MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1836.

There was a public dinner at Baltimore, on the 7th instant, for an object highly creditable to American feeling. It was to express approbation of the liberal course pursued towards the United States, by the Government of Great Britain, in the affair of the mediation. Henry S. Fox, Esq., His Britannic Majesty's Minister, was specially invited. The Chief Justice of the United States, the Vice-President, and the Heads of Departments, the Diplomatic Representatives of Foreign Powers, (including the Secretary of the British Legation, and the British Consul of New-York,) the Commissioners of the Navy, the Maryland Senators in the United States Senate, the Representatives in Congress from the City of Baltimore, the District Judge of the District, and the Mayor of the City, were invited as guests.

Every liberal mind must rejoice at the growing feeling of cordiality between the United States and Great Britain; and the late successful generous intervention of the latter in preserving peace, will, undoubtedly, tend to strengthen it. At the dinner which we have mentioned, the greatest good feeling towards Britain prevailed. One of the toasts was:—

"His Britannic Majesty, William the Fourth—we recognize in his late mediation, on the one hand, the chivalrous courtesy of a gallant nation to an ancient and brave foe, and, on the other, an honorable acknowledgment of the tie of kindred to a people who have inherited with English law and liberty, a claim to share in the early triumph of England's arts and arms. May this sentiment be the sure foundation of perpetual friendship between us and our fatherland."

Mr. Fox's speech in reply, we give entire. He makes no melancholy representation, and takes no affectedly mawkish view of the steady march of reform in England. He regards the changes that are now taking place, in the light of sober reason, and not through the distorted medium of party spirit or inveterate prejudice.

Mr. Fox responded to the above toast in the following language:—

"I thank you most cordially in the name of my government and of my country, for the manner in which you have drunk the health of the Sovereign of Great Britain, and for the handsome form in which you have spoken of the late offer of mediation. That offer has been nobly responded to by the government and by the people of America. We know that the office of peace-maker is blessed throughout all lands; but how supremely gratifying, when the occasion is found for exercising that office toward a friendly and a kindred nation!—toward a people who feel and acknowledge the kindness of the act, and who well know the value of its results!—Gentlemen, I may truly say that it is for the interest of the whole human race, that America should continue to enjoy the blessings of peace—for America knows how to turn those blessings to a noble use. When I behold the amazing, the unexampled progress which this country is making, is daily and hourly making, in all the paths of peaceful civilization, in arts and in literature, and in every noble enterprise of industry and commerce—when I behold these things, and then I reflect, on the other hand, upon how nice a balance the event seemed lately to hang, whether all these happy pursuits, whether all these fair hopes were not to be suddenly crossed and interrupted by the rude hand of war—I feel that it is a just cause for exhilaration to an Englishman, that the mediation of his government has been, in some measure, instrumental in averting so great a calamity. I firmly believe that so long as friendship subsists between England, America and France, they may command peace over the globe. I am as firmly persuaded, that a war now waged, between any two of these three great liberal powers, would retard, and perhaps for generations to come, the general improvement of mankind.

"Gentlemen, in thanking you for the toast you have drunk to the health of my interest sovereign, I will add that if ever there was a king in the world whose name may be hailed with pride and satisfaction in an assembly of freemen—in an assembly of American citizens,—it is king William the Fourth of England. For already during the few years that he has reigned, and under his generous auspices, a greater progress has been made in England, in strengthening and securing our free and popular institutions, than during long ages that preceded. As Americans, you and your children, you all laborers together with ourselves of the glorious birthright of British liberty; and I am sure that you behold with pleasure and without the grudge, the progress of public affairs in England. You then behold a king and his subjects, not madly struggling against each other for a vain supremacy, but a patriot king leading on a willing people to the greatest march of intellect and improvement—a government and a nation laboring cordially together, not to extend the dominion of the former over any, but to render the social and political institutions more free and popular. This is the great work in which your brethren in England are now employed, and I am sure that they have the good wishes of the people of America for their success.

"Gentlemen, we have, and we must hope, that the friendship which now unites our two countries—the two great nations of kindred race that speak English and English—that our friendship may be as lasting as it is honorable and precious to both.—We will all rejoice and study to cultivate and to perpetuate it. We owe this to our common language, we owe it to the memory of our common ancestors. Americans will not forget that in England repose the ashes of their fathers; England will long look with pride and exultation upon Americans, as the noblest, the first born, and the best beloved of her children."

Mr. Fox concluded by offering the following sentiment:—

"The United States of America—May the friendship which unites the two kindred nations of America and England be as lasting as it is honorable and precious to both!"

The recent dissolution of Orange Lodges in England has afforded much matter of triumph to the fire Radicals, who are the stain of society at Home, as well as here.

So says the Cobourg Star. We are not Radical, in the offensive sense the Star employs the term, and yet we rejoice, most sincerely, at the upset of that pernicious tool, at the annihilation of Orange Lodges, both in England and Ireland. These Associations were constituted upon a vicious basis. Their members, under the cant of brotherly kindness and affection, were taught to cherish the vilest animosity towards a portion of their fellow-creatures whose religious creed differed from their own. It is high time, therefore, that all such sectional and intolerant societies should be dissolved.

The receipts of the American Bible Society for the past year amounted to $104,000. The Bibles and Testaments issued for the same period have been:—

English Bibles	63,160
English Testaments	150,010
German Bibles	1,390
German Testaments	1,810
French Bibles	595
French Testaments	755
Spanish Bibles	169
Spanish Testaments	213
Modern Greek Testaments	2,646
Portuguese Bibles and Testaments	51
Welsh Bibles and Testaments	66
Arabic, Syriac, Swedish and Dutch Bibles and Testaments	58
Italian, Polish, Danish, Gaelic and Italian	72

Making in all, 221,904 copies, and an aggregate, since the formation of the Society, of 1,989,430.

Under the auspices of this Society, a very interesting work—a New Testament for the Blind—is in course of publication, the first of the four volumes, of which it will be composed, being completed. In this kind of typography the letters are angular and raised from the surface of the paper, so as to make them perceptible by the touch.

An accident happened a few day since, in the family of Dr. Henry Mount, of Point Claire, which threatened to be followed by the most tragical consequences. A small box, containing arsenic, had, by some unhappy inadvertency, been left within reach of the children. Two fine little boys,—the eldest five, and the youngest three years of age,—playing near it, saw and opened it. Thinking it to be refined sugar, they ate a quantity of it. They were soon afterward seized with violent vomitings and spasms, which continued from nine o'clock in the morning till eleven at night. Unfortunately, Dr. Mount was absent. But Mrs. Mount, suspending, for the moment, every expression of her grief, with promptitude, and great presence of mind, applied the remedies suggested by her good sense, and applied them with signal success. The arrival of Dr. Mount achieved their recovery.

The Hon. S. Cunard and E. M'Dougall, Esq., have been appointed Commissioners, on the part of Nova Scotia, to act with the Commissioners of New Brunswick and this Province, for ascertaining the most fit sites for Light-Houses on the Islands of St. Paul and Scatterie.

We understand that Major-General Sir John Colborne, Lady Colborne and family, will leave this city for England, *via* New-York, tomorrow morning, at ten o'clock.

A vessel, named the *Milwaukie*, of *three hundred tons burthen*, intended as a trader between Buffalo and the Ports on Lake Michigan, was launched the other day at Grand Island, on the Niagara River.

A Steamboat Canal between Lake Ontario and the Hudson River, by the way of Oswego and Utica, is beginning to excite considerable attention among the inhabitants of the West.

Bills for the construction of twenty-four Railways were lately passed in one day by the New York Assembly.

It appears that henceforth recaptured Africans, who may be liberated by any of the Courts of the Mixed Commission established by Spain and England jointly, are to be sent to Demerara, and there to be bound out as apprentices for three years. Children may be bound out until sixteen years of age.

By a statement lately made to the American Congress, it appears that prior to the 1st January last, 169,250,728 acres of Government land were surveyed and offered for sale, and the quantity remaining unsold at the same date was 119,250,728 acres. It thus appears that the quantity already surveyed and subject to private entry for purchase, is a good deal more than double the amount sold for the last forty-nine years.

A very destructive fire occurred at Nantucket on the 11th instant. Messrs. Stevenson, Hussey, Swain, Cowan and Lawrence were the principal sufferers.

Robert Gillespie, Esq., Mr. R. Gillespie, jun., of London, and Mr. John Cassels, of Montreal, were among the passengers in the packet ship *Montreal*, of New York from London.

Affairs of Lower Canada.

Such was the mode, and such were the means, employed for the reduction of Canada—and such was the success, which followed the combined and powerful military movements, displayed in this campaign. If the English were impatient for a thorough display of the confirmation of the union of this Colony in their favour; the French, on their part, betrayed no interest in its abandonment. The reason is not very remote from common apprehension. The fact is, that the former companies had learned to appreciate the Province at its true value; while the new immigrants were too much dazzled by the splendour of the continent, to estimate correctly the national gain or loss.

A slight gaze of the state and condition of Canada, at the epoch, and a short time before, will have a tendency to explain the difference, on the part of the French.

The unavailing efforts of our forefathers to preserve, upon this most favorable subject, unity, or treating this branch of it otherwise than cursorily, would be a work of supererogation. At the Peace of Utrecht, and afterward, the Province was alienated from the mother country. The first settlers were as have remarked, neither the design, nor the hope, of ever making it a flourishing Colony. Those of them who embarked in speculations, occasioned a small patch of ground, here and there; which the slightest discouragement made them abandon, with the same haste and indifference. In fit the march of human industry, success in this primeval employment in the thermometer, which solicites, as well as regulates, the success of all other pursuits; it will be readily believed, that where agriculture languishes, all other occupations share this langour. Accordingly, no pursuit, either national or private, exhibited any symptoms of life or spirit. The necessary expenses of the existing Government brought, indeed, money into the country—and the 'ad' trade added something to the common stock. But the exports from Canada, at no period before the conquest, exceeded, I believe, fourteen thousand pounds sterling; while the sums remitted from France, for Government disbursements, amounted to above fifteen thousand pounds sterling. These were the sole resources of the Colonists. It is true, that their wants were few. Yet those, few as they were, could not be supplied. Inasmuch, that they were under the necessity of wearing skins, like the Indians. Such was the art and state of about twenty thousand French settlers in Canada. And, these so scanty, scanty as they were, could only be maintained in times of peace. Were, which were constantly occurring, suspended them at once; and left them still poorer than they were found.

It is true, that just before the conquest, the French had discovered, that Canada was not altogether so valueless—and had begun to attach some importance to its possession. The spirit displayed in the neighbouring English Colonies, in some measure, extended its influence to the Province, and seemed to rouse its inhabitants from their stupor. This stimulation was for a while successful, and its fruits were comparatively numerous and prominent. The population had now advanced to ninety thousand souls, exclusive of the troops, whose number was irregular and fluctuating. To this population, considered as giving value to the Colony, were added more than sixteen thousand Indians, whom the French hankered as allies. These did not view themselves, indeed, as the subjects of the French King; because from the nature of their societies, and all more from their lofty sense of personal independence, they would acknowledge no master. Besides, French had succeeded in reaching close average to themselves, and in identifying the interests of one with those of the other.

Notwithstanding this approach to prosperity, the success of the Colonists was but partial. They did not understand, nor had they understood, the subject; were they, in all appearance, disposed to enjoy the advantages, which mature and actual circumstances held out to them.

To use a single example, among many, in proof of the fact. It was a practice with the Colonists, as their children grew up, and sought each an independent settlement, for their fathers to parcel out their lands among the claimants. If these were numerous, the lands were cut up into fragments, too small for the subsistence of the families which were thus portioned. This was so obvious an evil, and which tended so directly to impoverish all parties, that an edict was issued, in the year 1745, forbidding the Colonists making any such division, unless the plantation extended seven and a half in front, and forty of forty arrears in depth. Had this regulation been made at an earlier period, the Province would, undoubtedly, have owed much to its benefits. Indeed hence which not, in the Abbé Raynal judiciously observed, the necessity of plants the inheritance of their fathers; they would have been compelled to form new plantations and that spaces of fallow grounds would be found two separated rich and cultivated plots.

The fate of the edict shows, with sufficient evidence, that either this evil was unknown, or if known, was by no means regarded with becoming solicitude. What, were the positive advantages of the Province, this low, I know not. Probably they were light; or where lighter heavy, not levied upon the emigrants at all. For certain it is that this evil, exists at the present day, and that thousands are impoverished by them yearly and hundreds are unprovided. The source of this mischief is partly found in the character of the French Colonists in Canada. They are contented, a contented people. They delight in congregating together, and in having all their amusements between and friends about them. No inducement of interest is alone sufficiently powerful to tempt them from their native fields and their household gods. To forward did when they are forced from, to the search of their subsistence. In this, they differ widely from their neighbours of the United States. An American, more particularly a native of New England, seems, from the highest impulse, to quit, his family the hut, but the country of his forefathers; and abandoning his humble relations to plant a market and transport himself to the wilds of the Missouri or elsewhere; and penetrating far into the interior, remote from the abodes and even the sight of a white man, years the days in solitary estimation—the world forgotten, and by the world forgot.

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