

THE QUEBEC TRANSCRIPT.

clung? cried a merry voice from the crowd,—"there's no surrection act upon your legs any way, that ye must get a pass from the magistrate afore ye dare move out one foot forint the other, in a jug or a reel. Come step out, girls,—what are ye about?"

"Ock! 'tis waitin' for Martin we are," cried a rosy-faced damsel, winking slyly at the speaker, "there's never a boy here can get a partner till he's had his pick and choice of the girls."

"Hurroo! Martin avich!" shouted the other, "—there are ye hidin' yourself, an' all the girls pulling caps for ye, an' t'illin' one another on the 'count of you." And spying out the object invoked at a little distance, he dragged him by the collar in the midst of the assembly.

Martin Green was the delight of the whole parish. Under an appearance of simplicity, almost amounting to idleness, he possessed as much cunning and shrewdness as the rest of the world, and could make as good a bargain at a fair or market as any man in the village of Ballyhown or Cork—near to boat. He had come into the parish some years before as the guide of an old blind mother, and his filial attention had procured for him protection and employment from a gentleman, who continued it to him after the widow's death on the condition of his remaining in a state of single blessedness, towards which Martin manifested a strong inclination. Next to his master, his blind mother had been, and her memory was still the object of his profound respect; a fondness which he bore to her, and which he had the old woman had continued to enforce by frequent corporal castigations long after Martin had attained to man's estate. His ordinary appearance was most grotesque, as he persisted in wearing his old clothes until they were a mass of shreds and patches hanging about him; and when taunted with his coat of many colours, he would strip it off, together with the other integuments, and sit forth in all the splendour of unshined freeze and brown new corduroys; these "valued beauties" never being exhibited until a due regard to his *ladies* (comfort scarcely ever enters into the calculations of an Irish peasant) made the measure necessary; and on working days they were kept carefully concealed by their venetianian professor in office.

In addition to Martin Green's popularity as an inexhaustible subject for their jokes, he possessed other claims to the good-will of his neighbours,—he could sing "Reynald the Cox," and "Thurimmindu," and divy is other ditties; and then his dancing,—that was his forte;—there was not an infant dancing-master in the country to whom he had not served an apprenticeship, and he would rather have deprived himself of a meal than have been unable to pay the penny per lesson for which he was initiated into the mysteries of "heel and toe," "shuille the bogie," "cover the buckle," &c., &c.—in which he was so great an adept. He stood now in the midst of the circle, his wide mouth distended into a grin of mingled simplicity and drollery, and displaying a set of teeth as white and even as a young beak's. The girls, who delighted in playing off their agencies upon Martin, crowded round him.

(to be continued.)

ORIGIN OF THE USE OF DIAMONDS.

Louis de Bérquin, a native of Bruges, was the first who in 1516, attempted to cut the diamond. The four diamonds that enriched the robes of Charlemagne were in the native state, but notwithstanding this defect, they were not less rare and precious. They were preserved for a long time at St. Denis, and it is clear that none but persons of great wealth could obtain such valuable articles. Charles the Rash was one of the princes who affected the new luxury of diamonds. It is said that Agnes Sorel was the first female in France who wore a diamond necklace. These diamonds were so rough, so ill-set, and produced so ill an effect, and so much inconvenience to the neck of Agnes, that she used to call it her iron collar. She went to get rid of it, till Charles the VII. from whom she daughter had it, and who was pleased to see her handsomely decorated, prevailed on her to retain it. But diamonds at that time did not pass as the monopoly of pleasing; and since the time of Agnes, the mode of wearing jewels has very often changed. Pearls were the favorite ornaments of Catherine de Medici, and Diane de Poitiers. Mary Stuart having brought some superb diamonds into France, the ladies of the court resumed the wear of them. At the coronation of Mary de Medici, her robes were loaded with pearls. It was the custom at that time to put

strings of them into the hair, which fell in knots over the shoulders. Under Louis XIV. the taste for diamonds revived, and the fetes given by that sumptuous monarch entirely restored the fashion of wearing this brilliant ornament. Robes were embroidered with them, necklaces, oigrettes, and bracelets were made of them; and they were employed to ornament the front of stomachers. The Queen wore them on the waistband, on the epaulettes of her robes, and on the brooch of her mantle. This rage for diamonds continued till the approach of the revolution. Twenty years before that epoch the ladies had become tired of them, and nothing was then to be seen but sentimental ornaments. Necklaces of hair, bracelets of hair, modillions and epheurs of hair, were at once, attestations of the conquests which their beauties had made, and of those which they aspired to obtain. Steel had also then its turn, and re-appeared a short time since on the toilettes of the elegantes. But the diamond still marks the rank and dignity of our English beauties.

ENGLISH EXTRACTS.

Mr. M<sup>r</sup>Queen, in his abstracts of the General Statistics of the British Empire, estimates the property in land and farming stock in the United Kingdom at £2,371,755,670, yielding an annual return of £170,923,088. The property in manufactures is stated by the same writer, at £201,000,000 yielding an annual return of £29,485,180.

The extensive works of Messrs. Brown & Pells, cotton spinners, Stockport, will be finally closed this day. One consequence will be the throwing out of employment about 1500 hands, and for the present withdrawing from circulation £1000 per week, which the firm has long paid in wages. This is likely to be a very severe blow to the shopkeepers in the immediate vicinity of the works.

The fourteenth half-yearly meeting of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway Company took place in Liverpool, on Wednesday. The receipts for the last half year were stated to be—Coaching department, £78,277; merchandise, £34,215; coals 3,291; total, 136,893. The expenses of the half year being £89,979, the balance in favor of profit was 55,744; which allowed of a half yearly dividend of £5 per £100 share being declared. A resolution was passed authorizing the directors to take preliminary steps for effecting a junction with the Manchester and Leeds railway at Manchester.

As a proof of the value of greyhounds, and the cheap estimation of the human species in Russia, we may take an announcement of the *Odessa Journal*, that an estate of 22,000 acres with 78 peasants, was recently offered by the Marshall of the district of Ekaterinoslav, to the Legislature of Mainz that Massachusetts would cooperate with them. His Excellency gave his opinion, that as Massachusetts had no jurisdiction over the soil, she could not act till the matter was taken up by the general government, when she would indubitably be forward in doing all which could be expected.

ANOTHER HORRID BUTCHERY.—In a duel which took place at Attakapas, (Louis.) on the 30th ult. between Judge Saunders and Captain Delahousie, the parties fought with rifles and bowie knives. After the first fire the rifles were thrown away, and the Judge then killed his antagonist with the knife. He was formerly Cashier of the Branch Bank of Carrollton, at Lafayette.

A musician in giving notice in an eastern paper of an intended concert, says, "a variety of other songs may be expected too tedious to mention."

MEXICO.

(From the New-Orleans Com. Bulletin, Feb. 1.)

VERA CRUZ, January 27. Antonia Lopez de Santa-Anna is again President of the Republic of Mexico.

Bastante is said to have been appointed to the command of a division of the army, consisting of 4,000 men, and ordered to march against Ureca at Tampico. The decree expelling the French inhabitants of Mexico was to have been rigidly enforced on the 5th of the present month, (February.)

Vera Cruz, which has been reported to be nearly deserted, had begun to wear her usual appearance; those who had fled were returning, but there was little prospect of any business being transacted among the merchants for some weeks, as the vessels which have entered that port from various places after the fall of the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa, had been prohibited landing their cargoes, and will be compelled to return from whence they came, or run the risk of being wrecked or battered to pieces, should hostilities again commence between the French and Mexicans.

The English and French squadrons were lying in the harbour of Vera Cruz, together, about twenty sail, of various descriptions, nothing having transpired to interrupt the good feelings which, apparently, have existed between them since their arrival.

A letter from Vera Cruz of the 27th ult., also expressed doubts of the probability that Mr. Packenham will be able to effect an arrangement, and in this coincides with an expression of Admiral Baudin. This officer thus addressed the captain of the Courier de Bordeaux—"Assure your countrymen that any amicable arrangement appears to me impracticable." Prince de Joinville had departed for France.

HAVANA.

The brig Salvador, which arrived here lately in 23 hours from Havana, reports having left at that place a number of vessels of war, among which were two English seventy-fours. We presume they are the same that were standing off Vera. It is also reported the Salvador met the French squadron from Matinique with 10,000 troops on board. For the correctness of the last report we cannot vouch.—Louisiana.

UNITED STATES.

Burlington, Feb. 25.—Considerable excitement was produced on To-wash evening by the announcement that Holmes had escaped from jail. It seems the keeper had humanely permitted him, during a part of the day, to occupy a room in the front part of the jail, at tended by a trusty guard. Toward evening, however, just as they were about to conduct him to the cell, he managed to evade them, and for something like an hour eluded the pursuit. Several Allen, however, was seen on the track, and at length he was discovered. Holmes snatched his pistol—whether at Allen or himself is not certain—but we are inclined to believe at the latter. He is now in the dungeon—which by the way is newly as bad as the diabolical room, which we need not here repeat is a disgrace to the nation, and a foul reproach to the county of Chittenden, in particular.—(Free Press.)

Albany, N. Y., 22d.—To-morrow (Saturday) Evening, Mr. Preston has tendered to Wm. Johnson the use of the Theatre for a Benefit, and the celebrated play of "Bill Johnson, the Hero of the Lakes," will be produced. Bill Johnson and his Daughter will be present. It is hoped his friends will make their appearance, and use their influence to assist him on this occasion. It is well known he has been incarcerated in jail in this city a number of weeks, and away from his family. I hope, upon this occasion, they will all come forward to a man.

A message was received by the Massachusetts Legislature on the 20th Feb. from the Governor, transmitting documents received on the 18th and 19th inst. from the Governor of Maine. The message stated that the subject of the documents was the recent transactions on the N. E. Frontier, and a request from the Legislature of Maine that Massachusetts would cooperate with them. His Excellency gave his opinion, that as Massachusetts had no jurisdiction over the soil, she could not act till the matter was taken up by the general government, when she would indubitably be forward in doing all which could be expected.

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UPPER CANADA.

The patriotic editor of the Watertown North American assures us, that the people of the United States will not stand by and see their erring brethren hung by the dozen, like smoked herrings. Bless his free and enlightened soul! What will their Majesties the Mob please to do? Shouldst wonder, if the mighty editor himself were caught on this side of the line, but he might find himself tucked up on the same manner before breakfast. Erring brethren, beware! These yankees have queer ways—that's a fact.—Kingston Whig.

The *Bayonet*, at the Falls, we are informed, has been burnt down by accident.—Toronto Herald, Feb. 21.

Three Companies of the 3d Gore Militia have been disbanded. Part of the 12th Province at Burlington, raised in Perth, have also been disbanded.

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 25th MARCH, 1839

Papers from the Lower Provinces were received by mail this morning. The latest St. John's (N. S.) papers are of the 21st instant, but they do not furnish much intelligence of moment from the disputed territory.

The following extract from a letter dated "Grand Falls, 20th Feb.," appears on the Exchange Register this morning:—

"On the evening of the 20th, a party of Americans in uniform and fully equipped, came down Fish River, and arrested eleven British subjects, (two of whom were Canadians,) and forced them off in the direction of the United States at the point of the bayonet. A quantity of cattle was also seized. The prisoners it is thought will be brought to the encampment at Aristook, as they have opened a communication to Fish River, by which it is reported on good authority, a large number of Americans are moving down on Madawaska. Mr. Rice, a Magistrate, has proceeded to communicate the above to Sir John Harvey.

Mr. McLaughlin, the British Provincial Agent and Mr. Tibbets have been released on their parole of honor. The people of Maine appear to be in a complete state of phrenzy. The *Kennebec Journal*, which is characterized by the *New-York Express*, as "one of the coolest in Maine," uses the following language:— "If after Mr. Rogers has an interview with Mr. Harvey, he shall not immediately relieve the land agent, or if he shall attempt to repel the American force by British troops, let us have the issue at once. Let the sword be drawn and let the scabbard be thrown away; and if the General Government at Washington will not sustain us, let us call Massachusetts to our aid, and heat up for volunteers in all the other States."

The same "cool" paper recommends the people of Maine to march to Fredericton, and destroy the jail there, which "stands a monument of American disgrace."

General Scott and suite arrived at New York from the Canada frontier on the 21st Feb., and left the next morning for Washington. The Montreal and Upper Canada papers received by this morning's mail are destitute of news. At Montreal, on Tuesday last, Mr. Justice Pike granted a writ of *habeas corpus* in favor of Mrs. Tasche and she has been liberated from prison on furnishing bail to appear at the next Criminal Term, to be held at Quebec, on the 23rd inst. In another column will be found some account of an attempt made by Dr. Hulmes to escape from the jail at Burlington.

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The Montreal Gazette of Thursday last says:—We understand, on good authority, that some time past, that portion of our frontier lying between Potton and Sutton, had been repeatedly threatened with violence from some of the lawless inhabitants of the State of Vermont; and were it not for the efficient services rendered on that frontier by Captain Wood's troop of Sheffield Cavalry, and a strong detachment of General Service Infantry, there is no doubt that many outrages would have been perpetrated. It appears that on Sunday morning, before daylight, a party of the Sheriff's Cavalry, in proceeding south from South Potton, were fired at from behind a heap of fallen trees. The dragoons immediately returned the fire with their pistols; but no less than seven shots were fired at them, happily, however, without any effect. The darkness of the morning enabled the villains to make their escape, the troops being unable to pursue them through the woods. On the evening of the same day a similar outrage was perpetrated upon the person of an elderly individual, who was returning from a visit to his daughter at Troy, to his residence in Canada. The party followed him to his house, and after discharging several guns, after being dispersed, there being no charge against the individual assailed by these miscreants, except being true to his country. An account of these outrages has been communicated to Col. Head, commanding on that frontier, who has taken depositions in order to place these and other acts of aggression before the proper authorities.

We learn by a letter from a correspondent at Pointe Claire, that a severe earthquake was felt at that place, a out twenty minutes after one o'clock in the morning of Tuesday

last, the 26th instant perceptibly felt in the Pointe Claire the 30 minute and a half.

Captain A. C. Buc Volunteers, who left tomorrow last with de-arrived at Grand Falls morning of Tuesday

Mr. Miller, who was from Sir John Harvey passed through Quebec turn to Fredericton.

The Commissary General on Thursday last.

It is said that the Com-municated the intention-ment to grant J. Presbytery of the Cl Province from the Cl

The 11th Regt., at said is under orders to the disputed Territory ved at Riviere du Lou and were expected at They may therefore Quebec on Monday immediately for Ma- been received by the conveyances in ready

We are assured by who arrived yesterday from forty to fifty that County from the ments, to procure prov in the greatest abund- Canadians bring but exchange for their do-

On Thursday eve- from St. Michel. Bo- river, opposite the city, extraordinary circumstan- daries.

On Monday uper- ship letters were re- Post Office, brought Rossie, and Louis Ph- tern brought about in- she will receive \$243

We are obliged re- the lines on "Crossing W. R. B. W. S. has been rece- per."

THE From a recent visit ground, Victoria, Road, in finding that the mon- late Lieut. Weir, of the finished, in a very sup- by Mr. Don of this cir- of £50, which has put- and subscribed for of the 32d Regiment for real and Quebec. It be- tion—beneath this a- nation of George Weir, wickshire, Scotland, lat- jest's 32nd, or Cornwall who was barbarously Low- Canada, on the We are so great an- that another monument, is in the course of being stannary. Mr. Westmore- been favoured with a si- monument, which appa- great and happy in co- greatest credit upon the Westmore. It consists small relief of a monu- and over the sarcophagus number of the regiment a- of this will be executed white marble, and mea- or eight inches in height in width. The monu- first arrivals in spring A circumstance is of th- attention of military of- was importance as regar- pendence of Her Majesty circulation are shortly- brother to the Princess- arrangements for exchange- commanded by the Earl- as the Lord General of- tal against Captain Wat- can had given his assent- Smith into his regiment, only ascertained from the- married. Pending the- change. Capt. S. had be- whose name we would re- followed by the memory Lord Tenterden. Lord- entrance of Captain Sin- the protest is that he w- men. He is himself a m- seen possesses an to opt- officer with an honour- his regiment? Ready to- seek better counsel.—L