

his science. He has there described an extensive and interesting class of facts which he adduces as evidence of the deluge of the Scriptures; and as the unquestionable result of that last irruption of the fountains of the deep. But in his late work, he has abjured this doctrine as untenable; and has found it necessary to refer the fossil spoils of the cave deposits 'to the last of the many geological revolutions that have been produced by violent irruptions of water,' and to consider many of the animals to which they belong to have 'existed during more than one geological period preceding the catastrophe by which they were extirpated.' This is now the universally received doctrine of the English school; and such has been the progress of liberal opinions that, in assemblies composed of Churchmen and Dissenters, and Conservative statesmen, we have heard the walls ring with rapturous joy, when geology renounced her ecclesiastical tenure, and demanded a lease of Millions of Millions of years for the range of their enquiries."—*Edinburgh Review*.

## THE PEARL.

HALIFAX, FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 11, 1839.

M. De Tocqueville, who has, by his admirable work, "Democracy in America," established for himself a high reputation in both hemispheres, has lately written a valuable letter on Prison Discipline. The letter has come to us through the Metropolitan Magazine for December, in which it is copied from the *Moniteur*. The Metropolitan did not come to hand until Monday last, or we should gladly have availed ourselves of some interesting extracts from the letter of the French Commissioner. Of the *silent* system as practised at Auburn, M. De Tocqueville has the following remarks—"It partly," he says "hinders communication by day, but it does not prevent the prisoners from becoming acquainted with each other, and meeting on their coming out of prison. It can only be maintained by continual and minute inspection. It demands, in order to succeed, frequent and arbitrary punishments; and it may be doubted whether the system can at all be established without the aid of summary and corporal punishments which public opinion in France would infallibly condemn." Of the plan of *entire separation* amongst the prisoners, we have the enjoined notices—"Of all systems of imprisonment, that of Philadelphia most strikes the imagination of the condemned, and this is a great advantage."—"Of all penitentiary systems known, that of Philadelphia, without comparison, offers most likelihood of producing reform."—"From all this, I concluded, without hesitation, that the system of Philadelphia is a great deal more easy to establish and to maintain in action, is more intimidating, reforms more, and is in general more useful to society than any other. This is quite clear to me."—"The enemies of the Pennsylvania system have never observed it in action, whilst its partisans have. I went to America opposed to this system; I returned convinced of the necessity of its adoption, if proved that it did not cost the life of the prisoner. Mr. Crawford and Mr. Julius, sent by England and Prussia, brought back the same conviction; M. Demety the same. In America, seven years ago, all the states were about to adopt the system of Auburn; they have changed it for that of Philadelphia. After this experience, the cellular system of seclusion by night and day makes no question as to its being the fittest in France."

On Wednesday evening last, Mr. McKinlay continued his lectures on Electricity before the Institute. We were pleased to find the Hall as crowded as on the previous evening, and particularly the large addition of ladies on the present occasion. Numerous experiments were exhibited illustrative of the luminous, heating, chemical, and mechanical effects of the electric fluid, and nearly all were remarkably successful. The experiment to show the revolution of a wire up an inclined plane, produced by the passage of electricity from points, contrary to the common principles of gravity, and which failed on the first night, was beautifully exhibited at the last lecture. The use of the lightning conductor was finely developed—the electric fluid was brought near a model of a small building, and passed off by means of the conductor without injuring the model, but when discharged near the building without the conductor, the model was immediately fired. A number of popular experiments were made by the lecturer, to illustrate the luminous effects produced by the passage of electricity from one substance to another—plates of glass of different sizes were used with tin foil pasted upon them, and cut into the form of various devices, and which were illuminated by the electrical light. By means of wires carried round the building and attached to bladders containing gases, the velocity of the electric fluid was demonstrated—the moment the discharging rod, to which was affixed one end of the wire was applied to the Leyden jar, the bladder at the opposite end of the building burst with a noise almost equal to that of a small cannon. The audience appeared highly gratified, as well with Mr. McKinlay's plain intelligible definitions of the principles of his science, as with the variety of his successful experiments, which produced much applause.—Dr. SAWERS will lecture on PHYSIOLOGY, next Wednesday evening.

The report of the 'lecture on light' before the Pictou Literary Society, and which was published in a former number of the Pearl, appears to have been entirely false. We suspected this at the time of publication, although we had not sufficient leisure to examine the merits of the document. Only for our suspicion, or we should have thanked the writer of the piece in question. But this is past, and we have now to state that the lecture on light was never delivered, and of course that no discussion followed. The vile fabricator of the report, will no doubt glory in his successful stratagem—let him however, beware. His manuscript by this time is in Pictou, and its author already is shrewdly guessed to be, an individual who has *certain reasons* for wishing to throw odium on the Pictou society. A repetition of his folly may lead to an exposition of his conduct towards the members of the society. A word to the wise, etc. His piece of nonsense however, we have reason to believe, will induce some of the friends of the Pictou society to forward us notices of their proceedings.

NEW YORK MIRROR.—We have often wondered that no agent has been established in Halifax for this respectable and talented periodical. In the mechanical execution of the work we know of no journal which can compete with it either in England or America. We have occasion to know that none but first rate workmen are employed upon it, and hence its singular beauty of arrangement and typography. The N. Y. Mirror is not a mere reprint of English or American composition—it abounds with original matter of the highest order, and numbers amongst its regular contributions some of the first literary names of the present day. Occasionally its subscribers are presented with an elegant engraving—not, however, a tawdry, worthless affair, but a plate which would not be unsuitable for our best quarto annuals. A beautiful engraving, illustrative of western scenery, is now in preparation for the Mirror. Another feature of the work consists in the Music which accompanies every number. A periodical has lately been set on foot in London called *The Sunbeam*, in imitation of the American journal, but the talent displayed in the Metropolitan effort is not to be compared with its American competitor—and though the British paper boasts of its superior Music, yet it is not, in our judgment, near as excellent as that which, in general, ornaments the New York publication. The Mirror never introduces politics into its columns, and is equally free from all religious controversy. It has a very extended circulation, or it could not be offered at the low rate of five dollars per annum.

Vera Cruz has been bombarded and taken by the French. The number of shot fired by the French squadron is said to be upwards of 5000. Of the Mexicans from 400 to 500 were killed and wounded—of the French loss no computation is given. The French nation had demanded of the Mexican Government some indemnification for the loss of French property—the demand, as shewn in the last number of BLACKWOOD, appears to us to have been exceedingly unjust. But upon the refusal of the Mexicans to comply with the unreasonable request of the French nation, the latter sends out a fleet and murders hundreds of men. And this is called *gallant work*—and one of the Royal princes of France engages in the *gallant work*, and receives abundant honour. Now we call things by their right names, and so we call this gallant work, murder, and all its agents and abettors, murderers. With Lord Clarendon we believe that God "has not inhibited only single murders, and left mankind to be massacred according to the humour and appetite of unjust and unreasonable men." These poor sailors and soldiers, what harm had they done that they should be slaughtered like sheep, and sent to the bar of infinite justice? Can we believe that all those lives are forgotten, and that no account will be rendered of them?

In our last number we presented our readers with a scene at one of the executions in Canada, more suited to the meridian of New Zealand than a British North American Province. Owing to the ignorance or carelessness of two human butchers in Upper Canada, a similar brutal scene has been enacted. Here is the account of a spectator—

"Mr. Hiram Woodruff, one of the prisoners taken near Prescott, lately sentenced by a Militia Court Martial, was on Wednesday morning, about sunrise, brought from Fort Henry upon a rough carter's train or sleigh, attended by two priests, escorted by a party of volunteer cavalry to the Gaol, and soon after brought to the door leading to the Scaffold, when the Sheriff read the warrant to execute him, he was then placed on the platform, the cap pulled over his face, and the hangman placed the rope to a hook in the beam over head. The platform fell, and presented a revolting, disgusting, and disgraceful scene, equal to that of Wm. Brass about a year ago. The knot, instead of drawing tight under the ear, was brought to the chin; it did not slip but left space enough to put a hand within; the chief weight of the body bearing upon the rope at the back of the neck. The body was in great agitation, and seemed to suffer greatly. The spectators said it was shameful management, when two hangmen came out, endeavoring to strangle the sufferer, and then returned, not having succeeded, they returned again to their disgusting work."

voured to strangle the sufferer, and then returned, not having succeeded, they returned again to their disgusting work."

Our latest dates from Canada do not furnish us with any news of the least importance. The editor and printer of the *Canadian* have been arrested by the government on charges of high treason. As we do not hear of any expectation of fresh invasions of wicked men, we hope that all hangings will cease. Of the execution of Mathew and Lount, we are glad to find the Editor of the *Christian Guardian* of U. C. using the following words—"I have from the beginning viewed those executions as impolitic and unfortunate." But Mathew and Lount were sent into the eternal world to deter others from the commission of high treason. And yet it has not deterred even their sons, for they have committed the same crime the present season. And while man is man, and is not governed by the forgiving principles of the Gospel, executions for political offences may excite to acts of revenge, but will not stop evil disposed persons in their plans of treason and devastation.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A tribute of respect has been paid to a young Novascotian, in this city, of which I feel proud. A young man, a native of your town, Edward B. Tremain, has been put in nomination, from among 200 of his fellows, as President of the Mercantile Library association. An association at once the most respectable and intelligent in the United States. Composed as it is of the Mercantile class of our citizens, merchants and their clerks, of whom 2000 and upwards compose this association, it is highly creditable to the ability and integrity of this young Blue Nose. I do not write this to flatter him; I know him not, but such a tribute as he has this day received, speaks "trumpet tongued of his worth." May others go and do likewise.—*Correspondence of the Acadian Recorder*.

The Navy and Military Gazette of Nov. 17, after noticing the staff appointment consequent on the Brevet, which taken place on the 1st January, and that of Major General Sir Chas. Napier to the Northern District, head quarters, Nottingham, vice Lieut. General Sir R. D. Jackson, from a daily paper, states,—"Not any of these appointments have been decided on—but we can safely state, that Lieut. General Sir R. D. Jackson succeeds to the command in Halifax, Nova-Scotia."—*Times*.

THE LEGISLATURE met at two o'clock this day, but in consequence of the severe illness of His Excellency the LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, adjourned over until Monday, when it is hoped His Excellency will be sufficiently recovered to open the Session in due form.—*Novascotian*.

We call the attention of our readers to an article on the third page, on Rebellion: It has so long become a maxim that "Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God," that we are afraid the doctrine of the article alluded to will be viewed as monstrous and absurd. And yet the people called "Friends," who are firm believers in the doctrine, are the greatest enemies to tyranny, and the firmest friends of liberty, upon the face of the earth.

## MARRIED,

At Windsor, on Sunday the 16th Dec. Mr. John Payzant, to Sarah Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. William Leonard.

## DIED,

Suddenly, on Wednesday morning, in the 67th year of his age, Mr. Elias Joseph Hobson, an old and respectable inhabitant of this place, leaving a family to lament the loss of a tender and affectionate parent.

On Saturday last, at the residence of Capt. McLean, Charles Moreau, Esq. a respectable Planter from St. Lucia, aged 44 years, who visited Halifax some time since for the benefit of his health.

On Tuesday last, Mr. Adam Grieve, in the 47th year of his age.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

## ARRIVED,

Monday, January 7th—Schrs Hope, Kennedy, St. John's 42 and Burgeois, N. F., 6 days—dry fish, part of which they were obliged to throw overboard on the 9th ult, off Cape Breton, in a heavy gale, the vessel being hove on her beam ends, put back to Burgeois to repair; Canso Trader, Canso, fish; Elisa, Canso, fish.

Wednesday 9th—Rival Packet, McClearn, Liverpool, N. S., 1 day—dry fish.

Wednesday 10th—Speculator, Young, Lunenburg, 12 hours—sugar and wine; New Schooner Breeze, Wilson, Barrington, 1 day; brig. Maria, Boole, Weymouth, 18 days—lumber, to N. LeCain & Son; New Brig Susan King, McLean, Yarmouth, 3 days—lumber, to J. & M. Tobin.

## CLEARED,

Monday, January 7th—Schrs Congress, Cameron, Fortune Bay, salt, etc, by D. & E. Starr, & Co. and J. Duffus; brig Granville, Lyle, Kingston, fish, etc, by H. Lyle; schr Esperance, Gagnion, Arichat, 9th, Anastasia, Power, St. George's Bay, salt, by G. Handley; brig Lerwick, Stobie, Liverpool, G. B. by Fairbanks & Allison. 10th, schr Breeze, Fallen, B. W. Indies, fish, etc, by D. & E. Starr.