

The Hon. THOMAS BENNETT had very sincere pleasure in submitting to the meeting the fifth resolution ;—he felt assured that there was no need of any argument from him to insure the unanimous and cordial adoption of the resolution by all present. His Honor, both in his private and public capacity, was too well known and too much respected to render it necessary for him to do more than express what he was confident every one participated in,—his high sense of the kindness of His Honor in presiding on this occasion, and of the excellent manner in which he had conducted the business of the Anniversary.

B. G. GARRETT, Esq., High Sheriff, having seconded the resolution, his honor Colonel LAW briefly acknowledged the kindness which he had received. It was a privilege, he observed, to him to have been allowed to take the chair on so interesting and sacred an occasion, and he had always been, and ever should be, most happy to do anything that may be within his humble ability to advance the interests of this Society, and of the Church of which he is a member.

The proceedings of this Anniversary were highly interesting, and we have no doubt that such able advocacy of the claims of "The Newfoundland Church Society," as we had the gratification of listening to, will be followed by the best results. There was but one drawback on the pleasure which was universally experienced—the absence of our respected Diocesan.—*Times, 17th inst.*

Mr. Foreman, and Gentlemen of the Grand Jury,

It has been hitherto the custom in this Colony, and it is the legitimate province of the Grand Jury, to visit and report upon the state and condition of the gaol, and particularly as regards the accommodation and government provided for the male and female prisoners, before and after conviction. The Grand Jury have also been required to enquire into the state of the Court-house, and to suggest any alterations and arrangements thereof which they consider conducive to the public convenience, and as upholding the respectability of Her Majesty's superior Courts.—These matters I have no doubt you will attend to at your earliest convenience. I understand no out-buildings, or offices, have been erected or contracted for, and which ought of necessity to be attached to every such establishment.

The Attorney-General has no Bills prepared to submit to you to-day—no depositions have been laid before me, and I am not enabled to make suitable observations to you respecting them.

I regret it is my duty to acquaint you, that nearly all of the Registry books, in which title to, and transfer of, real property in this district had been recorded in the Clerk's office, under the 5th Geo. 4, cap. 67, were destroyed by the calamitous fire of the 9th June last. I fear that parties who had duly complied with the provisions of that Act, and paid their fees, will be seriously injured by the loss of these documents. No doubt you will find that this misfortune happened without blame attached to any individual of the department, and it may be reasonably presumed that the Legislature, at its next meeting, will endeavor to devise some means for placing parties in as good a position as they formerly stood in regard to their legal titles. You will find the place in which those records were kept, described in the observations I had the honor to address to the Grand Jury, in the Central Circuit Court, in May last;—notwithstanding which they were allowed to remain in the same hazardous place where they were eventually destroyed.

I have now to draw your attention to the state of this city and community. If the town, as it formerly stood, with its regular streets and fire breaks, established by Act of Parliament, was liable to be destroyed by fire, how much more hazardous is its present condition, after the fire of the 9th June! Huts of wood were crowded together against the mouldering chimnies, to provide temporary shelter for the houseless, and erections of that description now occupy chiefly the site of the town; and the regulations respecting the streets and fire-breaks have been unheeded, and the fire-walls are destroyed to their foundations. Many of the old cellars remain unfenced and uncovered, and obstruct the passage-way to buildings in the rear of them, and are dangerous at night. In case, therefore, of a fire breaking out, in all probability its ravages could not be prevented from spreading, and the whole town would be in danger.

Until some Legislative enactment may be provided, I would suggest the propriety of the principal streets and lanes being properly lighted by night, and that a sufficient watch from the householders be established in aid of the Police, to prevent riot and confusion in the crowded thoroughfares, as well as to supply that want of order and local knowledge which must be felt since the dismemberment of the Fire Companies.

In this state of the town and community, I cannot do otherwise than caution the inhabitants of the necessity which exists for prudent measures and vigilance, on their parts, to prevent crime and a recurrence of such awful and dreadful accidents as those we have lately experienced; and your example, should you concur with me in opinion, would be highly beneficial in directing the public attention to their importance. And I have only now to add, that any suggestions which you can make, to relieve the necessities of the large portion of the industrial class who have been reduced by the calamitous fire of the 9th June, and by the tempest of the 19th September, will, I am sure, be highly acceptable to the enlightened head of the government.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday last contains a Proclamation for the holding another sessions of the local legislature under its present amalgamated form, to commence for the dispatch of business on Tuesday the 1st day of December next.

In every sense in which it can be regarded, this is a most wise and judicious exercise of the Executive authority, rendered not simply expedient but absolutely necessary, under the existing circumstances of the colony—the le-

gality of it does not require a single word in its defence, and we are somewhat surprised that through the public Journals it should have been with any gravity questioned.

There are several topics of painful interest which will naturally, and as a matter of course, present themselves to the serious consideration of the Legislature so soon as it may be practically convenient after the commencement of the sessions ; among which will be certain municipal regulations for the safety of the town during the winter which is now rapidly approaching ; and the adoption of some measures of relief for the sufferers by the awful storm with which we have lately been visited.—The Quadrennial Act does not expire until about the middle of January, thus giving to the Legislature a space of six weeks within which to deliberate upon the subjects of most pressing importance, and indeed, in our view of the matter, sufficient within which to embrace every topic which requires legislative deliberation. If any necessity should arise for a further extension of the duration of the sessions, a temporary suspension, by some brief enactment of the operation of the Quadrennial Act, will meet the exigencies of the case.—*Ledger*.

We regret to learn that recent advices from Bûrin confirm the very distressing report which we sometime since published, that 10 or 12 large boats belonging to that place, engaged in fishing off Cape St. Mary's, had been lost in the fearful gale of the 19th ult., and that no less than forty-five human beings (many having large families) were thereby hurried into eternity ! A boat containing five persons; belonging to St. Mary's, was also driven out to sea from that place, in the same gale and lost.

Gazette.

HIS Honor the Administrator of the Government has been pleased to appoint
HANNIBAL MURCH, Esq.,
Stipendiary Magistrate at St. Mary's, to be
Preventive Officer of Her Majesty's Customs
at that Port.

Secretary's Office, }
20th October, 1846. }
—*Ibid.*

Coroner's Inquest.—On Saturday evening last, before Aaron Hogsett, Esq. and a Coroner's Jury, upon view of the body of Michael Morrissey, of St. John's, fisherman. It appeared by the evidence of Doctors Reaouf, Kielley, Shea and Martin, who had all attended the deceased before his death, and almost immediately after two or three wounds had been inflicted upon him by a person named Timothy Ryan, with a hatchet, that they were of such a nature as to cause death, particularly that on the right side of the head which fractured the skull—and which fracture appeared to be produced by the blow of a blunt and heavy instrument, such as the pole of a hatchet. The other wounds appeared to be inflicted with a sharp instrument—most likely with the edge of the hatchet made use of. The whole evidence before the Jury being so clear as to the malice and deliberation of the act, they did not long hesitate in finding a verdict of "*Wilful Murder*" against Timothy Ryan—who was committed for trial accordingly.—*Newfoundland.*

FATAL OCCURRENCE.—Two young men of the name of Cake, sons of Mr. Wm. Cake, Sen., of Mosquito, were upset in a boat off Chimney Tickle, coast of Labrador, and notwithstanding every effort was made to rescue them they were unfortunately drowned.—*Weekly Herald, Oct. 14.*

DIED, On Tuesday morning last, at an advanced age, Mary, wife of Patrick Doyle, Esq., J. P.

On the 17th August, at his residence in Thomas street, Waterford, to the deep and inexpressible regret of a large circle of friends and relatives; to whom he was endeared by qualities of head and heart seldom to be met with, Captain S. Grandy, of the barque "President." The vacancy created in the domestic circle by the loss of a kind and affectionate husband, a loving and revered parent, a sincere and an attached friend, can never be supplied.

COLONIAL REFORM.—Mr. Charles Buller, in his address from the hustings at Liskeard, after adverting to the penal code and the question of education, proceeded to touch on Colonial Reform:

“There are other departments which the late Government has ample field for improvement. The Colonial Department. Yet the interest I have always taken in this question, and that I have always maintained that with the large surplus of this country, it is the duty of the Government to render the vast sterile lands of our Colonies available to supply the wants of the people of this country; and that I have repeatedly directed the attention of the Government to the importance of our Colonies, affording an ample and secure market for the produce of our labor and industry. I rejoice, therefore, to find that this is one of the subjects which the more immediately engaged the late Government of Lord John Russell, and one of the promises which the late Government, on coming into office, has made to the people, that those untoward dissensions which have rendered the Colonies the subject of loss and anxiety to the mother country, have in many parts of the world, excited the industrious settler of the Colonies to ward of his labor and energy. These dissensions, therefore, these dissensions, these causes and consequences, will meet with the most attention from him; so that it is every hope that the Colonies will be made really happy and useful members of the great British community.”

At 5 o'clock last evening,
Steamboat Excelsior, Captain

which pines between this city and
sackie, was leaving the dock
Cortland street, her boiler ex-
ploded with a terrible concussion, kill-
ing and scalding several of her passing
crew. The boat immediately
sank from the effects of the explosion,
at the will of the elements, and
at the moment it was feared that
all on board who had escaped the
calamity, would be engulfed
in flames.

As the wreck drifted down the great fears were entertained it would run foul of some one of the ships which lay at anchor in the harbor. This was prevented, however, by coming in contact with a small schooner, setting her bows on fire, and then she drifted round and setting fire to her broadside. After a hard fight the blazing wreck was beaten off, and she pursued her course down the harbor. She had not proceeded far, however, before she was overtaken by the schooner John Fitch, which grappled her, and conveyed her to the Jersey shore.—The boat was driven entirely to the water's edge, where the skeleton of the boat, half buried through clouds of smoke and fire, she swept down the stream, with a grand and sublime. The shore was lined with dense masses of people and was lined with boats.

The boat was new, and was built by Hunt, Nelson & Sons, of Cambridge. She was valued at \$85,000, but partially insured.

The whole number of passengers aboard probably did not exceed twenty. The passengers, as is usual when passing up the river, moved over the starboard or city side.—The boiler which burst was on the larboard side. The timbers were thrown into the air, and the body of at least one person was seen falling with the boiler. The boiler was not seen after the explosion. That part of it not broken into pieces went immediately to the bottom.