of him who had been for so many years the affectionate sharer of her joys and sorrows, she first passively acquiesced in their proceedings, and in the end was persuaded to contribute her share towards furnishing them, by secretly disposing of the unlawfully obtained articles.

During my sojourn in the Isle of Wight I had become acquainted with two or three families residing within a few miles of the spot where I had taken up my habitation. With one of these (consisting of a widow lady of rank and her two unmarried daughters) I had been previously acquainted in London, and at other places. They had been recommended by the medical adviser of the youngest daughter, who was then attended by a pulmonary affection, to try the effects of a winter at the banks of the Island, and I was agreeably surprised to find them inhabitants of a beautiful villa, "a cottage of humility," about three miles from my own cabin at the Undercliff. They were agreeable and accomplished women; and a few hours spent in their company formed a pleasing and not unfrequent variety in my solitary life; and in the dearth of society incident to their isolated retreat, my fair friends condescended to entertain, and even to welcome the eccentric old bachelor with more than courteous smiles. One November evening my rambles had terminated at their cottage, and I had just drawn my chair into the social circle round the tea-table, when a rap was heard to thump on the door, and speak a few words in a most mysterious half-whisper to the elderly lady, who sounded an alarm, "Oh, tell her I cannot see her; there is no one of whom she is the apprehensive." The communication of which I could not quickly ashtract into the only new acquaintance Margaret Campbell. An anxiety dark cloud was drawn over the usual cheerfulness of her face, and her dimpled cheek (under which the comic bone had usually been wrapped closely round a grain of sand or a fragment of stone) sunk into the most possible coldness. At the sight of me she half shook, and dropt her eyes with a most forlorn air. "Oh, Margaret!" I exclaimed, quickly divining the cause of her perturbation and uneasiness. But the lady of the house commanded her to be mute, benignantly saying, "Oh, never mind Mr. ——, he will not intervene against us, though he shakes his head so awfully. Well, have you brought the tea?" —"and the lace, and the silk scarfs?" chimed in the younger ladies, with eager curiosity sparkling in their eyes, as they almost dragged the important budget, with their own fair hands, from beneath the poor woman's cloak. "Have you brought us our scarfs at last? what a time we have been expecting them!" —"Yes, indeed," echoed Lady Mary, "and depending on your promise of procuring me some, I have been quite distressed for tea—there is really no dependence on your words, Mrs. Campbell: and yet I have been at some pains to impress you with a just sense of your christian duties, amongst which you have often heard me remark, and I am sure the tracts I have given you inculcate the same lesson, that a strict attention to truth is one of the most essential—Well! where's the tea?"—"Oh! my lady," answered the poor woman, with a humbly deprecating look and look, "if you did but know what risks we run to get these things, and how much we run made by you work, not wonder that we come always empty-handed as punctually as we could wish. I have brought the silks and laces for the young ladies, but the——" "What! no tea yet? Really it is too bad, Mrs. Campbell; I must say if other people are not more to be depended on"—"Indeed, my lady, we have tried hard to get it for your service; but there's such a sharp look-out now, and the Ranger has been laying off the island for this week past, that people haven't been able to get nothing across, and yet I am sure my husband and son have been upon the watch along the beach, and in the most severe three nights, in all the dreadful weather, and to-night, though it blows a gale, they're out again;" and the poor woman cast a fearful shuddering glance towards the window, against which the wind beat dismally, accompanied with thick driving sleet, that half obscured the glimpses of a sickly moon.

The lady was pacified by these assurances that the foreign luxury should be procured for her that night, if human exertions, made at the peril of human life, could succeed in landing it. The silks, &c. were examined and approved of by the young ladies, and finally taken and paid for, after some haggling about "the price of blood," as the purchase-money might too justly have been denominated.—Mrs. Campbell received it with a deep sigh, and, humbly curtseying, withdrew from the presence, not without (involuntarily, as it were) stealing an abashed glance towards my countenance as she passed me. She was no sooner out of the room than her fair customers began to expatiate, with rapturous volubility on the beauty and cheapness of their purchases—an inconsistency of remark that puzzled me exceedingly, as, not five minutes before, while bargaining with the seller, they had averred her goods to be of very inferior manufacture, and exorbitantly dear. "Ah, but," observed the prudent mother, "you were in such a hurry, or you might have made better bargains; but it's always the way—and yet I winked and winked at you both. I should have got those things as cheap again."

Indulgently tender as I am inclined to be to the little whims and foibles of the sex, I could not, on the present occasion, refrain from hinting to my fair friends a part of what was passing in my mind. At first they bargained at my quizzical scruples, and replied to them with the common-place remark, "that the few things they occasionally purchased could make no difference; for that the people would smuggle all the same, and that encouragement or for others, it not from them." And when I pressed the question a little further, suggesting to their consciences whether all who encouraged the trade were not, in a great measure answerable for the guilt incurred, and the lives lost in the prosecution of it, they bade me not talk of such horrid things, and huddled away their recent purchases in a sort of disconcerted silence, that spoke anything rather than tranquility of conscience and purposed reformation. My "sermonizing," as it was termed, seemed to have thrown a spell over the frank sociability that mutually enlivened our evening coteries. Conversation languished—the piano was out of tune—and the young ladies not in a singing mood. Their mamma broke her netting thread every three minutes; and from a dissertation on the deleterious nature of modern cotton, digressed insensibly into a train of serious observation on the dangers impending over church and state from the multitude of unlicensed retailers of ale and beer, when the storm waxed louder and louder, interspersing her remarks with pathetic exclamations of the perverseness with which the very elements seemed to conspire with government against the safe landing of the precious bales.

(To be concluded in our next.)

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK CITY ELECTION.—The Whigs had elected their candidate for the Mayoralty, by a small majority.—The number of votes cast, was unprecedentedly large, and the balance of parties in the City Council, uncertain.

EXTRAORDINARY ABDUCTION.—An express arrived in the city this morning, from Erie, Penn., bringing intelligence of a most extraordinary outrage committed at the place on the night of the 5th instant. The particulars as stated in handbills, published in relation to the affair, are as follows:

As Miss Hamot, daughter of P. S. V. Hamot, Esq., of that place, was returning from a party, in company with a young man of Mr. H.'s family, about 11 o'clock at night, they were assaulted on the side walk by R. C. Bristol, captain of the steamboat James Madison, and four other persons; the young man was forcibly secured, while Miss Hamot, amid screams for aid, was forced into a hack close at hand, with the loss of her bonnet and other articles of clothing, and then driven down to the harbor, were she was put on board the Madison. That boat appears to have been in readiness for the purpose with steam up, and forthwith pushed out into the lake, with lights extinguished.

Chase was immediately given in the U. S. Revenue Cutter, and the steamboat Thomas Jefferson was got under way as speedily as possible; but from the darkness it was impossible to discover the course taken by the fugitive boat.

The Madison was not fully in a condition for sea having only part of her buckets in, and but little wood on board. Hence Bristol is supposed to have pushed across the lake for Canada.

The affair seems to have made quite a stir at Erie and the respectability of the parties, and the novelty of using a steamboat of 700 tons on such an enterprise, together with the attendant circumstances, have caused it to excite some little sensation here.

We can hardly credit the fact that Capt. B. would have pursued such a suicidal course as this, and incline somewhat to the opinion, that it may turn out a mere "Gretna Green" business, after all.—*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, April 7.*

The abduction case at Erie, proves to have been as we expected, an *elopement*, rather than an outrage. The parties were overhauled at Ashtabula, we believe, by the steamboat Jefferson, in season to prevent the nuptials of the fair heiress with the chivalrous Captain.—*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, April 9.*

The company of the Montgomery Guards, at Boston, has been dissolved. This is the company whose foreign character was so offensive to the native young men of Boston.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

The supreme Court, has confirmed the verdict of the Municipal Court, that Abner Knowland was guilty of blasphemy, for denying the existence of God (in an article published by him, as editor of the Investigator,) and having unanimously decided that the case could not be removed to the Supreme Court of the United States, it was directed to appear this morning for sentence. He appeared, and pleading the peculiar circumstances of his family, sentence was postponed.—*Boston Transcript.*

UPPER CANADA.

HAMILTON.—TRIALS FOR HIGH TREASON.

Saturday, March 31st.—Adam Veich, George Rouse, Samuel Mallett, and John L. Ulme were acquitted.

Finly Malcolm, Norman Malcolm, Dr. Cook and Elias Snyder were arraigned.

The Solicitor General ordered Norman Malcolm to be discharged; there being no evidence against him.

The Jury were out from 7 till 12 o'clock at night, when they returned a verdict acquitting Finlay Malcolm, and returned a qualified verdict of Guilty against Cook and Snyder. It appears they have in their verdict against the two latter in consequence of a confession made by Snyder before a Magistrate, but ply to Mr. O'Reilly on Monday Mr. Justice Macaulay said he understood the Jury to refer only to Snyder, whose case should be referred to the Judges.

Monday, April 2d.—John Harcmill, C. Tufford, and Peter Malcolm were found Guilty.

Tuesday, April 3d.—Regina vs. Solomon Lessing, Esq.—This was the last trial, and from the fact of the prisoner being a Magistrate, a Commissioner of the Court of Requests and a Quaker, excited great interest.

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The Jury retired for about five minutes, and returned a verdict of Guilty.

Wednesday, 4th.—This day the Court assembled to give judgment on the prisoners.—His Lordship addressed them on the enormity of their crime and the awful situation in which they then stood.

Sentences.—William Webb and John Hamilton—sentence of death recorded, with an assurance that then, case would be represented to the Executive, not to enforce the sentence.

Horatio Hills, Stephen Smith, Charles Walrath, Bytania Cook, John Tufford, Nathan Town and Peter Malcolm—Death.

The Court said that in consequence of the protection which Peter Malcolm afforded to the Rev. Mr. Evans, his case would be favourably represented to the Executive.

The prisoners was ordered for execution on Friday, the 20th of April instant.

Tufford, Hills and Smith wept bitterly. The other prisoners received their sentence with firmness but seemed to feel like men who knew their dreadful situation.

The Court was then dissolved.—*Hamilton Express, April 7.*

SUTHERLAND'S DISCLOSURES.—The report on this subject, to which we gave currency to our last, on the authority of private letters does not prove to have been altogether correct. Messrs. Ketchum and Hinks, the former being President of the Farmer's Bank, and the latter Cashier of the People's Bank, of Toronto, *have* absconded; but on the 11th instant, the latest date received, Mr. James Lesslie, the President of the latter institution had *not* absconded, and we do not understand that he was expected to abscond.—The following from the Toronto *Christian Guardian*, of the 11th, throws some doubt upon the supposed importance of Sutherland's information.—*Montreal Courier.*

On Thursday night last a gang of desperadoes at the head of whom was a person by the name of Litell, came across from the land of *sympathy*, entered the house of Mr. Aikins about nine miles below, gave him a severe beating, and carried away two swords, which were in Mr. Aikin's possession. Three or four dragoons were in the house at the time, and did not know of the affair, owing to their sleeping in the upper part of the building, until the villians had decamped.—*Prescott Sentinel, 12th inst*

LOWER CANADA.

CAPTURE AND DELIVERANCE OF A REBEL.—On Thursday last a man named Jean Bte. Mollieur, a *soi disant* Captain in the *soi disant* General Gagnon's band of rebels, was arrested in his own house in the seigniory of Sabrevois, about eight miles above St. Johns, by Mr. John Forbes, an officer of Militia, and three volunteers. The Mollieur, was one of the most active and preserving in forcing officers of Militia and Magistrates to give up their Commissions, and has been remarkably successful in eluding the vigilance of many who have been on the alert all winter to arrest him. His fleetness of foot and his repeatedly expressed determination never to be taken alive, often prevented individuals attempting his capture, and it was only through stratagem that he was seized at last. The cessation of the rebellion, the impudent release of so many prisoners, and the assurances of an influential friend, all conspired to render him careless, and for some time back he has resided in his own house during the day. This circumstance coming to the knowledge of Mr. Forbes, he proceeded with his volunteers on Wednesday night to the residence of a neighbouring loyal Canadian, where they remained till Thursday morning, & about nine o'clock advanced to Mollieur's house where Mr. F. observed him at a window in front and ordered two of the volunteers to the rear to prevent his escape, but before they got round, he had jumped out of a window, and was running with locomotive velocity. After being called on three times to stop, without effect, one of the volunteers fired and the ball fell, the ball having passed through the bony part of his neck above the shoulders. He was conveyed back to his own house, where he was at the latest accounts, in a fair way of recovery his wound having been dressed by Dr. Roe, on Friday, and pronounced by him not to be dangerous. It was the intention of Mr. Forbes and his three volunteers, (who deserve great credit for their conduct throughout the whole affair) to have detained their prisoner until he should be in a fit state for removal to Montreal, but they were kindly relieved of their charge by a Mr. McGillivray, a magistrate, who did not see the necessity for their so doing. This gentleman certainly deserves a leather medal, as he has kindly followed the example of the Attorney General in releasing prisoners, and has besides relieved Lord Durham of the trouble of proclaiming a general amnesty, by assurances to the rebels the he himself will graciously pardon them. Nothing surprises us now-a-days.—*Montreal Herald.*

Our readers will perceive by our advertising columns that to-morrow evening the Military Amateurs will perform in the Theatre Royal for the benefit of the wives and children of soldiers who are now unavoidably separated from their husbands and fathers, in consequence of the late revolt and foreign invasion. We are sure that such an appeal to the public will be generously responded to. We lately invited attention to the destitute state in which these poor helpless people are, and to the fact of the New Brunswick Legislature having voted a large sum for the maintenance of individuals similary situated in that province, and the Nova Scotians having liberally contributed for those left at Halifax.

Here nothing has been done, although we are at the seat of the late rebellion, where the gallant conduct of the military has been seen by all, and yet we leave their wives and children to struggle through a Canadian winter, without enquiring in to their condition, or alleviating their distresses. There are no fewer than a hundred and twenty six children belonging to the 24th and 32d regiments, at present seperated from their protectors, and we confidently expect an overflowing house when it is known that the performance is for their benefit. We should like, however, to see something done on a larger scale, as forty or fifty pounds will not be sufficient to afford permanent relief.—*Ib.*