

grinding of corn. The story of its failure is contained in the following notice :

TO BE SOLD,

And immediate possession given. THE CITY WINDMILL, with lot No. 500, on which it stands, with all its apparatus, consisting of part of two sets of Running Gear, single and double, with a pair of excellent Burr Stones, a Bolt, Reel and Chest, with almost every article necessary for either Wind or Water Mill. It will be sold either with or without its Gear, as may best suit the purchaser. For particulars enquire of William Melick, *Tanner*, King Street, or Asa Blakslee, *Tallow Chandler*, Duke Street. Should it not be sold before the first day of May, it will then be set up at Auction, and struck off to the highest bidder.

St. John, 1st March, 1800.

The building was from this time used for the Poor House. In 1809, in prospect of a war between England and the United States, the Militia were called out for duty, and a battalion from Kings County occupied the Poor House for three months. This was called "The Wetmore War," for it was on Mr. Wetmore's representation (he being Colonel of St. John Militia) the Commander-in-Chief ordered preparations to be made. Happily for all, there was no war.*

Before break of day, February 15, 1819, the Poor House was on fire, and the flames reached the highest building which had been erected for a windmill twenty-five years before. The immense quantity of burning shingles and flakes of fire that flew in all directions endangered the surrounding buildings, but by the alacrity of the citizens, aided by the military, they were preserved. The cause of this unfortunate accident and heavy loss, proceeded from the negligence of leaving a quantity of dry oakum too near a stove pipe which passed through the floor, into the upper part of the building. The next Poor House was the brick building long on the corner of Carmarthen and King streets, above the present Police Court, overlooking the old burial ground.

* The following reference to the so-called "Wetmore War" is contained in a letter written by Judge Winslow to his son April 26, 1808: "By the death of Col. Ludlow I succeeded, as senior member of the Council, to the office of President and Commander-in-Chief of the Province, and although the position continued but for a single quarter it afforded me an opportunity of effecting some objects of considerable importance. My predecessor, under the expectation of hostilities with the Americans, had called out 1000 of the Militia, and had officered them and formed them into two battalions, under the command of Col. Saunders and Lieut.-Col. Wetmore; and a detachment was stationed at Fredericton, another at St. John, and a third at St. Andrews, under Col. Mackay. They were crammed into barracks, and drilled and disciplined in the true style of soldiers. At Fredericton your old Theatre was converted into a famous barracks. Thus arranged I found them all. * * * Never for a moment believing that the Americans had a design to invade this country, I thought it my duty to disband them, and on the 24th April they were all sent huzzabing and shouting to their own homes. The gentlemen who have been employed as officers are disappointed by this measure, but I have the satisfaction to find that among the judicious and disinterested part of the community it is highly applauded."