

THE LITERARY TRANSCRIPT.

The lovely widow of a cross old man wearing weeds; and the gay survivor of a rich old...

To suppose that every one likes to hear your child cry, and you talk nonsense to it.

To lose of time and money at the card table to add that of your temper.

To tell a person from whom you solicit a loan of money that you are in want of it.

To call a man honest who indulges his vanity by displaying his service of plate, to his rich neighbours often, but was never known to give a dinner to any one really in want of it.

To think any man should despair of success in any the most foolish undertaking, in a world so overstocked with fools.

To make a foolish match, and gravely ask a judicious friend his opinion of your choice.

To lend money to a man whose friendship you are desirous to preserve.

To desire the chambermaid of an inn to air your sheets, or the ostler to feed your horse.

To ask a wine merchant how long his wine has been in bottle.

MISTAKES OF AMBIGUITY.—Ambiguity of speech sometimes leads to very sad mistakes. A militia captain received a billet from a lady of fashion, requesting "the pleasure of his company to tea" on a certain evening. Now a query arose how to understand the word "company?" and the captain being a man of real military views, very naturally came to the conclusion that it meant neither more nor less than the company of militia which he had the honor to command.

MILITARY PRIDE.—A farmer was elected to a corporalship in a militia company. His wife, after discoursing with him for some time on the advantage which the family would derive from his exaltation, inquired in a doubting tone "Husband, will it be proper for us to let our children play with the neighbours' now?"

LANGUAGES.—There are said to be no less than 3,124 known languages in use in the world; of which 937 are Asiatic, 587 European, 276 African, and 1,624 American languages and dialects. By calculation from the best dictionaries, for each of the following languages, there are about 20,000 words in the Spanish, 22,000 in the English, 25,000 in the Latin, 30,000 in the French, 45,000 in the Italian, 50,000 in the Greek, and 80,000 in the German.

LATE ENGLISH EXTRACTS.—The Marquis of Waterford has had a duello with Lord George Loftus. They fired ten shots; and at last George Loftus was wounded in the leg—or the trousers! The "teterrima causa belli," in this case was as follows: Lord George Loftus has lately won money at cards from Lord Jocelyn—supposed to be by a de Ross trick. Lord Jocelyn had paid part and declined to "fork out" the remainder. At Limerick's Hotel, Conduit street, London, the Marquis and the other two Lords met in the coffee-room. Lord G. Loftus commenced abusing Lord Jocelyn, until that "noisy lord" quitted the room. But after he had left Lord George kept up the abuse. On this, Lord Waterford said he was the friend of both, and could not hear either abused in his absence. Lord G. Loftus still persisted, and at last the Marquis said, "My fine fellow, if you will go on this way, one of us must slump out of the room, and it won't be me." Still Lord G. continued, whereupon the Marquis very quietly whistled him out in the street, crop and neck. A challenge ensued, and after nine shots the tenth nicked Loftus. How it came that none of them were hit before is a mystery.

THEATRICALS.—Knowles's play succeeded, though it is not as good as the Love Chase, it wants the freshness—owing to his taking the plot from a novel.

At the Olympic they are getting on famously without Madame Vestris.

Van Amburgh and his lions are clearing £1,270 a week at Astley's. Half of this goes to the poor.

Mr. James Brooke, a man of fortune, is going in his own yacht, the Royalist, to explore the Asiatic Archipelago. He goes to Sincapore and hopes to reach it in March next—then to Malibu Bay—to Abai or Tusan Abar—to the Celebes—lo New Guinea—Australia—the Pacific Islands, and home.

The "L'Esclavier" papers, translated into German, are still in vogue on the Continent—"Boz" is not more than 26.

Col. St. John's new piece, "The Star of the Forest," did not make a very decided hit. Some of the N. W. Y. papers say he acting alone saved it from being dimmed.

A DEARLY-BUGHT KISS.—THE LAW OF KISSING.—Caroline Newton was indicted at the Middlesex Sessions on Tuesday for assaulting Thomas Saviland, and biting off his nose. It was stated that the complainant met with the prisoner in a top-room, where, after sundry jokes, and having received from her what he considered a "challenge," he tried to kiss her, and in the scuffle he was heard to cry out—"She has got my nose in her mouth!"

When they parted he was bleeding profusely at the nose, and a portion of it, which defendant had bitten off, she was seen to spit out of her mouth upon the ground. The defendant, a fat middle aged woman, treated the matter with great levity, and said he had no business to kiss her in a public-house. She was not one of that kind of people. If she wanted to be kissed, she had a husband to kiss her, and he was a much better man than defendant ever was even before he lost his nose.—The Chairman told the jury it mattered little which way their verdict went. If they found her guilty, the Court would not fine her more than one shilling, as the prosecutor brought the punishment on himself.—The Jury without hesitation acquitted her.—The Chairman told the prosecutor he was sorry for the loss of his nose; but if he would play with cats, he must expect to be scratched. Turning to the Jury, the Chairman afterwards said, "Gentlemen, my opinion is that if a man attempt to kiss a woman against her will, she has a right to bite his nose off, if she has a fancy for so doing." "And eat it too," added a learned gentleman on the bar.—The case caused much laughter to all except the poor complainant.

UPPER CANADA.

We have been favored with a sample of the cartridges used by the Windmill Brigade for their fencibles, which appear to be very ingeniously made up, the powder and bullet in the usual form, but above the bullet are three black shots tied neatly down with thread in the cartridge. The four pounder taken at Windmill was loaded with old rusty nails, broken iron spikes, tied up into a ball, and would do much mischief at a short distance.—Kingston Chronicle.

The application for mercy on behalf of the convict Merritt, ordered for execution on Saturday last we are happy to say, proved successful. A reprieve arrived for the unhappy man late on Friday evening, and his sentence has been commuted to transportation for life in one of the penal colonies.

The tide of emigration turning towards Canada from the "land of liberty." W. B. Wells, ex M. P. has come back; lots of nameless "patriots" have come back, and lots more are coming. The Mormons are coming back; several families of them passed through this town the other day; the Iowa and Michigan adventurers are coming back. One of the latter, who went away three or four years ago, with six children and four thousand dollars, has come back with one child and one hundred dollars.—Niagara Chronicle.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.—On Saturday last, Mr. George Fox, Mr. Wm. M. Cormick, Mr. Peter Wilkinson, and Mrs. Lawson and two young children, while on their way from Point au Pelee Island to the main shore in a small sail boat, and when about four miles out were struck by a sudden squall, and the boat was capsized. Mr. M. Cormick succeeded in placing Mrs. Lawson and children on the bottom of the boat, one of which he held in his arms, but owing to the high swells prevailing, they could not with great difficulty retain their hold. At last, Mrs. Lawson was compelled to cling to Mr. M. Cormick's coat, and her children to her own garments. The other two persons clung to the boat as well as they could, being frequently washed in the heavy sea. When the boat upset, Mr. John Malloy, of Gosfield, then on board of his schooner at the island, observed it, and with all possible haste made towards them. When he arrived within a proper distance, the yawl was lowered and sent to their rescue, but unfortunately it was so small that it sufficed for Mrs. Lawson, and

children had died from exhaustion; and within sight of the yawl's crew, Mr. Fox clasped his hands in his breast, and sunk to rise no more. Mr. Wilkinson, encouraged and sustained by the exertions of Mr. M. Cormick, succeeded in retaining his hold of the boat till the yawl reached them, when they were taken on board, huddled and entirely speechless.—Sundwich Herald.

Three wrenz loads of muskets and accoutrements arrived in this town from Amherstburgh, and on the following day twenty-four Congreve Rockets.—1b.

An inquest was held on the body of a man cut down by one of the dragoons, last week. The jury after a full investigation of the case, very properly brought in a verdict of "Justifiable homicide." It appears that the deceased had laid hold of the dragoon, and was endeavouring to unhorse him, with the intention of obtaining a dispatch of which the dragoon was a bearer.—Coburg Star.

LOWER CANADA.

We observe it stated in the Ami du Peuple that the New York Courier de Etats Unis reproaches several Montreal journalists with serving against the rebels by the pen rather than by the sword. For ourselves we can state that from our office there are no fewer than eighteen volunteers, consisting of 1 Lieutenant, 1 Esquire, 1 Sergeant Major, 1 Sergeant, 2 Corporals, 2 Sergeants and 10 privates. Their attendance at drill, at guard, at picquet and at patrol, is any thing but profitable to us, but the sacrifice is made cheerfully.—Montreal Herald.

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 8TH DEC. 1838.

LATEST DATES.—From London, . . . . . 3 From New York, . . . . . 1 From Paris, . . . . . 2 From Edinburgh, . . . . . 1 From London, . . . . . 1 From New York, . . . . . 1 From Paris, . . . . . 2 From Edinburgh, . . . . . 1

New-York papers brought by mail are to the evening of the 1st inst.

The Montreal Gazette of Thursday evening was received this morning. It contains the following particulars of the Court Martial now sitting in that city:—

COURT MARTIAL.—The Court Martial on Cardinal and the eleven rebels, which has been going on since the 29th ult., was brought to a close this afternoon. On Monday, the Court did not sit, to allow the prisoners to prepare for their defence; on Tuesday and Wednesday, they examined witnesses with this view, and this morning read their defence. The Court adjourned for an hour, and at one, Mr. Day, as Judge Advocate, summed up the law of the case, and the evidence adduced against each prisoner. From his address, we gathered that the charge was distinctly brought home to nine, by numerous witnesses; that if the evidence of one of the Crown witnesses was rejected, on account of contradictions in his testimony, Ducharme and Therien might become entitled to the benefit of a doubt; and that against Lesjard, there was not sufficient proof to warrant conviction. It was then intimated to the prisoners, that Judgment would not be pronounced against them, until the sentence of the Court had been approved of by His Excellency the Commander of the Forces.

The Exchange Register of this morning has the following:—

We learn by a letter from Three Rivers that Celestin Hood, confined in Three Rivers Jail for seditious practices and for treason, has been admitted to bail by Mr. Justice Vallieres, himself in £400, and two securities in £200 each. Mr. Turcotte appeared as counsel for the prisoner, but the case was not argued; Judge Vallieres at once decided it.

There are various rumours of new preparations for the invasion of Canada on the Western Frontier. The Detroit Advertiser says, "From information which has come to our knowledge, we are inclined to think that the plans of the insurgents are deeply laid; that they have large resources to draw upon—and that there are many disaffected persons in Canada who are aiding them."

The Auburn Daily News contains some account of the "examination" of one Birge, who acted as commander-in-chief of the band of ruffians who learned a salutary lesson at Prescott. The principal witnesses was Malcolm, Captain of the 1st Regt. of Queens who said he

was pressed on board the United States, to manoeuvre her. Allen Nym, the Aid of Birge, is also under arrest. The result of these farcical trials will, of course, be the same as the rest.

It is so "strong" says the Auburn News. The 1st November, in saying that William Johnston surrendered himself to Mr. Garrison, the United States Marshal. In his own hand-writing and signature, he sent us last evening the following:—

"I, William Johnston, surrendered myself to my son, John Johnston, under Gov. Morey's Proclamation, and he delivered me to the Deputy Sheriff of Jefferson County."

His trial, and that of the others in custody of the Marshal, was to take place on the 25th.

The New-York Herald says that Papineau and Nelson have been in that city, concerting measures to get back to Canada without loss of life, limb, or property. They sojourned at the Tremont house, and held several secret meetings to devise measures to carry out their plans. They also held several interviews with certain gentlemen, and endeavoured to enlist them so far in their behalf as to intercede for them with the Canadian Government. They have now, also, all gone to Washington, to try what they can do with Mr. Fox. The same paper adds—"They are tired of their present mode of life. They are short of money; their pockets are empty; and therefore they philosophise. Dr. Nelson disclaims the violent expression attributed to him at the Richmond Hill meeting, although it is certain that he used them. He there said, 'The Canada must be free, or we must die!' He was heard to say so, and it is worse than idle for him to deny them. But he and Papineau are at present poor—therefore they are honest at present. Patriotism sits poorly upon an empty stomach, and lovers of liberty, all over the world, would rather digest a good dinner than a dose of lead."

The Court Martial at Kingston commenced its sittings on the 25th ultimo in Fort Henry, and sits daily. On that morning Daniel George of Jefferson County, said to have been paymaster of the American forces, was put on his trial, which closed next day, when he requested to be allowed until Saturday to prepare his defence, in which he is assisted by Mr. J. A. McDonald, Advocate. Neil S. Von Shoultz, the Polish General, was brought up, and pleaded guilty to the charge brought against him. The Kingston Chronicle states that Shoultz is a native of Poland, aged 31, of prepossessing appearance, that his father was major of a regiment at Cracow, and that he emigrated to the United States in 1836.

The prisoners taken at Prescott are said to have made the fullest disclosures of the system of organization, the means, and the plans of the sympathisers on the frontier, which disclosures implicate persons very high in the scale of American society.

"Where will they be in the spring?"—O'Callaghan.

The Quebec Gazette of Wednesday gives the following as the whereabouts of some of the principal refugee rebel leaders:—

Papineau, Wilfred Nelson and Mr. President Nelson, had gone down to New York from Albany. Mackenzie has returned to New-York. Bouchette is on the Vermont frontier. Moira has got into the United States by the Kennebec Road. Duverny probably remains at New-York with John Ryan. Of O'Callaghan nothing is said since he was residing at Saratoga with Mr. Papineau some months ago. Van Ranssler, who came up to Champlain from Albany, with Theophile Brunton, Papineau's brother-in-law, as his aide-de-camp, after his friends had run away, is decidedly gone west.

His Excellency the Commander of the Forces has been pleased to appoint Major W. K. McCord of the Quebec Volunteers, and Lieutenant Inral, of the 15th Regt. of Foot, to the Quarter Master General's Department. A more judicious selection for such appointments could not have been made; both gentlemen being well known to possess every quality calculated to advance the service, and reflect credit upon themselves, in whatever station civil or military, they may be employed.

The prisoners who were transported to Brandon are said to have had a sum of \$125,000 at their credit, with a firm at New-York to whom they reached that city.

Edw. Miss E. Bushe, sailed ultimo, celebra the sun. It is Quera the 1st will co winter, gers. We sitting stream ler and from 11 come has not. Near nies in a day's of those of an exat Quebec. Despa Wat O. Semino came ic pointed peared, quently. Lorr says th into the was th and els York, o plicatio the leg. A reply has act, cou. At a Ireland Nov., 1 chair, t. st. lunteer do duty quired. 21, J. Captain 8th. in Ohio an! allo tion an been f. At Bel James G. On W. Mr. Stan ter of M. At the Hall, St. Porter, aged 60; nation, at the in At Mo. Illinois, 1 Newton. At Pet Cheamus in the Br. EVERY. At the C. Id Town. When a. Adver 10th of the foot of M can be h. Publish near 30th.