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The Standard.
NEW-BRUNSWICK.

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St. Stephen,	Mr. W. Campbell,	Salt Water
	J. M'Allister Esq.	Milltown
St. David,	Trist. Moore Esq.	Dennis Mill
	Jas. Brown Esq.	Tower Hill
	Mrs. Chalmers,	Oak Bay
St. Patrick,	Mr. David Turner,	Bocabec
St. George,	Mr. W. Bogard	Lower Falls
Pennfield,	Joshua Knight Esq.	Knights Mills
Grand Manan,	Wilford Fisher Esq.	Whale Cove
St. John,	D. M'Millan Esq.	
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From the New Brunswick Courier,
EXTRA.

SAINT JOHN,
MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 19, 1839.

AWFUL CONFLAGRATION IN SAINT JOHN.

About One Hundred Buildings Destroyed.

We have the melancholy task of announcing another awful visitation to Saint John,—the destruction by Fire of a large portion of the City, including about fifty extensive mercantile establishments. The fire was discovered a few minutes before nine o'clock, on Saturday night, bursting from a house in Nelson street, occupied as a store and warehouse by Messrs. Hugh Irvine & Brothers, ship builders, &c. and the upper part as dwellings, which continued burning until daylight yesterday morning before its devouring progress was stayed. All the buildings on both sides of Nelson street, and on Lawton's, Waterbury's, Donaldson's, and the North Market Wharves, together with those on both sides of Dock street (from the Market square to Union street), on the south side of Union street, from the new dwelling houses of Messrs. John and James Lawton to the water, including all the erections and lumber on the Hon. William Black's and on Crookshank and Walker's wharves, fronting Aland's slip and all the buildings on the north side of the Market square, with the house of Thomas Merritt, Esq. occupied by Messrs. A. R. Truro and Wm. Strickland, fronting on Prince William st. (opposite the Commercial Bank,) are entirely destroyed, and a great part of their contents either burned or lost. Here the further progress of the flames was fortunately arrested,—the exertions of the people, providentially, being aided by the brick building of Mr. James K. M'Kee, (formerly owned by W. T. Peters, Esq.) which joined the last building destroyed. The houses on the opposite side of the street, among which were the Commercial Bank, Messrs. Barlow's large building, Mr. Melick's, (watch maker) Messrs. Joseph Summers and Co's. &c. being covered with carpets and other woolens, and kept constantly wet, the fire was prevented crossing the street at this point.

So intense was the heat that the buildings on the South Market Wharf were frequently on fire, although separated from those on the North by a slip of one hundred and fifty feet and a road way on each wharf of twenty-five feet, making in all a distance of *two hundred feet*. The rigging of several small vessels lying in the slip (it being low water at the time) having ignited, it became necessary to cut away their masts to save them from entire destruction and to prevent the communication of the flames to the opposite side of the slip. The American steamer *Compeer*, lying at the South Wharf was among the number.

The Military were early on the ground; the men were usefully employed in the removal of goods, in working some of the engines and in guarding the property saved. Indeed to the indefatigable exertions of a few active individuals, aided by the Ordnance Department Fire Engine, worked by the men of the Royal Artillery, is the safety of Messrs. Lawton's houses in Union street, as well as other property in that vicinity to be attributed. Much praise is also due to the individuals who exerted themselves so resolutely in lessening the danger of the flames crossing Prince William street from Mr. Merritt's buildings on the N. E. corner of the Market Square, by stripping them of their outside covering, when attempts to pull down the corner house had proved ineffectual. The Carleton Engine, as usual, was brought over from the Western side of the Harbour, soon after the discovery of the flames, and was well employed in preventing the destruction of the buildings on the South Market Wharf: many people from thence as well as from the Parish of Portland, were also unceasing in assisting their fellow citizens in distress.

The supply of water furnished by the Fire Plug of the Saint John Water Company, at Messrs. Barlow's corner proved of most essential service, as from it we believe, all the engines stationed in the Market Square were supplied when the water obtained from it was also conveyed to the South Market Wharf, and prevented the destruction of nearly the whole of the City—which at times was threatened.

It is utterly impossible, at this time, to give the names of all the sufferers; indeed, the task would be a difficult one at any time, as the ground between Nelson and Dock and Union streets was thickly covered by numerous small buildings, in some of which each single room was occupied by a family. This being the case, the number of persons rendered houseless is much greater than by the memorable fire of the 14th January, 1837, when 115 buildings were destroyed. The season of the year, however, is in favour of those who have been thus in a moment driven from their homes, in some cases almost naked, and hungry and penniless.

[Here follows a long list of the greater part of the Buildings destroyed, with the names of the occupants and owners.]

It may seem surprising that the fire, originating in a building built on a wharf, with a supply of water close at hand, could not have been subdued before making much progress; but when it is recollected that the dry [illegible] at the time—that every thing of all combustible was in a ready state of ignition from the late warm and dry weather—that Nelson and Dock Streets are of the narrowest description—that there is not an organized Axe or Hook and Ladder Company in the City—that these Engines are not of the first order—that the streets and the squares and wharves were crowded with numerous apparently idle and careless spectators without sufficient control on the part of the city authorities to direct their energies aright—that many of the Fire Wardens, although well meaning and ready to urge what they considered for the best, are not practically acquainted with the nature of pulling down houses, &c.—the extent of the present conflagration will not be wondered at.

The fire is said to have had its origin in the [illegible] of a candle coming in contact with [illegible] upon the top of a [illegible] from which a lad was drawing some of the liquor, in the premises occupied by the Messrs. [illegible], it is [illegible] [illegible] at what day the fire originated; [illegible] but the business part of the City was reduced to a few hours to ashes, [illegible] [illegible] of our enterprising citizens who about the same [illegible] and on the [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] large portions of the [illegible] years of toil and labour suddenly swept, and from the effects of which they were stood by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to be [illegible] the loss of a [illegible] [illegible] property [illegible] to seek other places of business in which to endeavour to retrieve their lost fortunes.

The total amount of property destroyed including buildings, merchandize, and household effects, cannot fall far short of £[illegible]—but at present the amount can only be conjectured. Large risks are effected in the office of the New Brunswick Fire Insurance Company, the Central Fire Insurance Company of Fredericton, the Ætna and Protection Companies of Hartford, Connecticut, and other offices in the United States and in Britain.

The burnt district of 1837, being situated to the Southward of the Market Slip, the fire did not extend to that portion of the City—nor were any buildings destroyed on the Northern side of Union street, (commonly called York Point.)

Letters of Junius.—Lord Brougham in his "Times of George III." thus speaks of the author of those celebrated letters:

"He appears to have been a person in whose bosom every fierce and malignant passion raged, without the control of a sound judgment, and without any kindly feeling to attemper his nature. Writing at a time when good, or even correct composition was little studied, and in the newspapers hardly ever to be met with; his polished style, though very far from being a correct one, and farther still from being good, pure English, being made the vehicle of abuse, sarcasm and pointed invective, naturally excited a degree of attention which was further maintained by the boldness of his proceedings. No man can read a page of any letter without perceiving that the writer has but one way of handling every subject, and that he constructs his sentences with the sole design of saying the most bitter things he can in the most striking way, without ever regarding in the least degree, their being applicable to the object of the attack. The consequence is, that the greater part of his invective will just suit one bad man or wicked minister as well as another. It is highly probable that whoever he might be, he had often attacked those with whom he lived on intimate terms, or to whom he was under obligations.—This affords additional reasons for his dying unrevealed. That he was neither Lord Ashburton nor any other lawyer, is proved by his gross ignorance of the law. To hold that he was Mr. Francis, is libelling that gentleman's memory; and although much external evidence occurs in pointing towards him, he certainly never wrote any thing of the same kind in his own character."

There was sold lately at an auction in London, the wig worn by Queen Elizabeth—the same which she threw at the head of Lord Essex. Her most gracious rule Majesty Victoria, who, by the way, inherits a goodly portion of Betsey's spirit, gave £500 for it. At the same auction, John Liston, the celebrated comedian, gave seventy guineas for an apple, preserved in spirits—the identical pippin, which falling, led Sir Isaac Newton to discover the laws of gravity.

Effects of Sleep upon the Eyes.—A due portion of sleep is as essential to enable the eyes to perform their office comfortably and effectively, as a due portion of rest is to enable the limbs wearied with toil, or the mind with reasoning or other kind of exertion to resume with alacrity their wonted offices. But sleeping too long protracted, on the other hand, is perhaps hardly less destructive of accurate and healthy vision than when taken too sparingly; for as in the one case the organ is enfeebled by unremitting activity without a proper degree of repose, so in the other case, the eye from unfrequent or insufficient exercise, becomes torpid and dull, and if inaction be persisted in, it is at length unfitted for its functions.—Curtis on the Eye.

Poetry.

From the New York Mirror.

THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND.

BY GEORGE P. MORRIS.

Lady of England—o'er the seas,
Thy name was borne by every breeze,
Till at this sunset clime became
Familiar with Victoria's name!

Though seas divide us many a mile,
Yet, for the Queen of that fair Isle
From which our fathers sprang, there roves
A blessing from the Land of Groves!

Our fatherland?—fit theme for song!—
When thou art named what mem'ries throng!
Shall England cease our love to claim?
Not while our language is the same!

Then, Royal Maid! so live and reign
That when thy nation's swelling strain
Is breathed amid our forest green,
We too may say "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!"

DOES THIS APPLY TO YOU! *Speak ill of no one without a just cause.*—There are many people in the world who are in the habit of speaking lightly or contemptuously of their neighbours, and some who do not scruple to treat those who are absent with the greatest disrespect, by showing up their faults to those who are present, without ever alluding to any good qualities they possess. There is nothing so detestable as this habit of backbiting in society; it often produces the greatest bitterness of feelings between those who ought to live in peace and good fellowship towards each other, and it never does any good. It generally arises from a selfish feeling, but sometimes from thoughtlessness; in either case it is injurious to society, and ought to be condemned by every well meaning and sensible person. Selfish persons have generally such an over-appreciation of themselves, and the situation they hold in society, that they are apt to speak of others with contempt, and are never so happy as when they discover the least fault (however trivial it may be,) in some of their neighbors or acquaintances. Instead of which, it would be well for them to examine their own conduct, to see whether they were without fault, and ask themselves whether they would like any fault or foible they might be guilty of to be made the subject of conversation amongst their neighbours. It would be better if they were to consider the noble destiny which all mankind partake of in common with themselves, both as respects the great moral ends of this life, and the more sublime prospects of the future, if they would remember the great fellowship of our common humanity—the social end—which (as parts of a great community) we are all working to attain, and which awaits us at the close of our brief existence. Let them reflect on these things, and not offend their Creator by injuring their fellow creatures—rather let them judge others with tenderness, as they would wish to be judged, putting aside the weeds that cover the surface of the characters of their neighbours, to ascertain the depth and sweetness of the clear water beneath it.

An Appalling Scene.—The Northampton Courier informs us that an inquest was held at South farms in that town, on Monday evening, on the body of Ellen Layton, a native of St. Andrews, N. B. who, with her husband had been seen some days past in the vicinity, on their way, as they stated to Albany. She had been observed that morning in a state of intoxication, and about noon was found dead by the side of the road, by a passenger in the stage passing at that time. Her husband lay by her side stupid with liquor, and equally unconscious of her situation, or his own.—Near them was found a quart bottle nearly empty of its contents, but still containing a little New England Rum.

The inquest was held at night under the trees by the river side, and "the spectacle," says the Courier "was both romantic and appalling. The miserable husband, blind, and with two wooden legs, sitting near the lifeless corpse—the coroner and jury—the group of spectators, and the numerous carriages seen dimly by the light of pine knots and lanterns, presented an impressive and startling scene. No evidence of violence having been found, the jury returned death from causes unknown."—*Boston Transcript.*

Water and Ice Produce Fire.—Throw a piece of potassium, about as large as a peppercorn, on the surface of water in a basin; the instant the metal meets the water, it bursts into flame, with a slight explosion. It continues to burn till the whole of the potassium is consumed, darting from one side of the vessel to the other, or running to and fro on the surface of the water very rapidly, in the form of a red-hot fire-ball. If a piece of potassium be placed on ice, it instantly takes fire, burns with a bright flame, and melts a deep hole in the ice. This curious phenomenon is caused by the great affinity which the potassium has to oxygen in consequence of which it decomposes water and ice, combining with the oxygen with such intensity as to produce heat and light, and setting fire to the hydrogen, which is liberated. The result of the combustion of the metal is the alkali potassa, which is thus shewn to be an oxide of the metal potassium.—Chemist.

Mother Wit. A countryman about to alter his condition last week before a magistrate to swear the affidavit required by the new Marriage Act, when, on its being read to him, he complained that he did not understand it. 'Not understand it;' said his worship, who was not overburdened with sense—why you must be quite a fool.—No, I ben't quite,' said Clod, drily, 'but I be *very near one.*'

The contented Female.—A nobleman soliciting a young country girl to abandon her rustic state, and reside in a populous city, she replied, "Ah! my Lord, the farther we remove *ourselves*, the greater is our distance from happiness!"—They who leave their homes, uncalled by Providence, in search of happiness, generally find they are only farther from it.—*Auore.*

Contentment produces, in some measure, all those effects which the alchymist usually ascribes to what he calls philosopher's stone; and if it does not bring riches, it does the same by banishing the desire of them. If it cannot remove the disquietudes arising from a man's mind, body, or fortune, it makes him easy under them.—*Addison.*

Those who attempt to level, never equalize. In all societies, consisting of various descriptions of citizens, some descriptions must be uppermost. The levellers, therefore, only change and pervert the natural order of things; they load the edifice of society, by setting up in the air what the solidity of the structure requires to be on the ground.—*Burke.*

Every enjoyment of life has three distinct stages—anticipation—reality—and reminiscence—and it is more difficult than it first appears to be, to decide on the character, extent and value of each. Hope is the most extravagant and imaginative; action, the most engrossing and tangible; and memory, the most calm, and durable, and sober.—[Miss Pardoe.

"One great and kindling thought from a retired and obscure man may live when thrones are fallen, and the memory of those who filled them is liberated; and, like an undying fire, it may illuminate and quicken all future generations."—[Dr. Channing.

Ornamental Lightning Bugs.—At Havana and other places in the island of Cuba, the ladies contrive to use an insect known to naturalists as the *elater noctilucus*, or firefly, as ornaments. The Spanish beauties admire to have them crawl about their persons, and under their loose, thin dresses, and at evening parties and balls, they sew them up in puffs of muslin for ornaments, and afterwards let them fly away. They emit a mild and greenish, but a very brilliant and powerful light, and a dark-eyed Spanish beauty is said to look doubly attractive when decked out with these ornaments.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

Alarm Clock.—We understand that a gentleman has invented a new use for the alarm clock. When he goes to bed, he ties a bottle of liquor to the alarm cord, and sets it at the hour when he expects to be dry, and goes to bed. At the set time the alarm runs down, the bottle hits the gentleman in the head as a notice that it has come; he drinks off the contents, and goes to sleep again.—*N. Y. Jour Commerce.*

Duration of Animal Life.—The following table will show the average duration of animal life:—The horse lives from 8 to 32 years, the ox 20, bull 15, cow 20, ass 33, mule 18, sheep 10, ram 15, dog from 14 to 25, swine 25, goat 8, cat 10, pigeon 8, dove 25, goose 23, parrots from 8 to 100, raven 100, turtles and tortoises 80 to 100.

"Is that Johnson?" said a noble lord, when he was introduced to him. "Why, you look as if you could not say bah! to a goose."—"Bah!" said Johnson.

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