, of Anne Arundel county, praying the benefit of the act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors, passed at November session eighteen hundred and five, and the several supplements thereto, on the terms mentioned in the said act, and stating that he is now in the custody of one of the constables of the city of Annapolis; a schedule of his property, and a list of his creditors, on oath, as far as he can ascertain, being annexed to his petition, and being satisfied that the said Peter Simering has resided in the state of Maryland, for the period of two years immediately preceding this his application, and having taken the oaths prescribed by the act of eighteen hundred and five, herein referred to; I do therefore order and adjudge, that the said Peter Simering be discharged from the custody of the said constable, and be by him causing a copy of this order to be inserted in one of the public news papers in the city of Annapolis, one week for three successive months, before the third Monday in April next, give notice to his creditors to appear before Anne-Arundel county court, at 10 o'clock in the morning of the said third Monday in April next, to show cause, if any they have, why the said Peter Simering should not have the benefit of the said act, and supplements, as prayed. Given under my hand this 9th day of September, 1816.

Jeremiah Townley Chase, Test. Wm. S. Green, Clk. August 12. 3m.

NOTICE

Is hereby given to all, whom it may concern, that a petition will be presented to the next General Assembly, for a public road to lead from the bridge which divides the farm of V. Macey from that of John Johns, on West-River, in Anne-Arundel county, to the landing of Capt. William Macey, on said River.

Sept. 19, 1816.

MARYLAND GAZETTE

VOL. LXXIV.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED

JONAS GREEN,

CHURCH-STREET, ANNEAPOLIS.

Price—Three Dollars per Annum.

Notice is hereby given,

That the subscriber has obtained from the orphan's court of Calvert county letters testamentary on the personal estate of William Weems late of Anne Arundel county, deceased; all persons claiming against the said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, near Tracy's Landing, on or before the 21th day of April next, they otherwise by law be excluded from any benefit of the said estate, and those claims shall be made immediate payment, to wit:—

Elijah Weems, Ex'r. of Wm. Weems deceased. October 21, 1816. 6w*

Chancery Sale.

By virtue of a decree of the Chancery Court the subscriber will expose to Sale, by Public Auction, at Caton's Tavern, on Friday the 14th of November next, two Houses and Lots in the City of Annapolis, now in the possession of Mr. James Holland and Mrs. Whittington.

They will be sold separately on a credit of twelve months. Bonds, with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale, will be required. James Share, Trustee, Annapolis, Oct. 17.

Sale Postponed.

By virtue of a decree of the Chancery Court the subscriber will expose to public sale, on Friday the 14th day of November next, if that day is not a fair day thereafter, (Sundays, excepted) on the premises, The Real Estate

Of Amos Chambers, deceased, consisting of a House and Lot in the Town of New-Lisbon, in the Baltimore and Frederick turnpike, and a Tract of Land containing about 165 acres lying near Col. Thomas Hood's, It is deemed necessary to give a further description of the premises as it is preferred that those who wish to purchase will view the premises previous to the sale.

The sale of the house and lot to commence at 10 o'clock; the other at 12 o'clock. Terms of Sale. The purchaser to give bond with security for payment of the purchase money, in 6, 12 and 18 months, with interest thereon. On the completion of the sale, and on payment of the whole purchase money, the interest thereon is annulled. The date is a deed.

John Shipley, Trustee. Oct. 15.

MARYLAND,

Anne-Arundel county sct.

On application to me the subscriber, chief judge of the third judicial district of the state of Maryland, in the recess of Anne Arundel county court, by petition in writing of Peter Simering, of Anne Arundel county, praying the benefit of the act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors, passed at November session eighteen hundred and five, and the several supplements thereto, on the terms mentioned in the said act, and stating that he is now in the custody of one of the constables of the city of Annapolis; a schedule of his property, and a list of his creditors, on oath, as far as he can ascertain, being annexed to his petition, and being satisfied that the said Peter Simering has resided in the state of Maryland, for the period of two years immediately preceding this his application, and having taken the oaths prescribed by the act of eighteen hundred and five, herein referred to; I do therefore order and adjudge, that the said Peter Simering be discharged from the custody of the said constable, and be by him causing a copy of this order to be inserted in one of the public news papers in the city of Annapolis, one week for three successive months, before the third Monday in April next, give notice to his creditors to appear before Anne-Arundel county court, at 10 o'clock in the morning of the said third Monday in April next, to show cause, if any they have, why the said Peter Simering should not have the benefit of the said act, and supplements, as prayed. Given under my hand this 9th day of September, 1816.

Jeremiah Townley Chase, Test. Wm. S. Green, Clk. August 12. 3m.

NOTICE

Is hereby given to all, whom it may concern, that a petition will be presented to the next General Assembly, for a public road to lead from the bridge which divides the farm of V. Macey from that of John Johns, on West-River, in Anne-Arundel county, to the landing of Capt. William Macey, on said River.

Sept. 19, 1816.