

ear of the western squares. Mr. Alexander, at whose abode they had now arrived, was a merchant of high consideration in the city of London, and had risen somewhat recently to opulence, not merely by the accident of lucky speculation, but by the exercise of a naturally strong judgment, and by the persevering application of decided diligence. As he was now past the middle of life, he was beginning to indulge himself in more leisure than heretofore and preparing to leave his business to his son, and having heard of the death of Mr. Stewart, and that the worthy man had left two sons of good ability and good education, but unprovided with a profession, it occurred to the merchant that an opportunity was now presented to him of rendering a service to two orphans, and of procuring for his own son some valuable and faithful help. The reception, which their paternal relative gave them, gratified them abundantly, for he was a man of great courtesy, and had no small pleasure in exhibiting to admiring eyes how faithfully and coolly he enjoyed his wealth.

George Stewart, the younger brother, had not been many hours in the house before the admiration of wealth filled his whole soul and occupied all his thoughts. Anticipation of commercial success, and a delighted prospect of his high rewards, formed the topic of his first night's dreams and gave an impulse to his morning hopes. But Robert thought of his mother, of the distance which divided him from her, of the time that should elapse ere he should see her again, and of the cold and cheerless passing of her solitary hours. Mr. Alexander's counting-house was in the city—in a narrow street—the darkest of the dark. Some counting-houses are fitted up with mahogany desks and brass railings, and even the very ledgers have a sparkling dandified look—but Mr. Alexander had no time and no inclination for these fopperies—all was sombre and serious at his house of business.

"How different is this scene," said Robert, "from the mountains of Westmoreland?" "The mine is dark," replied George, "but all is bright."

Mr. Alexander had a daughter, fair but not passing fair, beautiful but not exceedingly beautiful. The first bloom of her youth and purity was gone by, but the loss was so little that none but the most scrutinizing and practical eye could discern it. At the age of six-and-twenty she might well have passed for eighteen. It is pleasant to ascend in the scale of society, but even the most successful ambition as its own peculiar annoyances. From the time that Miss Alexander was fifteen till she was six-and-twenty, her father was increasing in wealth and making correspondent exertions to fix himself in a proportionally higher grade in society, the consequence of which was that he was gradually changing his acquaintance, dropping the old and forming new. The daughter sympathized with the father's ambition, and remained not long attached in any one grade to form therein an attachment permanent enough to lead to marriage. There are some young gentlemen so modest and diffident that they have not the courage to offer their hands where they may be sure of acceptance; it is generous Charley, or the part of those who would accept an offer if made, to give some such intimation to the diffident one; such was the diffidence of George Stewart, and such was the generosity of Miss Alexander. George found courage to make the young lady an offer of his hand, and the young lady managed to let him suppose that the offer was his own.

George was generally reserved, though not apparently so. There are those who look mysterious when they have no secrets, and there are those who keep secrets under an invisible lock, so that, to speak paradoxically, yet truly and intelligibly, they conceal concealment by their very openness; in this latter class was George Stewart. Reserve, however, between relatives is sometimes felt, even though unseen, and it was thus with the brothers; for Robert felt that he possessed not his brother's confidence, yet this grieved him not much, for he was sure that no one else possessed or could possess it. The news came like thunder in broad daylight when there is no lightning to herald its approach, as George informed his brother, saying, with a most careless air, "Robert, I am going to be married." This occurred when they had been little more than six months in Mr. Alexander's counting-house. But in the course of that six months George had rendered himself exceedingly valuable, he possessed a genius for mercantile arithmetic, a complete passion for book-keeping—Raphael never looked with

more rapture on his paintings than did George Stewart upon the ledger and day-book.

BERMUDA.

The selection of the Bermudas as a place of exile, and whether some of the Canadian rebels have been transported, may render a slight sketch of them acceptable to our readers.

This group of Islands are in latitude 32, in about the same longitude as Halifax, and owing to their insular position and the gulf stream, which sweeps round between them and the American coast, possess a temperate and healthy climate, in which to use the language of Waller,

"Nae waly live or die before their time."

This immense body of warm water, so tempers the keen and wintry blast, from the Nova Scotia and American shores, that frost is never known in the Bermudas; the weather from December to March, when it is the coldest, if that term may be applied, being similar to that of October in these Provinces, in its most modified form.

The Islands are numerous, consisting four principal, and a number of smaller ones, Ireland Island at its north west extremity, is the dock yard; and it is there the convict labour is stationed, and in its public works they are generally employed and compelled to labour. It is about twenty eight years since the Island was purchased by government; and since that period immense sums have been expended, in the erection of stores and fortifications, as Bermuda must be considered the key of America, when held by a nation like England, possessing supremacy on the sea.

About twenty years have elapsed since that part of Bermuda has been made a penal settlement and it is there the Canadian convicts must be placed; the other Islands being governed by the English laws, as are all other provinces there; having a local Legislature in accordance with British Colonial policy.

During the summer season the weather is excessively warm; the sea breeze so refreshing in the West Indies not being known there, the air however is wholesome, and in the shade or during it is rarely oppressive. The inhabitants have been for some time estimated at 10,000; and this probably may be considered as a fair average at present—about one half of whom are whites, and the other coloured; most of the latter were manumitted slaves, until the Emancipation Act was passed in England, when they were promptly and unconditionally enfranchised by the Legislature of the Island.

The waters around the Bermudas are beautifully transparent, which enables the mariner safely to navigate between its coral reefs; fish are abundant, and exceeding in flavour any other in the world. The shoals extend to a considerable distance, except on the South side, and have often arrested the course of the mariner when unacquainted of danger, and unexpectedly and fatally terminated, his until, then prosperous and promising voyage.

The people are kind and amiable in their disposition, but owing to the enervating nature of the climate, and the circumstance of those Islands having been inhabited by the Spaniards, subsequent to their discovery by Sir George Somers, they do not cultivate the soil with that industry which would ensure a certain and profitable return. The productions of the West Indies, grow well during the summer; and in the winter season, those of the more northern latitudes thrive and are equally prolific.

UNITED STATES.

The New York papers state that the Collector of that port has published the late Act of Congress for the better security of the lives of passengers in steam vessels, and given notice that so far as the execution of it devolves on him, it will be rigidly enforced. One of the most important steps in the execution of the law, is the appointment by the District Judge of each district, of suitable persons competent to examine the boats and machinery, on whose certificate to the public may rely for the safety of the boat. The law requires that the certificate shall be exacted by the Collectors on or before the first of October next.—Montreal Courier.

A heavy fire is now raging in the pines of Burlington County, New Jersey. The late drought adds greatly to its fury. It is twelve miles broad. The destruction of timber, &c. is immense. One man is said to have lost \$20,000.

It is calculated that the loss of even one half the Indian Corn crop by the drought will amount to some two millions of pounds sterling. The Indian Corn raised in the United States is estimated in ordinary seasons worth five times the value of the wheat crop.

A fire broke out this morning in the upper part of the city. Five frame houses were burned—two of which were insured.

Power is to open at the Pans on the 27th instant, to be followed by Vestris one week thereafter.—(Cor. of Montreal Herald.)

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 19TH AUGUST, 1858.

RAILWAY DATES.

London, - - July 23. New-York, - - Augt 13 Liverpool, - - July 29. Halifax, - - Augt 11 Havre, - - July 18. Toronto, - - Augt 13

The New York papers of Saturday last, received by this morning's mail, contain later European intelligence. The letters and papers by the London packet ship of the 1st ultimo were received this morning. The Havre packet of the 12th arrived at that port on Saturday last.

The steamer *Charlevoix* arrived this morning from Montreal, and brought the morning papers of yesterday. Their contents are unimportant.

This day at 2 o'clock His Excellency the Governor General, accompanied by Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Fagot, Sir Colin Campbell, and Charles A. Fitzroy, embarked on the steamer *John Bull*, and proceeded immediately to Montreal, to be present at the races, which commenced on Monday next. A Guard of Honour from the Governor General was stationed on Gillespie's Wharf, and on the arrival of their Excellencies they carried arms, the band playing "God save the Queen." On embarking a salute was fired from the Citadel, and the yards of the ships of war were manned.

The Countess of Durham, Hon. Misses Lampton, Lord Lampton, Miss Campbell and the officers of the different suites, accompanied their Excellencies.

The Admiral has hoisted his flag on board the *John Bull*.

On Thursday afternoon His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir Colin Campbell, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, and Sir Charles A. Fitzroy, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward's Island, arrived in Her Majesty's steamer *Medea*. A Guard of Honour from the Constabulary Guards, was stationed on the Queen's Wharf to receive them, and a salute was fired from the Citadel on their landing. They immediately proceeded to the residence of the Governor General. Colonel Starr, Captain Campbell, and Miss Campbell accompanied the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

Her Majesty's Sloop-of-war *Vesal*, which conveyed the political prisoners to Bermuda, was reported below yesterday, and came with this morning's tide.

We have been favoured with a copy of the *Colonial Herald and Prince Edward Island Advertiser* of Saturday last, the 11th inst., received by the Steamship *Medea*.

Charlotte Town, P. E. Island, August 11th.—We understand that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has received a communication from the Earl of Durham, stating that on the receipt of his despatch, communicating information of the outrage perpetrated by an American fishing vessel, off the northern coast of this Island, in June last, in plundering the wreck of the *Sir Archibald Campbell*, a representation of the circumstance was immediately transmitted to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington; so that we have reason to expect that no means will be left untried to obtain reparation for the injury inflicted, and to bring the offenders to punishment.

We learn further, that in consequence of the representations made by His Excellency of the inadequacy of the naval force on this station, H. M. S. *Pearl*, Captain Lord Clarence B. Paget, and the *Charlybirds*, *Schry*, *Lieut. the Honorable R. Gos*, have been ordered to cruise in the Gulf for the remainder of the season, for the protection of the Fisheries, and other British interests.

We understand that the Roger Stewart has a newly-invented apparatus, or machine, of

a very simple, although at the same time an ingenious construction, attached to her two voyages, for ascertaining the rate of her sailing correctly at every minute or moment of time, and which entirely supersedes the present plan of the log. An index is fixed alongside of the compass, and the machine operates on it in such a way as to show with accuracy the speed of the ship. The machine is the invention of a native of Paisley, who has already gained a little notoriety by constructing various ingenious mechanical contrivances. The result of the experiment making by the Roger Stewart is looked forward to with great interest.—(Glasgow Herald.)

[The vessel above alluded to is now in the port of Quebec, and is lying at Hamilton's wharf.]

The Toronto *British Colonist* states that it is the intention of the Bank of Upper Canada to open an office in Montreal, under the charge of Joseph Wenham, Esquire, Agent for the Bank at Brockville.

Madame Catodot Allen gave a grand concert at Toronto, on Saturday last. We understand this sweet *cantatrice* purposes visiting Montreal in a few weeks.

On Thursday night last, Mr. Andrew Gibson, long known as landlord of the Blue House (situated on the Lower Road, and for the last few years as keeper of the Gaol) and Messrs of the Royal Artillery, came to his death under the following melancholy circumstances:—

A friend having called at the Gaol on the preceding day, and remained until nine o'clock, the Gibson returned home, for the purpose of putting him to the gate. When a few yards from his own door he was requested to return, as it was raining heavily. He did so; but unfortunately being the wrong direction, he led down one of the back-ways, a height of about four feet, upon the crown of his head. The night being very dark he was not discovered until next morning at five o'clock, but his site was completely extinct. A Coroner's inquest was held yesterday on the body, when the following verdict was returned:—That the deceased came to his death by a fall, while in a state of intoxication.

A gentleman from Ouelletown, to whose statements from his well known respectability, we are inclined to give credence, says that the Canadian residing about that place are in the habit of proceeding every Sunday evening through that place to Champlain in groups, under pretence of going to attend divine worship, while, from certain information that has been elicited from one of the party, it appears the real cause of their proceeding thither is to visit Dr. Cole, who is at Champlain, and who binds them invidiously by an oath to the following effect: that each be prepared without fail to be on a certain night to be named hereafter, and that no mercy be extended to either man, woman or child, who shall not be able to give their contest and answer their mysterious questions. All this is quite in keeping with the rumour of private meetings being already held in certain private in this city within the last three weeks.—(Montreal Herald.)

We are happy to inform the public, that His Excellency the Governor General has sanctioned the expenditure of £1,500, by the Commissioners of the Mortgage Land Company, in surveying the fine tract of land on Lake St. Francis, and that Mr. Russell has been employed in the service of the Company, as Surveyor, and leaves to-day immediately.—*Gazette*.

Yesterday afternoon a private of the King's Dragoon Guards was landed from the steamer *Engle*, in custody of a corporal and two men, of the Grenadier Company of the 6th. It is said he formerly belonged to the Coldstream Guards, from which corps he deserted, and afterwards enlisted in the Dragoons, and that he has now given himself up to his former regiment.

This afternoon, about half-past 2 o'clock, Her Majesty's Frigate *Medea* arrived from Halifax and Prince Edward's Island, having on board Major General Sir Colin Campbell and Sir Charles Fitzroy, the Lieutenant Governors of those Provinces. Their Excellencies landed under a salute from the Citadel and were received by a Guard of Honour on the Queen's wharf. Col. Starr and Capt. Campbell were in the suit of Sir Colin who is accompanied by Miss Campbell. Mr. Glover, Naval Storekeeper at Halifax and formerly of

King's... also p... Com... Summ... of Que... in wh... ments... until V... change... non, y... compos... Sym... Langlo... John H... lam, I... and Ho... The... was dis... the 8th... much d... of a ve... ing. The... was dis... under... take up... To... Sen... Jan... to obtain... Market... LITERAR... me, s... eight day... done in... could not... here of the... month o... quire any... ion about... place for... The magi... illegaly... what his... self to ex... As the... fishhook... the letter... the letter... was, I sh... author of... tion. I c... ere the m... engh in... hood. I a... covered, M... before the... the signed... "Arom... Mr. H... printing... Young ha... Young ha... preside... that app... told him... had not be... loved day... said him... that Mr. Y... a manoug... by his m... ought to... Quebec... We rep... of his c... controversy... refers. His... this is p... from, this... statement... true; and... Lieutenant... says Lecon... was tolera... cure the... told the fa... vit; but th... that was... does not co... some of the... manly that... B. Instead... Head of the... all that we... or directly... believe Le... to. It we...