

THE QUEBEC ARGUS.

We watch o'er all—and note the things we see.

VOL. 1.

QUEBEC, WEDNESDAY, 17TH NOVEMBER, 1841.

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THE QUEBEC ARGUS.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

Sleepiness.—With her eyes shut and her mouth wide open she could be seen to sit very stiff and upright in her chair; then she would suddenly forward, and stop with both feet; then to recover herself; then to come forward again—lower—lower—lower—very slowly degrees, until just as it seemed impossible that she could preserve her balance for another instant, and the to knock was about to call out in an agony, to save her from falling down upon her forehead and fracturing her skull, then, all of a sudden and without the smallest notice, she would come upright and rigid again with her eyes open, and in her countenance an expression of defiance, she would say a most obstinate, which plainly said, "I never on earth would be made to look at you last, and I'll take my oath of it!"—*Bos.*

All good things pertain to a good purpose, are worse than those which are naturally bad. A thorough was a woman, I think indeed.

Wonderful acuity of a Horse.—A very singular circumstance occurred on a farm at Buchanan, six miles from C. E. A wild bull coming at large in a park there, along with a number of cows, one day lately attacked the herd, and heaped him by his horns over his head; the boy fell to the ground and when lying the bull was about to make a second attack upon him, when a horse, which was grazing nearby at the time, and seeing the murderous intention of the bull, leaped forward, and turning himself round struck the bull two or three times upon his side with his hind feet, which were raised to an almost vertical position. By his interposition the horse, the boy was enabled so far to escape himself as to make his escape.—*Stirling Observer.*

Old Age.—Salizza de Pedra, residing in Old Italy for her beauty she answered "butauty was to compare the with old age." To which Salizza replied, "We say 'butauty' as in 'aug' and yet the angels of all creatures are the most ancient."

Plan to remove Stumps.—The following simple and efficient plan to remove stumps is copied from the Western Gardener for the present month. To a farmer who is annoyed with these incumbrances (and most of the farmers in this region have them in abundance) this short paragraph is worth a year's subscription to a newspaper, *ten times over*. There is a tree stump or bush to be seen on my farm, except some very handsome shade trees purposely left for sheltering in the heat of summer. The removal of these stumps has been accomplished by a very simple and economical process, which I will attempt to describe, in the hope that it may be beneficial to those who have their lands encumbered with trees and stumps. Procure a dry old iron bar, about twenty feet long, and six to eight inches in diameter, a good stout log chain, with two yokes of oxen; this is all the machinery that is necessary. The mode of operation is thus:—wrap the long chain round the stump a little above the ground, and make what is called a log hitch; lay the lever horizontally on the ground the large end next to the chain and against the stump; make the other end of the chain fast to this end of the lever, drawing the lever tight against the stump; the cattle are hitched to the small end of the lever, and driven around the stump in a circle, of which the lever is the radius. One revolution of the oxen around the stump will generally twist out the largest of them; but should not the power thus applied be sufficient to move the stump, the side roots may be uncovered and cut partly off; after this is done, the stump will be easily removed. You will find this plan much preferable to any "patent stump extractor" that you may have been pulled in the papers.

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QUEBEC, 17TH NOVEMBER 1841.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the Great Western.
New York, November 9.—The steam ship Great Western, Capt. Hopken, made her appearance in the East river this morning, bringing London, Liverpool and Bristol papers to the 23d of October inclusive.

The Great Western made her homeward voyage in twelve days and twelve hours.

The *Caledonia* arrived at Liverpool, on the 20th, making her passage in twelve days from Halifax.

Her Majesty.—The Queen continues in excellent health; but we understand that Her Majesty's accouchment is daily expected. Yesterday afternoon orders were given by Sir James Graham for messengers to be in attendance at the Home Office night as well as day, and if any information of Her Majesty being indisposed were received, that express should be immediately forwarded to all the Cabinet Ministers, whether in town or country.

Sir Charles Bagot sailed for Halifax, on board the steam frigate *Styx*, on the 20th of October. It is rumored that Lord Lyndhurst will resign the Chancellorship in January, and be succeeded by Sir W. Follett, now solicitor-general.

Mr. Stansfeld had his audience of leave on the 2nd of October. He has arrived in the Great Western.

Mr. O'Connell has been elected Lord Mayor of Dublin and has accepted the office.

The London Morning Chronicle of the 23rd has an article referring to the so-called wulike preparations in the United States.

A public meeting was to be held at the London Tavern on the 23rd ult. for the purpose of taking into consideration the distress existing among the operatives of Paisley.

The town hall at Derby was destroyed by fire on the 21st of October. It was erected in 1822 at a cost of about \$60,000. All the town records perished in the flames.

The Duke of Richmond has sustained another calamity in the death of his youngest daughter, aged 19 years. Her name, it may be remembered, in the marriage was *Princess*.

Capt. Cook, of the United States army, was married yesterday, at Trinity Church, Portland place, to Miss Mary Cass, daughter of his Excellency General Cass, minister of the United States at Paris. Among the company present were his Excellency Mr. Stevenson, Mrs. Stevenson, Col. Todd, United States minister to St. Petersburg, &c.—*London Herald, Oct. 23.*

The trade of the manufacturing districts is more than commonly dull. The demand for the home market is trivial, and the export trade is completely stagnant.

The weather has been very bad in England, Ireland, and Scotland, of late, and much damage has been done to the grain left exposed in the fields. The yield of wheat is expected to be a fifth or sixth short of an average, and a further importation of foreign wheat will, doubtless, be required in the spring.

A sudden and rapid decline in the funds, at the beginning of the last week, took the public by surprise, and set speculation on foot as to the causes of the movement. One party maintained that the arrival of intelligence by the Great Western, portending disasters in the western hemisphere, and rendering a rupture with the United States, on the ground of the McClellan affair, inevitable—had occasioned the alarm. Others attributed it to the threatened revival of civil war in Spain; arguing that the intrigues of Christina and O'Donnell were countenanced, if not instigated, by Louis Philippe. All parties pointed to the acknowledged activity in the admiralty department for a confirmation of their apprehensions. It is not, however, in any anticipated political danger that the use of the decline was to be found. It was jointly mercantile and speculative in its origin. The failure in the tallow trade, and among the Portuguese and other foreign houses, originated a demand for money which would have been altogether insupportable, had not certain great capitalists stepped in and exerted all their influence to aid the downward tendency. The large amount of new stock brought into the market by the late operations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer afforded facilities for the execution of this scheme; and the parties in question, disappointed of the gains they expected to reap from a loan effected in the usual manner, succeeded for a time in placing the new scrip at a discount. Luckily the public saw through the scheme and defeated it.

Among the rumours current in the city of London is one that the old system of lotteries is about to be revived, and that a correspondence with the treasury has already commenced on the subject.

The Commerce states that the garrison of Paris is composed of 15,000 men, which, added to the troops employed at the fortifications, raises the number to 50,000. "With such a force," observes the Commerce, "Paris ought to be well guarded."

A letter from Rome states that the Jews of Ancona gave the Pope, during his visit in that city, a Bible, with clasps mounted in diamonds.

A mechanic at Stockton has invented a means by which an engine may adjust the railway switches while the train is in motion; also a method of instantly liberating the engine from the train.

The Universal Gazette of Leipsic, states that M. Arago, Soliman Pacha's aide-de-camp, was killed in a duel at Cairo, by a renegade Frenchman, the general's secretary.

At South Molton, about 12 miles from Barnstaple, an awful fire broke out on Sunday night, in South street, and eighty-three houses were destroyed.

The progress of the flames could be arrested. The fire originated at a common lodging-house.

Lord Broughsham goes to Berlin as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary.

The Bude light is now to be introduced into our streets instead of gas, at least at large open places.

There have been proposals made to Switzerland by France, says the Gazette of Upper Germany in order to bring about a treaty of commerce between the two countries.

A correspondent in Wednesday's Times, resident in Hamburg, shows that bread is cheaper here than in that city, where no corn-laws exist.

Madrid was quiet. Diego Lopez had been taken and shot.

It was not doubted that the insurrection would finally be suppressed in the provinces, but not until after a long term of ravages and bloodshed.

T. W. C. Murdoch, Esquire, Chief Secretary to the late Governor General, arrived in Quebec on Sunday last. This gentleman had left the Province with his family for England, and had proceeded as far as New York, where it is understood he was met with a letter from home offering him the same situation under His Excellency Sir Charles Bagot; from his return to the Province it is presumed the offer has been accepted.—*Quebec Mercury.*

THE ST. LAWRENCE CANAL—PUBLIC MEETING.

In compliance with a resolution, published yesterday only, a Public Meeting took place, at noon this day in the Reading Room of the Exchange, of persons favourable to the immediate commencement of completing the St. Lawrence Canal.

The Hon. Wm. Walker was called to the Chair, and Richard P. Austin, Esquire, requested to act as Secretary.

The Chairman, after explaining the object of the meeting, remarked that a very large sum had been voted, at the late Session of the Provincial Legislature, for the completion of the St. Lawrence Canal, but it would not be available until borrowed in England. Now, it appeared, that with a sum of six or eight thousand pounds the work could be materially advanced—the opening of the Canal in fact could be accelerated one year—by the transport of stone and other weights materials during the winter, over the snow. He (the Chairman) understood that the Provincial Exchequer was not in an overflowing state and it was useless to expect assistance from that quarter. The great importance, however, of raising the money laid to an idea that it could be raised in Quebec, through the Banks, or otherwise. He believed that some gentlemen had drawn up resolutions on this subject, which he would be happy to lay before the meeting.

The following resolutions were then passed unanimously and without comment by the holders and seconders:

On motion of H. Le Mesurier, Esquire, seconded by J. G. Heath, Esquire,—

1st—Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting it is highly desirable that the necessary steps be taken a Cornwall for the immediate prosecution of the St. Lawrence Canal, it being ascertained that the expenditure of £200,000 or £3,000,000 in raising the stone and timber during the time of lighting, will advance the work full twelve months, and render it sooner available to the public as far as Cotou du Lac.

On motion of John Bonner, Esquire, seconded by J. B. Forsyth, Esquire,—

2d—Resolved, That the gentlemen composing the committee named at the public meeting held on the 27th March last, to carry on all correspondence, &c., connected with the St. Lawrence Canal, be requested to wait on His Excellency the Governor General, on his arrival, praying him to meet the views of this meeting.

On motion of John Gordon, Esquire, seconded by Louis Massie, Esquire,—

3rd—Resolved, That the said Committee be authorized to enter into communication with the Banks in this City for the loan of the above sum to be repaid from the loan to be raised in England, should His Excellency the Governor General see proper to authorize their so doing.

The Chairman then left the Chair, which was taken by J. G. Heath, Esquire, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Walker for his able presidency over the meeting was carried by acclamation.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Committee referred to in the second of the above resolutions is composed of the following gentlemen:—J. Neilson, J. B. Forsyth, P. P. Lettier, W. Bristow, E. Gluckmeyer, J. S. Gibb and H. J. Nesbit, with power to add to their number.—*Quebec Mercury.*

For the Quebec Argus.

QUEBECKERS AND MONTREALERS; OR,

PRO- AND CON-.

"Who shall decide, when Doctor's disagree?"

MR. EDITOR,
I am a very observant sort of personage in my small and peculiar way; and, whenever things strike me forcibly, I do straightway, somewhat after the fashion of your motto, "note the things I see."

Now, there are certain characteristic peculiarities although it is probable, not evident to mere casual observers of "men and manners," but which do really and singularly mark out, in a striking degree, the denizens of this celebrated city and those of the sister capital. Allow me just to jot you down a few of them; which at the best or worst construction of their rightful appliances, can only raise a good natured laugh at the expense of either party. So here goes with my string of "Did you evers?"

Did you ever see a Quebecker in Montreal, who, after a perambulation of an hour or two in its streets, did not complain of being fagged to death; and all for the want of the up and downhill tramping of his native city?

Did you ever meet a Montrealer in Quebec, who did not elevate his proboscis to a most horrible altitude at our public buildings; and at once pitch the Roman Catholic Cathedral of his town into your teeth, (figuratively) and thereby think he smote your conceit of locality to the dust?

Did you ever meet a Quebecker man in Montreal, who did not pretend to talk as knowingly as a landscape painter of scenery, fine views, and such matters, if a friend gave him a drive round the Mountain; always concluding with a knock-him-down assertion, that the famous bay of Naples was universally allowed to be far inferior in magnificence and beauty to the opening bay of the St. Charles River. N. B. This more particularly to carry weight, if the party making the assertion be one of those, who in his own *locole*, knows as much about the bearings of the Chaudiere falls, or lake St. Charles, as he does of lake Nipissing or the cataraacts of the Nile.

Did you ever walk a Montreal friend over the fortifications on the Cape, showing him rampart, bastion, turret, parapet, scarp and glacis, not omitting the signal tower, and the saluting battery; and did you not observe that, on issuing forth from the ponderous gloom of the Citadel gate, he immediately straightened up, cocked his hat, stroked his chin, and seemed altogether an altered man—asuming on the instant a peculiar bearing and expression, which must have reminded you of the story of the Mankman, who, when the Bishop of Bristol made him a present of a shilling, a pound of soap, and a razor, in the plenitude of his pride and happiness went forth on his way, despising the rest of the world?

Did you ever, in sauntering with a Quebecker acquaintance along St. Paul or Notre-Dame street in Montreal, and, if taking note of time, you directed his attention to the beautiful clock in the English Church—steeples tower with its quadruple dials—did you not always observe that the Quebecker pretended a sudden dimness of vision, and that he could not distinguish the hours clearly, at the same time casting sinister doubts as to the accuracy of their marking for all that; falling back in course, to a long dissertation on the perfectibility of such things in his city—even quoting, in support of his argument, the quaker faced horologes which edify and amuse the public from certain public buildings therein?

Did you ever meet a Montrealer in Quebec, after ten o'clock at night in the streets, but you found him in a devil of a hurry and bustle, and apparently bent on some particular purpose or object; who, upon enquiry, you found to be centred in the almost hopeless (to judge from his own words) expectation of getting somewhere, for love or money, the favorite supper of sautages and mashed potatoes?

Did you ever meet with a Montrealer and a Quebecker, who could agree as to which if their cities bore away the palm on the score of superior attractions in the "fair sex" line. In such cases and arguments, the Quebecker champion always brings up superior grace in the bearing of his belles; as, among other perfections which he enumerates, he talks of well turned ankles, pretty feet, and the spring and glittiness of a ro-back in the step when walking.—The Montrealer stumps you with figure and complexion; and says a great deal about mental accomplishments, the beauty of the mind, and such like.—Thus the discussion goes on, the argumentative powers of each warming up and sharpening, till at length a "turn up" on the spot, or a meeting at the Windmills or on Abraham's plains, settles the digression, but leaves the main feature of the question as open to dispute as ever?

Did you ever know a Montrealer ever allow that Quebec could produce any description of fruit, fit to be presented to a christian's eating; or, in turn, did you ever hear a Quebecker candidly confess that you might, by accident, get a bit of fish in Montreal which a body could look at without fainting?

In conclusion, did you ever know Quebeckers and Montrealers ever, by any circumstance, agree upon any one attributable point of merit in respect to locality? beauty, science, intelligence, dress feeling, population, comfort, or even common decency, in regard to the other city.—No you never did, nor ever will; and "that's a fact," as Sam Slick says,
GEOFFREY GAMBADO.

November, 1841.

"Quaker faced," meaning painted clock mock dials, and used in the same application as Woude-guns on board ships are called "quakers."

To the Editor of the Quebec Argus.

DEAR SIR,
Permit me to enquire through the channel of your *locole* rooting and independent journal, why nothing as can have been lately done, or is presently doing, to judge from a bark of such notice in the public prints, towards the customary celebration of the anniversary of the tataral oil of Scotland by a public dinner. Surely, the case of