

THE QUEBEC TRANSCRIPT.

UNITED STATES.

From the New-York Commercial Advertiser.

guilty of any excesses, and to perpetrate any crimes which could give them the means of a fleeting enjoyment; for they calculated that they could not be condemned in the course of law, it seeming against probability that the various persons necessary for their conviction would survive.

The Athenians believed that the disorder was stayed by some religious ceremonies of the philosopher Epimenides, who was, agreeably to an oracle of Pythia, the priestess of Apollo, brought from the island of Ciete for the purpose. After raging for two years, the plague slackened for a time; but renewed its fury the fourth winter of the disease, and continued for another twelve months. In its whole course it cost Athens no less than 100,000 brave good soldiers, and 300 horsemen, of 150 of the remaining multitude, a number which could not be counted. It stopped at Athens without spreading farther.

During the horrors of this pestilence in Athens, Socrates, the greatest philosopher of antiquity, preserved his life by his temperance. The illustrious Pericles, chief of the Athenian republic, fell a victim to its ravages, not, however, before he saw himself childless, and as it were, alone in the world, by his having swept away all his numerous and prosperous family, and most of his kindred and friends.

MISCELLANEOUS SELECTIONS.

The Times has published an extract from a forthcoming work of Capt. Murray on the United States, in which he says:—The Americans employ, at least, 30,000 of our seamen in their service."

A TALKING CANARY.—Such a marvel is exhibiting at the Cosmorama-rooms, in Regent Street. The loquacious canary articulates with singular neatness and fluency, and with as much ease and volubility as the warblers,—though his vocabulary is very limited, of course. In the midst of a snatch of song you hear him pronounce the words, "Sweet pretty little Dicky," "Pretty Queen," "Dicky dear," and other fond appellations bestowed upon him by his mistress; he also makes a chirping imitation of a bell ringing, and calls "Mary."—Spectator.

From an article in the New-York Express, we see, that the vessels belonging to the four lines of packets between Liverpool and New-York, made 119 voyages in the year 1838; the average length of the voyages from New-York to Liverpool being 21 1/2 days, and that of the voyages from Liverpool to New-York 34 days. The shortest passage from America to England was that made, in fifteen days, by that fine vessel, the Pennsylvania, which was lost in the late hurricane; and passages of sixteen days were made by the England, the United States and the Garrick. The shortest passage from Liverpool to New-York was made by the Garrick in 21 days. The longest passage was one of 65 days.

CHANGE OF FORTUNE.—A man, named Edward Jenks, who for many years has lived in a miserable hovel, in Queen Street, Seven Dials, in a state of extreme poverty, has, within the last week, by the death of a relative abroad, come into possession of a sum exceeding £5000.

MUSIC AND MONEY.—A punster, asked by a musician, whether he was not a lover of harmony, replied "Yes, but I prefer it when it is abridged, for then it is money; and that, my friend is the best half of it. I have no objection to your notes, but I like the Bank of England notes better; you may make good tunes, but those make infinitely the best of tunes." "How so? that bank notes are good things?" "The best tune in the world—a for-tune."

VANITY.—Vanity is so anchored in the heart of man that a blackguard, a scullion, a porter, boasts of himself, and desires to have e admirers. The philosophers even wish for them. Those who write against glory wish to have the glory of having written well; those who read my book wish to have the glory of having read it; and I who write this have probably that desire, as well as that those who read it may have it likewise.—Pascal.

HONNE TOOKE.—When this gentleman was going to be tried for high treason, he engaged Erskine as his Counsel. Being in Court, however, he felt so much confidence from what was passing in his own mind, that he wrote on a slip of paper, and passed it to Erskine:—"I think I shall plead my own cause."

Erskine wrote underneath:—"If you do, you'll be hanged."

Honne Tooke again returned the paper, having first written, "Then I'll be hanged if I do."

THE SEMINOLES.—It is evident that we are fighting upon no terms of equality with the countrymen of Osceola. They must have charmed lives, and nothing but silver bullets will hit them. It was stated by Col. Benton, near the close of the Session of Congress, that the cost of the Florida war has already amounted to nearly twenty millions of dollars. Forty officers have been killed, and many others wounded, and nearly four hundred soldiers have been killed and wounded, exclusive of the militia and volunteers. The Col. summed up the results of the campaign thus:—"Four counties of Florida depopulated;—the Indians ravaging the country from Cape Sable to Okrianokee swamp;—the frontier of Georgia attacked;—deprelations carried on to the suburbs of St. Augustine and Tallahassee;—the light-house at Florida Point burnt and destroyed;—shipwrecked mariners on the coast of Florida massacred;—and all cultivation suspended over a large district of country."

To the preceding estimate of killed and wounded, must be added the thousands of soldiers and volunteers who have fallen before the climate, or disappeared in the morasses and hammocks, and have been as completely lost as was the army of Cambyses when overwhelmed in the sands of the desert on its march against Thebes. And what has been the result upon the enemy? We have information from an officer of standing, that as far as has been ascertained, no more than fifty of the Seminoles have been killed during the whole war. Two millions of musket cartridges have actually been expended in this contest, and only fifty indians killed—forty thousand cartridges to every dusky warrior slain! Battle after battle has been fought, and not an enemy seen, either dead or alive! Say we not truly, then, that the Seminoles are endowed with charming lives? How preposterous to fight with enemies not offering even an unsubstantial shadow for a mark! Hail, then, to the Seminoles! The undaunted, unconquered, and invincible countrymen of Osceola!!

LOWER CANADA.

Montreal, April 13th.—On Thursday afternoon, Mr. De Beaujeu's servant rode his master's horse to the river to wash the animal's legs. The water being over the wharf he was deceived as to its extent, and both horse and rider, being precipitated into the Port, were drowned. The man's name was Delaney.

Transcript. The steamboat Burlington arrived at St. Johns yesterday, from winter quarters, and will begin her regular trips for the season on Monday, leaving St. Johns at one o'clock p. m. The Railway Company will despatch a steamboat on Monday morning, at seven o'clock for Laprairie.—Gazette.

We understand that water will be let into the Lachine Canal, on Tuesday or Wednesday next, in the event of any boat arriving with produce, but should none come forward by that time, it will remain closed for some days longer, to allow of repairs being made on the Locks.—Id.

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, WEDNESDAY, 17TH APRIL.

FIVE DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

VIA HALIFAX.

From the Acadian Recorder, 6th February. The March packet, Linnet, arrived yesterday afternoon, 27th days from Falmouth. London dates are brought down to the 7th ultimo. It is with much pride we learn that a Noosascotian, well known for his enterprise, has undertaken to accomplish a most important and long contemplated project—the intercourse, by steam, betwixt the Mother Country and this. The Hon. S. Cunard has contracted for conveying the Mails from England to Halifax twice a month in steamers of not less than 300 horse power—the first vessel to leave Liverpool the first of May, 1840. The contractor to forward the Mails to Boston in small steamers, and to run a steamboat between Pictou and Quebec. Contract for seven years at £55,000 stg. per annum.

[The Montreal correspondent of the Quebec Gazette says that when this arrangement is carried into effect, the mail will be carried over land in twelve hours to Pictou, and thence to Quebec, by a steamer, in forty-eight hours; so that we may have news in Quebec in fifteen or sixteen days in summer, and eighteen or twenty in winter.]

Among the last presentations to Her Majesty at a levee held on the 5th of March, we notice the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, and Lieut. Col. J. Leander Starr, as Aid de Camp to His Excellency Sir Colin Campbell, by the Marquis of Normandy. Mr. Labouchere has been appointed an Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Judge T. C. Halliinton, M. Tobin, jun., and P. Furlong, Esqs. takes passage in the Great Western for New York, 24th March.

House of Commons, March 6.

Sir R. P. of said, the house had been taught to believe that some measure relating to the important question of the present condition of Canada would be brought before parliament by her Majesty's government. Would the noble lord say whether a bill containing the views of the government on the constitution of Canada would be laid before the house before Easter, or whether it was improbable such a bill would be laid on the table before Easter.

Lord J. Russell said, the right hon. baronet, had a perfect right to ask that question; but, as there were many points connected with that important subject which required to be re-considered and re-examined, it would be much safer for him (Lord J. Russell) to say, that immediately after Easter, and not before, he should propose to bring in a bill laying before the house the measure which the government proposed with regard to Canada.

Mr. O'Connell said, it would be very desirable to know whether the accounts which appeared in the newspapers of the horrible butchery of unarmed prisoners by Col. Prince were true.

Lord J. Russell replied, that he could not answer that question. He, however, begged the house not to conclude from his not answering it now that there had been anything to blame in the conduct of Col. Prince.

Mr. O'Connell observed, that he should repeat his question to-morrow. A man named Wilson, apprehended by Mr. O'Brien, S. M. at Mitchellstown, on a charge of murdering Lord Norbury, and who was forwarded to Tuamore last week for examination, passed through this city on Tuesday under escort of police for the county of Cork. There are five persons charged with the crime in Tuamore jail.—Limerick Chronicle.

New York papers of Wednesday last are received. The arrival of the Great Western is awaited with intense anxiety. Business is represented as being completely at a stand in expectation of unfavorable news being received by her; and a number of outward-bound vessels have ceased loading. The Montreal Courier says that the news, which was of the worst character, that the Liverpool carried home concerning the war proceedings in Maine, would create a panic among the holders of American Stocks in London, and those upon whom bills had been drawn, in anticipation of future credits. With these in prospect, whether war or a sinking credit, the commercial interests in New York are very much depressed, and it is supposed by some that the distress is little short of what existed during the panic of 1836-7. All this comes of the insane bustling of their Representatives in Congress, and the wicked conduct of the State of Maine. If the merchants are the first to suffer, as undoubtedly they will be, they are the less to be pitied, for not having taken a more open and decided stand against the headlong prejudices of the mobocracy against Britain and the political charlatanism of their national Statesmen.

Toronto papers of the 9th inst. and Kingston papers of the 12th, were received by this morning's mail.

The Toronto Patriot gives a long and interesting account of the public dinner given to Colonel Prince, which is described as one of the greatest demonstrations of popular feeling, of strong decided approbation, and of cordial good will to an individual, that British North America has ever witnessed.

Opening of the Navigation.—Since our last everything has been stir and bustle in the port of our good town, schooners arriving, and steamboats departing almost every hour of the day.—The St. George, Com. Barrie, Kingston, Sir James Kempt and the Hunter are in full commission, and the Great Britain will begin business this present week. The steamers of the O. & R. Company are nearly ready—the Margaret is on the Railway, and the Rideau will take her place when the former is again afloat. The schooner "Mississauga Chief" has arrived from Port Stanley, with a load of wheat, via the Welland Canal, this vessel's arrival on the 9th April at Kingston, is of unprecedented occurrence in the annals of Canada Navigation.

Her cargo has been discharged into one of McPherson & Crane's barges, and will be at market in the course of a few days. The Rideau Canal will be open by Monday week, the water in the several locks being expected to be high enough by that time, to allow the passage of steamers. The season opens auspiciously.—Kingston Whig.

Five men gone over the Falls.—A report circulated yesterday, of five men having been precipitated over the Niagara Falls, turns out to be but too true. The only particulars which we have been able to learn, are that just before sunrise on Thursday morning last, a boat with two men in it, was discovered in the middle of the river above the falls, vainly endeavouring to make their way through the ice, with which they were inclosed, to the Canada wharf. Their utmost exertions proved unavailing and in a short time they were seen to enter the cascades, when they disappeared. In half an hour after, another boat with three men in it, was discovered in the same awful situation, and trying too, to gain the Canada side; but in a few moments shared the melancholy fate of the other. Yesterday, the body of a man was picked up in the Whirlpool, supposed to be one of these unfortunate men, having about his person two hundred dollars, and a valuable gold watch. We have no other particulars.—St. Catharines Journal.

It appears that the paragraph in our last number respecting the political prisoners was erroneous in stating that the release was extended to those only who petitioned for it, and refused to those who neglected to do so. The *Canadiens* of Monday assures us that there are among those liberated some who made no application to the Executive to obtain their enlargement; and Mr. Charles Hunter has addressed to us a note on the same subject, and stating that he forwarded a petition to Montreal on the 7th instant, praying to be released on bail.

The Governor General and Special Council on Thursday last, sanctioned the following Ordinances:—

Cap. LXVI.—An Ordinance to amend an Act of the Legislature of this Province, intituled, "An Act for repealing certain Acts granting rates and duties on Her Majesty, and for granting new and additional duties in lieu thereof, and for appointing the same to various officers of the Administration of Justice and in support of the Civil Government within this Province, and for other purposes therein mentioned."

Cap. LXVII.—An Ordinance to regulate Private Banking, and the circulation of the notes of Private Bankers.

Cap. LXVIII.—An Ordinance to establish Circuit Courts of Requests in the Districts of Quebec, Montreal, and Three Rivers, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

Cap. LXIX.—An Ordinance to suspend, for a limited time, certain sections of the Ordinance for the better Packing and Inspecting of Flour and Meal.

Cap. LXX.—An Ordinance to amend certain Acts therein mentioned relative to a certain Market at Montreal.

Cap. LXXI.—An Ordinance to authorize the Commissioners for making the Canal from St. John to Chambly, to borrow a certain sum of money to complete the said Canal.

Cap. LXXII.—An Ordinance for the more easy and certain collection of the Harbour dues at Montreal.

Cap. LXXIII.—An Ordinance to provide for the distribution of the printed copies of the Ordinance passed by the Governor of this Province, and the Special Council for the affairs thereof.

Cap. LXXIV.—An Ordinance to establish a board of Works in this Province.

Cap. LXXV.—An Ordinance to provide for the inspection of Fish and Oil.

Cap. LXXVI.—An Ordinance to repeal a certain Ordinance therein mentioned, relating to the District of St. Francis.

Cap. LXXVII.—An Ordinance for indemnifying persons who since the twenty-first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight had acted in apprehending, imprisoning, or detaining in custody, persons suspected of High Treason or Treasonable Practices, and in the suppression of unlawful assemblies, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

IMPORTANT FROM MAINE.—The correspondent of Hale's News Room under date at Augusta April 2, says, "It is reported that a special messenger has passed through this town towards Saco, to the Governor, and that he carries information of the return of trespassers in considerable numbers for the purpose of renewing the timber by force. Another report is, that they have taken our supplies and carried them off beyond the disputed territory. Whether any of these things are true or not, I can not vouch, but there is good reason to fear they are."

The Annual Bazaar in support of the Female Orphan Asylum of this city, opens to-day, at one o'clock, at the National School House, near St. John's Gate.

Among the Ordinances lately sanctioned by Her Majesty's most Excellent and most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, will be observed, the Licensing Circuit Courts of Quebec, Montreal, and which will come into operation on Monday next. By this salutary law, the for the Trial of Small many instances of, tent, will be entirely districts. These new try and determine, in suits of actions parcel amount claimed, or that not exceed the sum of each of the three dist of the Court of Request upon being appointed such Commissioner to Quarter Sessions in shall be Commissioner ten years standing, at practice as an Advocate, he may appear for on Circuit, the Comm to perform certain judg formed by a Judge of Bench.—Montreal Ga.

At a Levee held by February, we notice numerous presentation Col. Couper, on behalf of the Bath, by Lieut. Col. Oldfield as Commanding Engineer the Master-General of Captai Impett, 71st Infantry, by Major Lord Land Light Infantry.

Major Denny, 71st Infantry, by Major Lord A. Light Infantry.

Colonel Grant, Gros return from Canada,

OFFICE OF THE SECY. His Excellency the Govern pleased to make the following John Lilly Hall, Esq. Secretary, and Mistry of Lower Canada.

MARKETS.—Demerara, small lots, 2 @ 2 1/2; 1 @ 2 1/2; Flour #11; Pork, per arrived in 13 days. Day fish (in demand) #1 3/4; Alewives #0; Bee #11 @ 12; Lumber #2 1/2.

BIR On the 15th April, the 1st at Montreal, on the Thas Hon. R. de St. Ours, his daughter.

MAR At New York, on the Taylor, William P. Van L to Sarah, daughter of Be Esq. of New York.

DIE On Saturday morning months, after a painful endured with a degree of nation far above his age, E third and eldest surviving Equire.

At Halifax, on the 1st of fiction, borne with exco the beloved wife of the R leyan Missionary, aged 4

WAN AN APPRENTICE A BUSINESS. Esq. Office, St. John's Street Quebec, 17th April.

ST. GEORGE WEDNESDAY, the 23rd of April, on the Festival of St. George Service in the Chapel when a Sermon, suitable be preached by the Rev. A Musical Service will der the direction of L. the Chapel.

A collection will be in aid of the charitable Managers or Miss Soc of St. George's Church, to attend at the Almaty 7 o'clock precisely, to session to the Chapel.

By Or WM Quebec, 17th April, 1838