

DOMESTIC.

STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCE.—We have been requested by Captain Lorway, Master and Owner of the *Schr. Mary & Charles*, of this port, to give publicity to the following circumstance which happened whilst he was on his last voyage from Halifax to this port, and which very nearly led to the loss of his vessel and her valuable cargo:—On the night of the 15th ult., he discovered a light, which he at first supposed to be a light on the headland of Fourchet, in a direction nearly W. N. W. from Young's Island. Capt. Lorway cannot account for the appearance of this light—which had been observed on previous occasions by Captains Muggah, Townsend, and Liscomb—except it was a light placed on a beacon which has been built at Fourchet by one Honper, of that place,—for what purpose Capt. Lorway knows not. He is very naturally anxious that Shipmasters should be informed of this light, and that the Commissioners of Light Houses should be made aware of this circumstance, and should adopt means to prevent a repetition of what may eventually lead to the loss of life and property. It is certainly to be hoped that no person at Fourchet has been guilty of placing a light on the headland to decoy vessels. The circumstance related by Capt. Lorway, and confirmed by the statements of other Shipmasters, favours the impression that such has been the case.—*Cape Breton News*, 3rd.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—We are gratified to be able to state that since the completion of the Temperance Hall in this place, whereby the "Sons" have been able to resume their weekly meetings, which had been for a time suspended, there has been a greatly increased number of members of "Star in the East" Division, the only working Division in this town. Within the past three weeks several of the 49th have joined, and we hope that ere long many more will be enrolled under our glorious banner.—*ib*

The *Schr. Highlander*, from St John, N. F., bound for this port, met, on the 15th ult., in longitude 65° 30', and lat. 46°, with the wreck of the *barque Liscard*, of Liverpool, G. B., waterlogged and abandoned.—*ib*

We are glad to learn that one of the most enterprising houses in the City intends placing a new and splendid Steamer on the line between this Port and Boston, early in the coming Spring. Our only wonder is, that this has not been done long ago, for we are firmly of opinion, that a good Steamer on the line, well managed, must prove a profitable concern.

The amount of travel already existing, with a moderate quantity of freight, would return a handsome profit, and we have no doubt that the present number of passengers who pass to and from, may and will be doubled. There is no reason why Halifax may not become as fashionable a place of resort in the summer season, as Quebec; all that is necessary to make it so is travelling accommodation. For surely we may search the Continent and not find a more delightful summer residence than Halifax. As a watering place it is unrivalled, and we are confident that it only needs to be known, to become the centre of attraction to Summer travellers. We hail the enterprise, therefore, as the harbinger of better things—as a step forward in the right direction, and only hope that the most sanguine hopes of the proprietors may be amply realized.—*Recorder*.

INQUEST.—An inquest was held on Saturday at Toney River, before Wm James Anderson Esq., one of the Coroners of the County, on view of the body of William McKenzie, Jr., aged 19. After a lengthened and patient enquiry the jury returned a Verdict,—That the deceased, whilst in the state of intoxication, had strayed from the road into the wood in the neighbourhood of his father's house on the night following New Year's Day, that he was found there dead on the night following day, and that he came to his death from exposure to the cold during the night, whilst under the influence of liquor.—*Essex Chronicle*.

VIOLENT ASSAULT.—On Christmas day a quarrel, originating in drunkenness took place at the Albion Mee, between an Irishman, of the name of Pendergrast, a shoemaker, and a young man named George Fraser, a native of Rogers Hall, in his employ. The cause of the quarrel we have not heard particularly, but it appears that Pendergrast first knocked down Fraser with a poker, and then attacked him while insensible, beating his head with a hammer taken from his work bench, and fracturing his skull. Fraser lingered on for some time, and was apparently recovering, but on Tuesday last he had a relapse when the physicians pronounced the symptoms fatal. Pendergrast has absconded, but steps are being taken to his apprehension—despatches having been sent by telegraph to Halifax, Truro, and Amherst, describing his appearance, &c., in order that the authorities may have him arrested should he make his appearance in any of these places.—*ib*

The *Sloop Ion*, Capt. Wagner, which left Halifax about six weeks since, in ballast, bound to Country Harbour, for a lead of cord wood, when near the mouth of the harbour was blown off, and has never been heard of since. There were passengers on board, Donald McDonald, Frederick Salaman, James Hane, Levi Hane and Michael Hines and son.

ASTRONOMY OF THE MONTH.—During this month the constellation of *Taurus* is a conspicuous object in the Heavens. It contains 151 visible stars, including two remarkable clusters called the Pleiades and Hyades. *Aldebaran* shines conspicuous amongst the latter of these, and belongs to the class of double stars. The brightest star of the Pleiades is *Alcyone*, which of late years

has excited more than ordinary interest on account of the researches of Mordler into the proper motion of the stars of our firmament, leading him to believe that it is the centre round which all the others revolve.—*Daily Sun*.

COLONIAL.

New Brunswick.

FREDERICTON, January 7, 1852.—The Legislature assembled to-day, when His Excellency came down to the Council Chamber, and ordered the House to choose a Speaker; but this proved a course of some difficulty, owing to the anomalous state of affairs. It was debated for some time who should fill the Speaker's Chair, and whether new members, of whom there are eight, should vote. Finally, two candidates were proposed, viz. Mr. Hanington, by Mr. Ryan, and Mr. Barberie, by Mr. Porter. After considerable discussion, an adjournment was moved and carried. It is uncertain as yet whether Mr. Barberie or Mr. Hanington will be elected. It may be that neither will be chosen.

During the recess, the House has been much improved in appearance. An addition has been made which forms a gallery for ladies, and affords convenient accommodation for the regular reporters. Ventilators have also been placed in the ceiling, which will and greatly to the comfort and the health of members.

As three of the members of the Election Committee on the scrutiny between Messrs Boyd and Fitzgerald, have left the House, there is not a quorum remaining, and as no quorum can now be formed, the House not having the power to add to the Committee, or strike a new one, this scrutiny will probably fall to the ground, and Mr. Fitzgerald will retain the seat. The law will no doubt be amended, so as to meet such a case in future.—*New Brunswick*.

THE HON. MR. CRANE, whose long experience in the same capacity eminently fits him for the office, has been elected Speaker of the New Brunswick Assembly.

Canada.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.—We much regret to learn that a distressing accident occurred at Ancaster, on the 13th inst., in Mr. Russell's factory, (the operations of which had only recently been recommenced, the building having been destroyed by fire about three years since) Mrs. and Miss Russell, accompanied by two other ladies, were going over the building to examine the work, when, on entering the Water Wheel-house, Miss Russell's dress was caught by some of the gearing, and her left arm was injured in a dreadful manner. Medical aid was called in, and an amputation was found to be necessary. This was accordingly performed, two and a half inches above the elbow, by Doctors Craigie and Dalton. We are informed that the unfortunate young lady bore the operation with great fortitude. Mr. Russell's trials within the last few years have been great, as we learn he first lost both his hands, near Lachine; and then had his factory burned down; while the other day his only daughter was deprived of an arm.

GALLANTRY AND PRESENCE OF MIND.—We learn that, on Monday last, while crossing the ice at Longueuil, a Mr. Doughty, from Upper Canada fell through and would undoubtedly have perished, but for the intervention of Mr. Gundlach of the St. L. & A. Railroad, who seeing the accident, immediately hastened to his assistance. Not being able to reach him from the ice, Mr. Gundlach gallantly plunged into the stream, swam to him and brought him safely to shore. This, we are informed, is the third time in which Mr. Gundlach has saved the life of a fellow-creature, by similar courage and forgetfulness of self.—*Montreal Herald*.

AMERICA.

United States.

The steamers of the Collins line have done better this winter than ever before. The company, however, find it a losing business. Their expenses are enormous, and the income from the government and passengers too small to prevent serious loss. If the government does not come forward and give this line substantial aid, it will be abandoned.—*Recorder*.

MACKEREL FISHERY.—The Newburyport Herald states, that there are but two mackerel vessels now building on the Merrimac, and the many vessels lost in the bay the past season, and the small fares obtained by others, will have a tendency, probably, to check the prosecution of the fisheries from that port the coming season.

MISS JENNY LIND.—It is announced in New York, that Miss Lind has received news of the sudden death of her mother, and that in consequence, it was supposed that she would take her departure for Europe in the *Colias* steamer of 10th inst.

ADVANTAGES OF SCIENCE.—The advantages of science in nautical affairs have rarely been more strikingly illustrated than in a fact stated in the report of the United States Navy Department, that by means of the wind and current charts projected and prepared by Lieut. Maury, the Superintendent of the Naval Observatory, the passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific ports of this country has been shortened by about forty days.

A MODEL TOWN.—The inhabitants of the new town of Colusa, at the termination of navigation on the Sacramento river, California, and which has quite recently been established, have commenced their corporate existence in a manner worthy of imitation, and if they adhere to it, they will certainly deserve the appellation of "the model town." They have determined in solemn convocation that there shall be no public debts contracted, and that all transactions shall be in cash, and the taxes fixed at the lowest possible figures.

INTERESTING PROJECT.—Last evening, the Board of Aldermen received a petition signed by hotel-keepers and others, asking that "Madison Square," in the Eighteenth Ward, be granted to Edward Riddle and his associates, who propose to erect upon said square a building commensurate with the size of the ground, constructed of iron and glass, for the purpose of an Industrial Exhibition of all Nations, and to cause the same to be open to the public on the 15th of April next.—"The building to be at least 600 feet in length, with a width of 200 feet, and the whole surmounted with a semi-cylindrical roof or dome made of glass, and of a sufficient height to make it one of the most imposing edifices ever erected in this or any other country, and involving an expenditure of at least \$150,000." The memorial was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Aldermen Starbuck, Britton, Cook, Conklin, Dodge, and the President, Morgan Morgans.—*N. Y. Courier and Enquirer*.

MAINE LAW IN MASSACHUSETTS.—The people of Massachusetts are working vigorously for the enactment of the Maine law. Meetings are held all over the State, petitions to the legislature are circulated, and a grand mass meeting in Boston is contemplated, when the petitions will be carried in procession to the State House. It is thought Gov. Boutwell will recommend the passage of the law in his message. So rolls on the ball which Maine set in motion. Talk about repealing the law. Why the whole Union, the world, would denounce the misguided legislators who should attempt it. It is not Maine alone that is interested in this matter. Humanity everywhere has a deep stake in it.—*Portland Transcript*.

ISTHMIUS OF PANAMA.—The amount of bullion annually transported across the Isthmus of Panama exceeds sixty millions of dollars. The average amount received monthly at Panama by the R. B. Mail Company's steamers, and which derived is chiefly from Chili and Peru, is about one million of dollars. That brought from California by the Pacific Mail Company's and other steamers, is about four millions per month. This includes the shipments of bullion and gold dust for both the United States and various parts of Europe, and is below the actual estimate for the months of August, September, October, and November, as well as some of the earliest months of the present year.

It is estimated that the goods shipped from the Atlantic ports and conveyed across the Isthmus, average in value, five hundred thousand dollars per month. These shipments are made from the United States, West Indies, Atlantic, South America, and various European ports. The amount of transportation of goods from the Pacific ports across this route to the Atlantic, is comparatively small, and will probably continue so until the further improvement of the facilities for transportation, or the completion of the railroad now in progress.

MISCELLANEOUS.

KOSSUTH AND HIS RELIGION.—Had Kossuth only been known for one act of his life, it would have been sufficient to immortalize him. Just after he had crossed the Turkish frontier with his followers—when his three children were prisoners in an Austrian dungeon, and his wife a fugitive disguised as a peasant, a reward offered for her, and all persons found harbouring her, on pain of being condemned by a court martial—we say, at this critical juncture, when the swords of Russia and Austria were suspended over his head, and without assurances of protection from any quarter in this world, Russia and Austria having demanded his surrender from the Sultan, "a message was at once sent to the Hungarians that their only safety lay in their becoming Mahomedans, and subjects of the Turkish Empire. Bem and Kossuth adopted the condition. Kossuth answered that he preferred death to the abjuration of his faith." This letter to Lord Palmerston, describing his wretched position, and his heroic resolution to die rather than abjure Christianity, is one of the most touching and splendid compositions in the English language. The spirit displayed by the noble Magyar on that occasion, was the same that animated *Lutimer, Rogers and Cranmer*, who were burnt at the stake for conscience' sake.—*Journal of Commerce*.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The following resolution, has been passed by Parliament and signed by the King:—

Be it resolved, by the Nobles and Representatives of the Hawaiian Islands, in the Legislative Council assembled, That in the sense of this House the demands of France are so clearly unjust and contrary to the laws of nations, and to treaty, and the course pursued by her is so incompatible with the existence of a regular independent government in these Islands, if France should persist in such a course it will be the duty of the King to shield himself and his government from the insult and oppression by placing his kingdom under the protection of some friendly State, and should such an emergency be so

urgent as not to admit of the legislative council being convened, it shall be left to his Majesty by and with the advice of his Privy Council, under such an emergency, to consult the honour and safety of the kingdom according to his Majesty's best judgment, and whatever he may do will be binding upon the nation.

The *Polynesia* says that the United States commissioner called, officially, at the foreign office on the 14th October, and made known the views of his government in regard to the past, present, and future position of these Islands.

The communication was of a nature tending to fortify the King in the permanent enjoyment of his sovereign rights, and its purport was immediately forwarded to the King by a special messenger.

POPULATION OF EUROPE.—When Gibbon wrote his great history, less than a century ago, he estimated the population of Europe at one hundred and seven millions. It is now computed to be not less than two hundred and thirty millions. This remarkable increase, too, has been in the face of some of the most desolating wars that ever ravaged the continent, as well as in despite of a steadily increasing emigration which has been going on for the last thirty years. It can only be explained by the vast strides made in physical civilization during the last three generations, and the consequent prolongation of human life, through better sanitary regulations, increased comforts and improvements in medical science. Of this two hundred and thirty millions, nearly one-half, belongs to the Church of Rome, while fifty-two millions are Protestants, fifty-four without adherents of the Greek Church, and about 2.2 millions Mahomedans.—*Phil. Bulletin*.

A little boy was asked one night to say the ten commandments; and after repeating, "Thou shalt honour thy father and thy mother," he suddenly exclaimed, as if struck by a new thought, "thou shalt do all the errands for thy father and mother." Not a bad creed for a little one.—*Boston Daily Branch*.

CHINESE OPIUM TRADE.—Rev. Mr. Bridgman, writing from China, says that the number of chests of opium, each containing 133 lbs., taken to China, the present year, will exceed 70,000, and that in exchange for these 70,000 chests, the Chinese will pay to foreigners more than \$35,000,000—and most of this in silver.

Miss Frederica Bremer arrived at her home in Stockholm, Nov. 22. It is stated that her elder sister had just died, and that she arrived in season to be present at her funeral. The deceased sister, it is added, was possessed of a large fortune.

Sterne, who used his wife very ill, was one day talking to Garrick, in a fine sentimental manner, in praise of conjugal love and fidelity. "The husband," said Sterne, "who behaves unkindly to his wife, deserves to have his house burnt over his head." "If you think so," said Garrick, "I hope your house is insured."

THE LAKES.—The entire line of Lake coast is 2,000 miles. The following is the result of the survey of the United States Topographical Engineers:

Lake Champlain 150 miles, greatest width 12, average width 8; Lake Ontario 190, greatest width 51, average width 40; Lake Erie 240, greatest width 27, average width 17; Lake St. Clair 18, greatest width 25, average width 16; Lake Huron 260, greatest width (not including the extensive bay of Georgian, itself 110 miles long, averaging 56 miles in width) 150, average width 80; Lake Michigan 340, average width 50; Lake Superior 420, greatest width 135, average width 100. These lakes may be considered as connected throughout their whole extent.

Lake Champlain connects with Lake Ontario by means of the river Richelieu, the lock and dam navigation of St. Lawrence river, Ottawa river, the Rideau canal through Canada and the Champlain and Erie canals of New York. Lake Ontario is connected with Lake Erie by the Welland canal. Lake Erie is connected with Lake St. Clair by the deep and navigable strait of Detroit, twenty-five miles long. Lake St. Clair is connected with Lake Huron by the navigable strait of St. Clair, thirty-two miles long. Lake Huron is connected with Lake Michigan, by the deep and wide strait of Mackinaw, forty-two miles long.

The City of New Orleans was startled with an unexpected visitor, on the 18th ult., in the shape of a tall of snow. The *Pionere* says:

It was like a dream—almost as quickly gone as come; but it served as a topic for wonder and chit chat throughout the city. Some of the children down town, black and white, who had never before seen the article, were frightened half out of their wits by its appearance.

The City of Glasgow, which arrived at Philadelphia on the 1st inst., brought the largest cargo of British manufactured goods ever shipped from Liverpool to America in a steamer; the value exceeds £500,000.

THE MORMONS.—Judge Brandegee and Brocchus, and Secretary Harris, U. S. officers sent out to Utah, have made an official report to the government, in which they accuse the Mormons of being in the habitual practice of committing almost every crime known to the decalogue, and indeed to common law.

TO SAN FRANCISCO.—The true distance from New York to San Francisco is as follows:—From New York to Chagres, 2,200 miles; from Chagres to Panama, 94 miles; from Panama to San Francisco, 3,700—total 5,994 miles.