

# THE LITERARY TRANSCRIPT.

need be, that the Americans were coming to Toronto. Previously, a discussion arose among the officers of the crown, as to the country of my birth. By one party I was called a slave of Great Britain, because I had been born in Ireland; for this reason it was proposed that I should be hanged as a traitor without judge or jury. A Tory officer who had supported government and opposed reform from principle, interceded for me and contended that I was not an Irishman but an American, and should, therefore, be treated as the other American prisoners were. The officers of government opposed it, but even some of the Canadian Tories of influence were determined that I should die upon the gibbet, for the sin of being born in Ireland, great as it was.

The interference had its effect. As soon as the rumours came to Toronto that the province was threatened with another rebellion, we were shipped off to Quebec and sent to the citadel,—fed like hogs,—driven like sheep, and manacled like slaves. Our entrance to Montreal was most public, and the Government honoured each of us with a body guard more numerous, even, than the body guard of Lord Durham. (Laugh)—Until we reached our prison doors, we were all objects of marked attention. Our lives were in danger, and we were spit upon by the streets by the crowd, by Tory Englishmen, and by Tory Americans too, said Theller, which I am grieved to say, but not by an Irishman or a Frenchman.

We were, continued T., escorted to one of the dungeons of the citadel,—buried, as it were,—not dead however, but as nearly so as could be. The ground, with two sentries at heels,—two at the door and one over our heads. We did not like our quarters, however, and like all freemen confined in a dungeon, were determined to have our liberty, be the consequence what it might. But to get it? We were almost penniless, and had been robbed of all we had, save a few sixpences which we had concealed. This was enough to tempt and buy a Canadian sentinel, if he expends in rum or whiskey, and sprinkled with sixty drops of laudanum. Thus was our escape planned,—the time fixed upon, and all made ready. We had burst the bands that bound our prison doors, and had the two sentries at the door while my friends were making their exit. I saw them on their way and followed on. The prison house was deserted, another sentry passed, and we were upon the brink of a descent of thirty feet before we discovered. The alarm was given, and each of us descended the thirty feet as best we could, falling upon the rocky foundation below. I led the way, and sprained my foot badly in the attempt. (Theller is still suffering from this sprain.) But no time was to be lost, and another descent was to be made. We made it in safety, and felt that we were half at liberty already.

We pursued our way to the town, and were met by a poor labourer,—a caulker,—who was carrying but fifty cents for a hard days labour. He knew us, and knew too that a great reward would be paid for our apprehension, but instead of betraying us as he might have done, and receiving the six thousand dollars which was offered for us, he promised to guide us to a friend's house in safety, even if it cost him his life. (Part of the audience here cried out for the name of the man. Another part were opposed, and Theller told them the man was too near the tyrant to admit of exposure. Three cheers were given for the man.)

Theller continued the narrative of the escape—the excitement the city was in as soon as it was known—the movement of the regular troops, police officers and spies—the hair breadth escape of himself and friends—their passing the sentries in disguise, as British officers, with a band of gold lace about their caps, and their cloaks muffled round them—how they escaped from the walls of the city almost at the very moment they were closed to prevent their escape—the pursuit that was kept up for three weeks without interruption—the part he played as a poor labouring Frenchman who didn't understand English, when interrogated as to where Theller lived—what was his business, and could he give any information about the runaway prisoners—how he joined the Queen's forces and went in pursuit of the escaped prisoners—Theller after Theller, and Dodge after Dodge—disguised all the time, and compelled to change his place some times by the hour—with police officers above stairs when he was in the cellar, and below stairs when he was above—changing his hiding places eight times a night, as Dodge did when hotly pursued by a posse of government officers,—going hither and thither, and pursued for three weeks even in Canada, to the borders of Canada, and beyond them, with a lynx-eyed and untrusting vigilance. Theller related every particular of his escape, from the moment of his crawling out of his dungeon to his landing upon the rocks beneath the walls of the strongest citadel in the world, and from this to his escape beyond the walls of the city, while every avenue was watched and six thousand dollars offered for his arrest,—even for his head or his scalp, which offer he said he had been told McDonnell, one of the British officers, had positively made.—Theller and his companions escaped by the way of a North Eastern frontier to the State of Maine.

Theller after closing his speech, which was interspersed with many queer remarks humorously told, and odd illustrations which gave great amusement to his hearers, and for the manner of telling which, as well as for the facts detailed, he was frequently and loudly applauded,—said that he was now on his way to Detroit, for the purpose of settling, for his own information, the fact whether or not he was an Irishman or an American,—inasmuch as the official authorities in Canada had threatened to hang him as an Irishman; and he was under threatened arrest in Michigan, as we understood him, for the part he had taken with the Patriots in Canada. "In one month," said Theller, in conclusion, "my leg will be well, and I shall be ready for service!" The audience applauded Theller loudly and heartily, and certainly is a man of good talents and of ordinary courage. Dodge, his partner in prison and in escape, was now loudly called for. Theller excused him—Dodge being quite fatigued, much indisposed, and absent from the hall.

One of the Bermuda exiles, the companion of Dr. Nelson, was now called for, and spoke for some twenty minutes, telling his story that Nelson and Bouchette had left for Albany last evening, on the way to Canada. He showed himself, he said, soon follow. As Theller had done before him, he exhorted the friends of Canada in the United States, to furnish arms to the Canadian. "Do," said the exile, "in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and we will achieve our Independence and return them to you! We want but arms and munitions of war and Canada is free, the Canadians are ready whenever they have the means, to rise up almost as one man." "Arms,"—"give us arms," was indeed the burden of the song during the last evening at Vauxhall, and the evening previous at Richmond Hill. MacKenzie followed, but we have no room to speak of his remarks.

In the earlier part of the evening Alexander Ming read a series of exciting Resolutions, appointing Committees to receive subscriptions to aid the Patriots and to afford them all possible support, which were adopted.

Several Committees were named to the Resolutions and the proceedings of the meeting seemed to show that the friends of the Canadian Patriots in New York had organized a Society for the purposes of going all lengths in support of the pending revolution in Canada. Among the Vice Presidents we remember only the names of John McKeon, John A. Morill, and Alexander Ming, Junior.

## UPPER CANADA.

### REBELS ROUTED AGAIN.

The following is a copy of a despatch from the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Dundas, of the 83rd Regiment, received at Head Quarters on Sunday evening:—

PARSONS, Nov. 16th, 1838. Sir,—I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of His Excellency the Commander of the Forces, that I came down here yesterday from Kingston, with four companies of the 83rd Regiment, two 18 pounders and a howitzer, and made up from the town to a position about 400 yards from the windmill, and adjoining houses occupied by the Brigands.

They did not move or come out of the houses to oppose my advance. The 18 pounders opened with good effect upon the stone building near the mill. Capt. Sandom with two gun boats, in which he carried two 18 pounders, took up a position below the windmill, which he commanded, but not with much effect. After cannonading these buildings for an hour or rather more, and observing the brigands to be quitting them and endeavouring to escape, I ordered the troops to advance; very little resistance was offered by the party occupying the windmill, but a smart fire was opposed to us from the adjoining stone building. It being dark before the troops got round these buildings, and the brigands in the windmill having displayed a white flag, they were summoned to surrender themselves unconditionally, which they did. Eighty-six prisoners were immediately secured, and sixteen others who were wounded, were removed from the mill as soon as conveyance could be found. A large quantity of arms, 26 kegs of powder and 3 pieces of ordnance fell into our hands. Some of the brigands effected their escape from the buildings when darkness came on, and hid themselves in the brushwood on the bank under the mill. I directed the militia to scour this bank, and several prisoners were thus secured, among others a Pole calling himself General Van Sault who, it is understood, was the principal leader. All the buildings adjoining the mill we destroy-

ed, but the latter I directed to be occupied by a company of militia, and propose that it should continue to be so, or entirely demolished. I am happy to say the service was performed with the loss of one man only of the 83rd Regiment.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
H. DUNDAS,  
Lieut. Col. 83rd Regt. Commandant,  
Capt. Golic, A. D. C., Montreal.

## EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

STANSTEAD, 13th Nov. 1838.

While I write, the militia are putting in, though with but few arms. Our Cavalry are drilling without arms, while our Volunteer Company is but partially filled up, and their brave Captain, A. Kilbourn, was last night severely wounded in the abdomen, on returning from Burnston, whither he had been for the purpose of arresting Dr. Keech and H. Hollister, on a warrant. He supposes 12 or 15 assassins waylaid and shot at him. Mr. J. W. Martin, who was, with 3 others with him, had his horse shot dead, and he himself escaped by running.

Marcus Child (ex post-master) fled last night, and I regret to add, L. Smith has abandoned the country, probably never to return, owing to the insecurity afforded to loyal men.

P. S.—14th—We are cheered a little by the news from the West, and the arrival of the Sherbrooke Cavalry, which we hope will prevent any immediate attack upon us, but we feel in every other respect sadly neglected by Government.

## THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, THURSDAY, 22ND NOV. 1838

LATEST DATES.	
From London, . . . . . Oct 27	From New York, . . . . . Nov 13
From Liverpool, . . . . . Oct 27	From Halifax, . . . . . Nov 13
From Paris, . . . . . Oct 25	From Toronto, . . . . . Nov 13

New-York papers of Saturday last are without later European news. Nothing has yet been heard of the steam-ship *Liverpool*, which it was conjectured had changed her course for Halifax or Quebec, having important despatches for Lord Durham.

Mr. Swarwort, the Collector of Customs at New-York, it is said, is a defaulter to the amount of one million four hundred thousand dollars. This disclosure has produced a great sensation; and New-York papers state that 45 other surmises are circulated respecting other officers of the government, which begin to appal and astonish all.

The burning in effigy of Lord Brougham at Quebec and Montreal, forms a prominent topic in all the London papers, and is the subject of ballads and bon mots innumerable.

The Montreal *Herald* of Monday has the following paragraph. It is not stated, however, from whence the information is derived, and we incline to think that it is not correct:—"We are sorry to learn that H. M. S. *Incantant*, on her voyage from Quebec to Portsmouth, with the Earl of Durham and family on board, has received such damage as rendered it necessary for her to proceed to Halifax for examination and repairs."

The General Court Martial for the trial of all persons concerned in the late rebellion, met in a room in the Court House at Montreal; and after the members had been sworn in, the warrant for its constitution was read. The Court afterwards adjourned till Wednesday. Capt. Edward Muller, of the Royal Regiment, has been appointed Deputy Judge Advocate of the Court. It was, however, understood that the Court would not proceed to business until the arrival from Quebec of Andrew Stuart, Esq. the Solicitor General of the Province, who is to assist Captain Muller in the duties of his important office.

The passengers on board the steamer *Henry Brougham* at the time of her capture by the rebels at Beauharnois, have presented to Messrs Quintal, the Curé of that place, a handsome piece of plate, as a testimony of their gratitude for the kind and hospitable treatment extended to them by that gentleman, when they were kept prisoners in his house by the insurgents.

The twenty-three political convicts who arrived from Upper Canada on Sunday last,

were this morning conveyed by a company of the Volunteers and a body of the Police to the jail, and placed on board the *Captain Ross* to be conveyed to England, for transportation to New South Wales. Eleven other prisoners who have been convicted in Quebec, are being by the same conveyance.

A great quantity of fire-arms and ammunition in possession of a gun-smith named F. P. residing near the Cul-de-Sac, were yesterday taken by the Police into their safer and better keeping.

A person named Alexander Dumont we learn, committed to prison last night of charge of high treason.

Mr. Aylwin, Advocate, on Tuesday, now before the Judges of the Court of King Bench, for a writ of Habeas Corpus in the case of John Teed, committed on a charge of treasonable practices. Mr. Aylwin contended that the Ordinance suspending Habeas Corpus is altogether illegal; and its validity was supported by Mr. Solid General Stuart. The argument closed at quarter to 4, and the Judges, Panet and Bédard, took the matter *en délibéré*.

(The Judges yesterday gave a decision according to the motion of Mr. Aylwin. Together with several others, had however previously been transferred from the custody of the Sheriff to the Citadel of Quebec, and the exertions of his counsel will therefore avail him nothing.

Connolly, who was committed with Teed on Monday admitted to bail upon petition to His Excellency the Administrator, supported by a sick certificate.—*Mercury*.

## COMMERCIAL.

London, 26th Oct.—Commerce here is improving—most things are brisk, if we except Canadian produce. Ashes and timber are very dull. Of the latter, a large public sale commenced this evening, which is proceeding briskly.

The ton and indigo sales have concluded. Of about 16,500,000 lbs. tea declared, as one half only was actually sold. The price reduction was 1d. to 2d. per lb. as compared with the rates obtainable in July last. The declaration was the largest ever made, and exceeded by 3,000,000 the last sale.

Our wheat markets are rising rapidly. The reign is up this week 6s. to 7s.; and English 3s. to 4s. per quarter. The average price of wheat (English) is 64s. 3d., and the duty of foreign 22s. 8d.

The funds are improving. Consols close this afternoon at 94; for account at 94½; Exchequer Bills at 64s. premium.

British North American Bank shares are at 27 or 2 premium. Canada Land Company shares, at 29 or 1 discount.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

### PORT OF QUEBEC.

#### ARRIVED.

November 20th.

T. V. Schooners from the fisheries.

#### CLEARED.

November 20th.

Bark Captain Ross, Moreton, Liverpool, T. F.

#### PASSENGERS.

In the packet ship *Hope*, from Falmouth, at 10 o'clock.—Wm. Lawson, Esq. and lady, Miss Lawson, Joseph Howe, and L. Bliss, Esqrs.

The *Brilliant*, floating light, came up from Traverse this morning.

Ship *Henry Bliss*, for Liverpool, and bark *St. Andrew*, sailed this day with a light breeze from the west.

The *Great Western*, spoke Bark *Ch. (the)*, from Quebec to London, at 8 A. M. on the 4th November.

#### (ADVERTISEMENT.)

To the Citizens of Quebec, particularly to those who have contributed towards the establishment of a Friendly Union for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and the promotion of useful knowledge.

Expecting this day to embark for England in Captain Ross, I have my respects for all who kindly assisted me. I have left books and papers in the hand of Mr. Morris, teacher of the Normal School, to a larger amount than the sum now in Quebec. And it is hoped that, if the Mercantile Institute may not be disposed to allow the books and papers to be lodged in their room, some plan will be provided. And it is generally desired that a *Friendly Union* may soon be established among the members of different denominations in this and every other city; for the cause of Christ suffers more from professed friends than from open enemies.

I deeply regret, that my name has been published in the manner that it has been, both in Canada and England; but I have in Montreal and Quebec