

readers a slight description of the very brilliant entertainment given by the officers of the garrison to their numerous friends in this city.

I have frequently participated in amusements similar in their nature to Fancy Dress Balls, but never recollect having witnessed a scene so truly imposing in its effect as that which the Mansion House exhibited on Thursday evening last—neither can I describe, in a manner that would do justice to the parties, the very great taste displayed by those gentlemen under whose more immediate superintendence the rooms had been so tastefully decorated. The beautiful arbour which formed the entrance, and which received its light from a number of transparent Chinese lamps, struck me as a very suitable preparative to the splendor of the apartment which formed the theatre of this gay assemblage, at the upper end of which was a column formed of stands of arms, and other warlike implements, crowned with flags, and supported by two small mortars—The walls ornamented with swords and pistols, forming various military devices.

The room appropriated for the refreshments was particularly well arranged, and contained an abundance of good things, which caused it to become a very desirable retreat. The dancing department was admirably managed, being under the able direction and protection of two gallant Knights, (the one of the Red Cross and the other of the Maltese order) and an officer of the Imperial Guard. Among the most prominent characters were the Marquis and Marquise De La Beau Monde, two most excellent characters, who took their station at the head of the room, when an introduction took place including both Prince and Peasant, all of which were received with the usual courtesy of their country! Bailie Nichol Jarvie, appeared to be a true description of that singular character, and caused a great deal of mirth by his exertions—a Spaniard, from Salamanca,

shewed a very chaste portrait of the costume of his country, and not less so the two Highland Chiefs who were very elegantly and correctly attired, and well supported by the martial appearance of their country men and interesting dress of their country women; groups of Peasants from the different Cantons of Switzerland were very faithful representations of the several characters they had adopted, particularly the Haymakers and those from the Alps. Turkish and Persian Chiefs, Sultans and Sultanas condescended to mingle with the throng, and even the Moor of Venice could not resist becoming a spectator—French Noblemen, Officers and Pages of the King's Household—Spanish and Peruvian Peasants, amused themselves in dancing Swiss dances and quadrilles, whilst a group of Cossack officers, with becoming deportment contented themselves with being beholders of the fantastic sport with Savoyards, Grecians and Flower Girls. An infirm and decrepid person whom I took to be overseer of the Poor, from the vicinity of Cloth Fair, West Smithfield, expressed great delight at the unexpected pleasure which the novelty of the scene afforded him, but he was not singular in the feelings which he experienced, for if I might judge from the aspect of the whole company from the period of their commencing dancing till their final separation, which was between three and four o'clock in the morning, they must all have been sensible of, and duly appreciated the treat they enjoyed.

Yours, &c.

DON PEDRO.

Montreal, 9th April, 1825.

UPPER CANADA.

York, December 30.

CONFIRMATION OF THE HOUSE OF
ASSEMBLY.

A fire broke out in the northern wing of the House of Assembly, (between midnight and one o'clock this morning,) which burnt with such irresistible fury as to de-