

which shall surely consume it a way. Often as I watched his fearful agitation, I murmured to myself, behold

"What lesson may be read, Beside the sinner's restless bed."

I went the next morning to take a last look of Edwin—I wished to save for his father a lock of his hair, that deadly relic of mortality that affection may snatch from the grave. As I bent tenderly away the rich locks which shaded the marble brow of death, what a deep, what an awful comprehension I obtained of the desert of sin. I gazed upon that face so lately painted with a thousand varying emotions—how his fix'd! how solemn! he had never been so solemn before. O, it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God; 'tis still more fearful to burst the gates of eternity by crime.

The following unfinished letter lay on Edwin's desk.

"A most unmanly softness subdues me in writing; want only I feel must be my last letter to my father. When I was a little child, scarce higher than your knee, you loved to call me your 'brave boy'; and through all the dangers and trials of life to which I have been exposed, I have never reproached myself with weakness of nerve; but now I am oppressed by sensations which I feel unable to fear. Yes, my soul quakes within me as I contemplate the resistless dignity of my numbered minutes; and how vainly should I be to escape this dreaded catastrophe.

"My last letter apprised you of the unhappy state of things between Mr. Ocasus and myself; every succeeding meeting has aggravated our differences, until I felt myself constrained to demand honourable satisfaction of him. I know that you will not blame me; I have acted exactly as you would have done in the same circumstances; yet I am miserable. We only wait until to-morrow that some necessary business may be settled by Herbert—Herbert! oh, why did I write that once dear, familiar word—oh still dear. Must I lift my hand with hostile purpose against that bosom upon which my head has so often reposed in happy slumbers. Oh that it were possible to retract.

"My second has just visited me, and I have laughed and trifled, and braved death, as carelessly as if I felt nothing; but it is all an affected indifference. Just now I watched a group of happy children playing in the sunshine near my window; and I wept and wished myself a child again, with no ruthless customs to urge me to death and crime. O my father, I have a deadly horror of that unknown world into which I am rushing. I have thought little about it, but feel that I am doing a deed of dreadful sin—that no hand just raised with murderous intent, may lay its unhallooed touch on the key that opens paradise—O, it is yet possible—"

Such were the dreadful vacillations of feeling in this poor victim of error—such are the honest emotions of every feeling heart in the same circumstances. I will not dwell upon the hopeless anguish of my wretched friend under this most righteous retribution. His grey hairs are borne down to the grave by a most intolerable burden of guilt and anguish; he justly accuses himself as the murderer of his son, and the sins of his youth press heavily upon him.

He has abandoned the halls of his fathers, and now the whole establishment wears the melancholy air of desertion. Its painted walls has contracted the dingy hue of neglect, its windows are closed, and even when the transient passenger may discern that the domestic hearth has been darkened there. Such are the desolations of sin!

Poor Herbert! how is he changed—the graceful sweetness of his manner are gone, and in its place is seen the cold severity of gloomy abstraction. He continues numbered among men in the social compact, but no social virtues emanate from his bright affections; he holds his place in the world, as a blasted trunk is seen rooted for years among the living, verdant ranks of the forest; no wholesome fruit is gathered from its boughs, an pleasant shadow revolves beneath it. As often as I see him, and mark his sunken cheek tinged with the sallow hue of melancholy, his raven locks whitening with premature old age, and above all, his drooping, lustreless eye, I say to myself,

"Here read of Cain the curse and crime, In characters unworn by time."

Oh thou gloomy phantom, before whose shadowy shrine such costly libations of human blood have been offered, when will the daylight of truth dispel thy fatal illusions!

UPPER CANADA.

Van Camp has made a valuable confession which will do a good deal towards unmasking traitors, discovering concealed arms, and exposing the designs of the brigands.

Yesterday the following prisoners were brought down from Drummondville in custody of a detachment of Captain Dickson's troop, and lodged in jail:

Samuel Chandler, Benjamin Wait, Norman Mallory, and James Waggoner. Chandler and Wait were leaders; the latter bore a Major's commission, and in his possession were found various papers, containing much useful information.

The Lt. Governor left this port for Toronto last evening, having previously intimated that a Commission will sit here next week for trying the prisoners.

To-day Lt. Heath and a party of Lancers brought down the following prisoners:—

Street Chace, (this patriot escaped conviction for felony at our last Assizes by the skin of his teeth.) Robt. Kelly, Freeman Brady, and Lorin Hedger.

Lt. Heath states that he saw in custody at Drummondville, James Marcaw, for whose apprehension Sir G. Arthur offers a reward of £50, and also Silas Fletcher, for whose apprehension a similar reward was offered by Sir F. B. Head.—From another source we hear that Gibson, ex-V. P. P. is a prisoner. Most of those above named are Navy Soldiers or London District heroes, and two or three of them are said to have been concerned in the destruction of the Peel. A vast number of prisoners are confined at Drummondville."

HORRIBLE MURDER.—The last Backwoodsman furnishes the particulars of the discovery on the 28th ult. at the head of Six Mile Island, in the river Illinois, of the body of a man who appears to have been murdered in the most shocking and barbarous manner, and at the same time with the utmost deliberation and secrecy. A crow bar, three feet and a half in length, and weighing twenty-one pounds, "such as are used on board of steam-boats, was tied to the body—in order, doubtless, to prevent it from rising to the surface—with common packing yarn, made fast by a boatman's knot, the editor expresses the opinion that the crime is of recent occurrence, and must have been perpetrated at some point on the Illinois river, on board a steamboat, with the knowledge and combination of a principal part of the crew, to say nothing of the officers. We copy the following description of the unfortunate victim, and of the different articles found about his person, in the hope that it may serve to identify him, and perhaps also lead to the discovery and punishment of his murderers.

"The deceased appeared to be about the middle age, of fair complexion, black hair, and medium stature. From the appearance of his hands he had not been accustomed to labor. One mark was singular, and may possibly lead to a discovery of his name.—He had but one upper front tooth, and that a large one.

"His dress was of rich materials, and fashionably made. He had on a dark brown cloth coat, of a very fine texture and elegant trimmings—a vest of black, or dark blue silk velvet,—dark corded pantaloons—a cross-barred silk cravat on his neck—a pair of gum elastic suspenders—mixed colored stockings, and thin fashionable pumps, and a glove upon one of his hands.

"In a pocket of his pantaloons was a Spanish knife or dirk, with a brass guard. In his vest pocket was a gold ring, and thirty-four dollars, in bank bills—the latter twisted together, and without a wrapper, as if carelessly put there. On the middle finger of the left hand was a gold ring, and another of the same material upon the little finger. Engraved upon the inside of one of them, was the following: 'W. B. to T. W. W.' There was also an inscription on the outside of both.

"The bank notes are of the following description, viz:—\$10 on the United States Bank, Fayetteville branch—\$5 Farmer's and Merchant's Bank, Memphis, Tenn.—\$10, Bank of Orleans—\$5, Planter's Bank of Tenn.—and \$1, on the Municipality of New Orleans."

LOWER CANADA.

Montreal, 6th July, 1838.

At three o'clock, a Deputation of the citizens waited upon His Excellency at Government House with the following Address, which was numerously and respectfully signed. The Hon.

Mr. M'GILL, the Chairman of the Public Meeting at which it was voted, read the Address:—

ADDRESS.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable John George Earl of Durham, Viscount Lambton, &c. &c. Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, and Governor General, Vice Admiral, and Captain General at all Her Majesty's Provinces within, and adjacent to the Continent of North America, &c. &c. &c.

May it please Your Excellency.

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, inhabitants of the City of Montreal and its vicinity, respectfully congratulate your Excellency on your safe arrival in this country.

We gratefully acknowledge the wisdom and beneficence of our beloved Queen in having confided, at this important period, the Government of British North America to a Nobleman, whose high and varied qualifications, had been honoured by so many distinguished marks of Royal favour; and we have witnessed, with lively satisfaction, the judgment, firmness and impartiality evinced in the declarations of your Excellency's intended policy.

We cherish no other ambition than that of promoting the welfare of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in these Provinces, and perpetuating the integrity of the Empire; and we beg to assure Your Excellency that we will heartily co-operate in the arduous, but not impracticable task, of establishing peace and harmony in this Province, by means of a consistent and impartial Administration of the Government.

We look forward with much solicitude to the results of Your Excellency's high mission, and we venture to entertain the pleasing hope that you will ultimately reap a rich reward, in the gratitude of an united people, and in the approbation of a discerning Sovereign.

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:—

I am deeply sensible of your kindness, and acknowledge, with feelings of pride and satisfaction, the flattering terms in which you are pleased to notice my public services.

They are, and ever have been, freely tendered to my Sovereign and my country. I now offer them to you, in the humble hope, that, with your co-operation, I may be enabled to restore peace and prosperity to the Canadas.

The task is arduous, as you state, but not impracticable, more especially after the wise and judicious course which you have pursued. On my part, I promise you an impartial Administration of the Government. Determined not to recognise the existence of parties, provincial or imperial, of classes, or of races, I shall hope to receive from all Her Majesty's subjects those public services, the efficiency of which must ever mainly depend on their comprehensive nature.

Remember that you have all the same interest in the prosperity of your country,—that the capital of the merchant and estate of the seigneur, the skill of the artisan and the labour of the habitant, are all depreciated by internal dissensions, whilst they are fostered and increased by harmony and public tranquility. Follow up, therefore, the good work you have commenced. Extend the veil of oblivion over the past—direct to the future your energies, (and where are to be found energies equal to those possessed by British merchants, and the consequence cannot be doubtful.)

I will second you to the best of my abilities—and I trust that the result of our united efforts will be, to render the North American Colonies as distinguished for the wisdom of their institutions, and the good conduct of their people, as they are for the magnificence of those gifts and resources which a bounteous Creator has bestowed on their territories.

After reading the above reply, His Excellency remarked that although it had been his fortune to meet at different periods of a long political life with large bodies of his fellow countrymen, he had not on any occasion met with a more hearty and gratifying reception than he had, on that day, from the inhabitants of Montreal. For this mark of respect he begged to assure the Deputation that he felt extremely grateful.

His Excellency then requested that Mr. McGill would introduce to him the different gentlemen composing the deputation, which was accordingly done.

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, TUESDAY 10th JULY, 1838.

LATEST DATES.

London, - - - June 3. New-York, - - - July 2
Liverpool, - - - June 2. Halifax, - - - June 23
Havre, - - - May 30. Toronto, - - - June 30.

The packet ship Oxford, has arrived at New York, bringing Liverpool dates of the 2nd June. The papers contain nothing of moment, not previously received by the *Great Western*.

By the steamer *St. George* arrived about eleven o'clock this forenoon, we have received the Montreal Herald of this morning!

On the Montreal news room slate, it is stated, on the authority of a gentleman who arrived in town on Saturday evening, in two and a half days from Buffalo, that intelligence had reached that town of an engagement having taken place between about two hundred Americans and our regular and volunteer troops, near Malden when sixteen of the pirates were killed, and two of their opponents. It is not stated whether any prisoners were taken. The two hundred pirates formed only a detachment from the main body, which is stationed farther up, and is said to be daily increasing in numbers.

The reception of His Excellency the Earl of Durham at Montreal on Friday last, is the principal topic of the Montreal papers. The greatest unanimity and enthusiasm prevailed among the immense concourse of citizens assembled to greet him on landing. In another column will be found the address of congratulation which was presented to His Excellency by a deputation of upwards of 200 citizens, together with His Excellency's reply.

His Excellency the Governor General held a levee at the Government House, Montreal, yesterday which was stated by the Herald to have been more numerously attended than any previous one in that city.

His Excellency the Governor General has intimated his intention of giving a cup of the value of 100 guineas to be run for at the approaching Montreal Races, and will honor the course with his presence.

The Court of High Commission, for the trial of state offenders, which adjourned at Kingston on the 20th May, re-opened there on the 4th instant, Mr. Justice McLean presiding. The following persons were arraigned for high treason and have pleaded not guilty:—Nelson, G. Reynolds, Peter Lesage, Anson M. May, Charles Lafontaine, Samuel Marsh, Peter Orr, and Tobias W. Meyers. The Court was then adjourned to the following day.

His Excellency Sir John Colborne, accompanied by his two sons, by Majors Hall and Dickson, and Captain Goldie, passed through Cornwall, on the 5th, on his way to Toronto and Niagara.

Major General Sir James M'Donell and the Venerable Bishop M'Donell, were passengers in the *Neptune* to Lancaster on the 4th. Sir James was to review the *Glenegary* Militia at Williamstown on the 5th. He and the Bishop were expected in Cornwall on the following day.

H. M. S. *Madagascar* arrived at Halifax on the 26th ult. in 33 days from Gibraltar, having on board two companies of the 73rd Regiment.

H. M. S. *Jupiter* sailed on the 23rd ult. from Halifax for Plymouth.

A number of field-pieces, carriages, &c. intended for Upper Canada, were forwarded by the steamer *Eriskany America and Canada* which sailed on Saturday and yesterday.

The Quebec Quarter Sessions of the Peace opened this morning.

The days of sailing of the Steamship *Great Western* from New York are, for the remainder of this year, as follows:—16th August, 4th October, and 22d November. Letters to go by her must, therefore, be sent from Quebec on or before the 10th August, 27th September, and 16th, or perhaps 14th, November.—*Mercury*.