

COLONIAL.

New Brunswick.

THE APPROACHING SESSION.—Before our next issue, the new House of Assembly will have assembled at Fredericton, and we shall, no doubt, be able to lay before our readers His Excellency's Speech. The election of a Speaker will, of course, be the first business to occupy the attention of the House. The Hon. Mr. Hannington and the Hon. Mr. Simonds are the most prominent candidates, although there are others in the field, and some discussion and difficulty may arise on this important question.

We are led to believe that the Speech will convey information to the people of New Brunswick of a grave and important character, and contain matter of high interest. In all the discussions which may subsequently arise, we trust the debates will be conducted in a calm and dignified manner, and that no rash or hasty decisions may take place. Above all, we sincerely hope that each and every party will be fully and fairly heard, before being either condemned or applauded.

It is the intention of the Hon. Mr. Street, the Attorney-General, to return to his constituents in Northumberland for re-election, as soon as a writ can be issued, although it is very doubtful if, under the provisions of the Act for vacating the Seats of Members in certain cases he is obliged to do so. The words of this Act (prepared by Mr. Fisher) are vague and uncertain, and "members elect" are omitted altogether. Mr. Street, however, prefers acting up to the spirit of the Act, although he may not strictly be within its letter. He will therefore return to meet his constituents manfully, and fairly lay before them his views and intentions.

The remaining Members of the Executive Council meet at Fredericton to-day, and it is not unlikely that some further changes may take place in that body very shortly.—*St. John N. B. Courier*, 11/4.

FIRE.—On Monday morning, a small out-building on the premises of Mr. Wm. Fenety, Elliott Row, was destroyed by fire, without doing damage, however, to the adjoining houses.

On Wednesday morning, the large dwelling house on the corner of Orange and Wentworth streets, in the back part of the City, occupied by Mr. William Lash, Accountant in the Bank of British North America, and owned by Mr. J. W. M'Leod, was burnt down, with the out-houses, &c. attached. The fire, which commenced from some cause unknown, in an out-building, was discovered by one of the inmates, between four and five o'clock, and had then made so much progress towards the main building, through which also the smoke was penetrating, that the family, consisting of eleven individuals, had barely time to escape with their lives. But little of the clothing and furniture being saved, Mr. Lash's loss must be very considerable. There was an insurance of £400 on the buildings, which is less than half their cost.

The fire being at a considerable distance from the alarm bells, it was some time before the noise was heard throughout the City, and the engines were consequently not so soon at the scene as would otherwise have been the case; but the supply of water in the neighbourhood being scant, it was found impossible to arrest the progress of the flames, and the attention of the firemen was directed to the preventing the roofs of the adjacent houses from being set on fire by the flakes and sparks which a high South East wind was driving about. Many of the roofs were covered with snow, and the morning being rainy, the flames were confined to Mr. M'Leod's premises.

Between eleven and twelve o'clock on Thursday night, an alarm of fire was sounded. It was found to proceed from the Golden Bill building on the corner of Sidney and Union Streets, occupied by Mr. Chambers and others. The fire appeared to be making headway in the cellar, but by the judicious application of a small supply of water, obtained by our ever watchful Engine Companies from a well in the neighbourhood, it was soon got under. The circumstances attending this fire were so suspicious, that an examination of several parties is going on before the Police Magistrate, and we trust, if it was really intentional, that the guilty party will be discovered and punished. He must be a heartless fellow who would turn incendiary on such a night.—*Id.*

ALBERT COAL MINES.—We have much pleasure in informing our readers, that the company which is working these mines is prosecuting the undertaking with great vigour, and with every prospect of success. There are already a great number of persons employed in excavating the coal, besides about thirty teams, who are daily engaged in conveying it from the mines to the place of shipment. We were, yesterday, shown a specimen of the production of these mines, which appears to be a very pure and highly bituminous description of canal coal, very well qualified for the manufacture of gas.

We have been informed that the experiments made with it at our Gas Works shew it to be more valuable for this purpose than almost any other kind of coal yet used, and that a ton of it will produce a greater quantity of gas, at less expense, in shorter time, and with less purifying, than a similar quantity of the description of coal now in use. And we believe that the St. John Gas Company will find it to their advantage to procure their future supplies entirely from this source.

The company now working these mines intend carrying on their operations extensively, and as they will prove a valuable source of export from our Province, and give employment to a large

number of persons thereby benefitting the country, we wish them every success in their undertaking.—*Id.*

NEW CARRIAGE.—A most ingenious description of Carriage had just been invented and manufactured by Mr. T. Turnbull, of this City, and, during the week, we are informed, upwards of a thousand persons have had the pleasure of witnessing it in operation. The inventor has succeeded in discovering a motive power sufficiently strong to enable one man, with ease, to propel a carriage, with himself in it, at the rate of thirty miles or more, per hour, on a common turnpike road. He has the most perfect contrivance over the carriage, and can drive it backwards or stop it at once when at its full speed.—It runs on three wheels, the foremost one being the rudder or guiding one, the propelling power being communicated to the back wheels. Mr. Turnbull has not divulged his invention yet, until he secures a patent for it; but if it turns out equal to what is expected, we are of opinion that it will be one of the wonders of the age. We hope some measures will be taken by the proper authorities to examine it, and if found worthy, that means will be adopted for sending it to the Great Exhibition in London.—*Id.*

Yesterday morning, the Petit Jury presented His Honour Chief Justice Carter with a complimentary address on his recent elevation, to which a suitable reply was made.—*N. Brunswicker*, 13th ult.

THE WEATHER this week has undergone some sudden and marked changes. On Tuesday the thermometer indicated 12 degrees below zero, but during the day it moderated greatly, the wind changing to the south-east, accompanied in the evening with snow, which changed to rain during the night, and continued descending all the next day. On Wednesday night the wind shifted to the westward, bringing with it clear and cold weather. Thursday night was the coldest we have experienced this winter, or, indeed, for a number of winters past, and yesterday morning the thermometer stood at 30° below zero. We learn that at Fredericton it was down to 25° below zero.—*Id.* 1st inst.

Canada.

GREAT WESTERN RAIL ROAD.—We are happy to state that the men who lately struck on this road, have returned to their work. From the present prospects of the great work we make bold to assert, that ere long the entire stock of the line will be taken up from this to Detroit; we would therefore strongly recommend such of our friends as have not already taken stock, to do so without delay, if they desire to be connected with an enterprise, which will prove the most glorious ever contemplated in this Province. Already the effects of this important undertaking are beginning to be felt amongst the business community, and several merchants have assured us that their cash sales have nearly doubled since its commencement.—*Hamilton Gazette*.

WARNING TO PARENTS.—On Monday last, 2 children belonging to J. Whelan of this town were left in a room together, by their parents, and while they were absent, one of the children, about 4 years old, was playing with straw and chips by putting them in the fire. The child's clothes caught fire, and before relief could be given, its body was burned to a crisp, presenting a most horrible spectacle. The child died on the same evening.—*Bradford Herald*.

SUNNEX DEATH.—A clever and ingenious mechanic, named Samuel Austin, was found dead this week, near the boiler of Mr. Coleclough's distillery in Ayr. For some time he had given himself up to habits of the grossest intemperance, cramming himself with liquor whenever he could procure it, and then lying down to sleep it off, awake only to renew the debauch. In one of these fits he was summoned to eternity! What a lesson!—*Galt Reporter*.

ANOTHER VICTIM.—An Inquest was held in Beech's Tavern, Brockville, on Saturday the 25th inst., on the body of Alice Kilmer, who died suddenly on the evening of Thursday, the 26th inst., before Dr. Edmondson, Coroner, and a Jury, when the testimony adduced went to prove that on the 25th and 26th, deceased, her husband, and friends, had been keeping up Christmas rather freely, and with the rest of her friends had taken her share of a gallon of spirits, and that the night of the 25th had been spent in a quarrelling sort of talk between deceased, her son-in-law Widdoes, and her husband. That on the morning of the 26th the deceased's husband, James Kilmer, and Widdoes, her son-in-law, went on a visit to Yonge Mills, drank there, and brought whiskey home. When arrived, Widdoes was subject to a severe scolding from deceased, which he answered by obscene words, whereupon deceased raised a broom to strike Widdoes, who put his hands on both shoulders of deceased. That deceased instantly dropped down on the floor, and never breathed after. Dr. McQueen, who held a post mortem examination on the body, stated that he could discover no marks of violence on any part of it. The Jury retired but returned and expressed their desire that the Inquest should be adjourned till Monday the 30th ult., to obtain the evidence of two boys, John and Joseph Kilmer, aged 12 and 10 years, which was accordingly done. On Monday the eldest boy was examined. His evidence only went to corroborate what the other witnesses had said, with only one slight addition, that deceased, after having been first pushed to the floor by Widdoes, got up a moment, but dropped immediately down on her side, and never spoke. The Jury retired, and in about ten minutes returned a verdict to the fol-

lowing effect, through Mr. S. Beach, foreman of the Jury: "that deceased, while labouring under a state of great excitement induced by intemperance, came to her death by the bursting of a blood vessel in the lungs, which caused suffocation and death." Thus another victim has been sacrificed to the god Intemperance.—*Brockville Recorder*.

UNITED STATES.

ADVERTISING.—The Boston *Chronotype* says:—"In conversation with a gentleman lately, he stated his firm belief that advertising in the papers prevented his utter failure in business. Some months ago he was very much pressed for funds, and the business was rather diminished. He had never advertised his place at all; but, as a last resort, determined to appropriate a certain amount for that purpose, and consequently commenced advertising in the most extensively circulated journals in the city. New customers appeared daily, and in a very short time, he was able to make his payments promptly, and his business has continued to increase rapidly ever since."

BARNUM'S FIRST OPERATION.—Mr. P. T. Barnum of the New York Museum, and now the protégé of Jenny Lind is the greatest professional showman in the world, and certainly the most money-making man at this time in America. Whatever he touches literally turns to gold. His lease of Tom Thumb, his tour through Europe, his entrance to Queen's palaces and entertainments to crowned heads, were thought the *chefs d'œuvre* of a showman; but his late engagement and consequent success with Jenny throws the Tom Thumb feat into the shade. He cleared half a million with Tom; he will clear a million and a half with Jenny; and still his Museum, clearing from \$300 to \$500 per day, is his main dependence for wealth. His "first operation," however, best proves the genius of the man. Most Clevelanders will remember, some years ago, a small drove of buffaloes passed through this city on their way east to be exhibited, but the owner being no showman could not pay expenses with them, and when they got to Utica they were seized and sold at a constable's sale to pay the owner's debts. Barnum hearing this, lost no time in buying said buffaloes, getting them cheap. He took them to Hoboken, where he had them kept, saying nothing to nobody. He next went to all the ferrymen on the river, and asked them what their receipts were. Ascertaining that, he proposed to charter their services for a single day, paying them a slight increase above ordinary receipts. To this they assented, and he bound the bargain by advancing a portion of the pay. Next appeared barn door bills in flaming capitals posted all over New York, that on such a day there would be a Grand Buffalo Chase at Hoboken. Eighteen live buffaloes fresh from the prairies, and with wild Indians mounted on native chargers to chase them, &c. &c. all to be seen *free gratis and for nothing*. New York turned out as it had never done before. The ferry boats ran from early light till two o'clock next morning loaded to their gunwales with passengers. The net proceeds of the whole operation amounted to five thousand dollars, and this was the beginning of Barnum's success and his subsequent fortune.

AN ESTATE FOR SOMEbody.—Mr. William Thew of Clarendon, Marion County, Ohio, requests us to say that he has received a letter from England stating that a large estate has been left to a Mr. Clement Wood, or his heirs. Mr. Wood came to America sixty years ago, and was then 25 years old. Any information respecting the said Wood or his descendants, if he be dead, may be forwarded to Mr. Thew as above.—*Christian Advocate & Journal*.

JUDICIOUS LIBERALITY.—Mrs. Sarah Hale, of Newburyport, Massachusetts, has given 5000 acres of land in Illinois to Beloit College, Wisconsin. The interest of the fund will be directed to support a Professorship of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, styled the Hale Professorship.—*Newburyport Herald*.

The Germantown, Pa., Telegraph, says there has been just brought to light the application of power, which is to supersede entirely the present steam of the world! The discovery has been made by an Eastern man, who has completed his models—one of which will be deposited at Washington as soon as patent rights shall be secured in the different European countries. The machinery is entirely perfected—the power is a motive one, the steam has no part in creating it. So simple and economical are the principle and application, that two tons of coal will be sufficient to drive the largest ship of the line around the world!—*Quebec Chronicle*.

Audubon, the celebrated Ornithologist, died on Monday last near the city of New York, aged between 70 and 80 years.

Mr. James S. Wadsworth, who was a passenger on board the missing steamer *Atlantic*, is one of the wealthiest men in the state of New York.

In New York city there are 515,394 inhabitants and 37,370 dwellings. The state of New York, in all the counties but Clinton, Albany and Ulster, contains 3,029,249 inhabitants, an increase of 659,600 since 1840, or 27 per cent.

THE LAND OF BREAD.—The quantity of wheat which Ohio raised in 1850 is set down at *thirteen millions of bushels*, sufficient to supply the wants of that state, and leave a surplus of eighteen millions of bushels. The corn raised is equal to one hundred bushels to each of the two million persons in the state. The surplus of these two

articles is equal in value to twenty-five millions of dollars.

HORRIBLE.—On Wednesday morning about three o'clock, a woman named Sarah Billings, nee of Broad and Winter Streets. The evening before, the city marshal had been called there, and found the deceased, with her sons John and Edward, all more or less intoxicated, and the mother burning chairs to keep from freezing. John was taken to the watch-house. Edward, who slept in the room where his mother was, and who aroused the neighbours, told them that the last he saw of his mother alive, she sat by the stove with a jug upon it. When he awoke again, he missed her, and on searching found her dead near the door. When the coroner arrived she lay entirely from her, with her clothes burned. The sight was horrible. In the same room lay her son—a young man—in a state of such nearly intoxication that he could not be aroused. The family are Americans, and come from South Kingston. The woman was 62 years old.—*Providence Mirror*.

SUCCESSOR TO PROFESSOR WEBSTER.—J. Parsons Cooke, Jr., of this city, has been appointed Erving Professor of Chemistry and Mineralogy in Harvard University and lecturer on Chemistry in the Medical College. He presents a rare instance of precocity in that science. At the age of twelve years, he had made such progress in it, that he required a laboratory to be fitted up at home, for his use, in which he spent most of his time not devoted to his regular course of study from that time till the age of twenty. His zeal in the pursuit of that science, and his saving of time which so many other young men devote to hurtful amusements, has, in so short a time, raised him to so rare an eminence.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER.—A friend presented us a day or two since with a curiosity in the shape of a flower, which, we think, is one of the greatest wonders of the floral kingdom we have seen. It is about the size of a walnut, perfectly white, with five leaves resembling very much indeed the wax plant. Upon the blooming of the flower, in the cup formed by the leaves, is the exact image of a dove lying on its back, with its wings extended. The peak of the bill and the eyes are plainly to be seen, and a small leaf before the flower, arrives at maturity forms the outspread tail. This leaf can be raised or shut down at the fingers, without breaking or apparently injuring it, until the flower reaches its full bloom, when it drops off.—*Panama Star*.

SOLAR PHENOMENON.—One day last month the people of St. Paul, (Minnesota), witnessed a superb solar exhibition. From sunrise to sunset, three suns of equal brightness, and too dazzling for the naked eye, apparently rose at once in the horizon, and the ground being covered with snow poured forth a deluge of light far more intense than is usually witnessed. A stream of powerfully refracted rays were blazing down from the real sun in the centre, like the blazing beard of a fiery comet, while, on each side of the sun, like the segments which form a parenthesis—this, (—) hung a brilliant sun-dog, with a local point in the centre of each intensely luminous, so that the two suns, the offspring of the sun by refraction, shone with equal splendour.

A MUSICAL CAT.—There is a family residing at South Boston, who have a cat which is exceedingly fond of music, and almost invariably seats herself beside any member of the family, when they commence playing the piano. A few days since, when the family were engaged in another part of the house, they heard sounds proceeding from the piano, and repaired at once to the parlor, where, much to their surprise, Tabby was discovered seated on the piano stool, with her fore paws upon the keys, making them fly in double quick time, evidently much delighted with her first effort, and also greatly to the edification of the family. So soon, however, did the mistress of the house appear, then pass very politely resigned her seat, but has since resumed her attempts, seemingly with a determination to acquire a knowledge of so desirable an accomplishment.—*Journal*.

POWER OVER THE DIRECTION OF BALLOONS.—A respectable political refugee, who was professor in one of the principal Universities in Europe, professes to have found, upon mathematical calculations, the solution of the problem of air navigation. A model of his invention has already been constructed, and it will soon be exposed to the public of this city. When executed, his plan, even for the simple material dimensions of the contrivance, will throw into shade all previous attempts of the kind. His flying machine will be eighteen times larger than the celebrated *Somayer's* balloon, now in construction at Madrid. We may be able in a few days to give further explanations.—*New York Eccl. Post*.

INDIAN COLONY IN MEXICO.—By late accounts from Texas we learn that Wild Cat, the Indian chief, has made a treaty with Mexico, by which full permission is given to the Indians in United States to settle in Mexico. Wild Cat has been appointed a justice of the peace, or rather Governor. He recently took with him from Arkansas a number of negroes and Indians. They are to have implements of husbandry and a certain portion of land given to them, with all the rights of Mexican citizens, on condition that they cultivate their land and obey the laws. They are to be distributed on the frontier, to repel the Comanche Indians.