

THE LITERARY TRANSCRIPT.

MISCELLANEOUS EXTRACTS.

UMBRELLA HONESTY IN ENGLAND.—This latter article, (an umbrella) in England deserves attention, since umbrellas, which are unfortunately so indispensable, are stolen in the most shameless manner, be it where it may, if you do not take particular care of them. This fact is so notorious, that I must translate for your amusement a passage from a newspaper relating to some society for the encouragement of virtue, which was to award a prize for the most honourable action. "The choice," continues the author, "was become extremely difficult; and it was nearly determined to give the prize to an individual who had paid his tailor's bill punctually for several years, when another was pointed out, who had twice sent home an umbrella left at his house. At this unheard of act," adds the journalist, "the company first fell into muteword so much virtue was still found in Israel; but at length loud and enthusiastic applause left the choice no longer doubtful.—*Tour of a German Prince.*

WAIT FOR THE APPLAUSE.—At a county festival, where the *Messiah* was performed, the gentleman to whom the aria "O thou that teltest" had been assigned, anticipating a favourable appreciation of his talents, wrote at the end of the song (the chorus following immediately) the words "wait for the applause." This he enclosed not only in the leader's copy, but in every one of the choruses. At the conclusion of the song the leader stopped, and there was a dead stop. "Why do you not go on?" said the singer, in an agony of disappointed vanity. "I am waiting for the applause," was the calm reply of the sacreptic conductor. This story reminds us of an anecdote which Robert Hall, of Bristol, was accustomed to relate. "I remember," says his biographer, "at the distance of many years, with what a vivid feeling of the ludicrous he related an anecdote of a preacher of some account in his day and connexion. He would, in preaching, sometimes weep, or seem to weep, when the people wondered why, as not perceiving in what he was saying any cause for such emotion in the exact places when it occurred. After his death one of the hearers happened to inspect some of his manuscript sermons exclaimed, 'I have found the explanation.' We used to wonder at the good doctor's weeping with so little reason sometimes as it seemed. In his sermons there is written here and there in the margin, 'cry here'; now I verily believe the doctor sometimes mistook the place, and that was the cause of what appeared so unaccountable.—*Musical World.*

A FAT GHOST.—We inserted, a few weeks ago, an amusing anecdote from the pen of Theodore Hook, of the part of the ghost in *Hamlet* having once been played by an actor, whose name he gave, in spectacles. Since then the Liverpool play-goers have had an opportunity of seeing the ghost played at our theatre by Mr. Stuart, with his arm in a sling. Amusing as the appearance of the spectated ghost must have been, the anecdote we are about to relate of a fat ghost is not less amusing. Many of our readers will recollect the late Mr. Banks, who for many years was co-lessee of the Liverpool and Manchester theatres. He was a remarkably large fat man. Mr. Banks always played the ghost in *Hamlet*, and, though formidable-looking, a most excellent ghost he was. Once on a time, while enacting the part on the stage of the Manchester theatre, his great bulk gave rise to a most laughable incident. The ghost, it was to be remembered by our theatrical readers, used to vanish, from some of the scenes, through a trap-door on the stage. Well, on one occasion Mr. Banks had taken his station on the spot. The bolt was withdrawn, and slowly descended the ghost, truncheon in hand. The legs disappeared in due course; but whether owing to the increase of his own bulk or to some alteration in the size of the aperture, the moment the butt round belly touched the edge of the stage the process of sinking suddenly ceased. The ghost stuck fast in the middle. No contrivance, no squawking, no wriggling on the part of Mr. Banks could force his Fulstain body down through the trap-hole. The audience were convulsed with laughter; even the ghost himself, "alas! poor ghost," joined in the laughter, and quietly submitted to be lifted out of the hole by the stage attendants.—*Liverpool Mail.*

PUNNING.—A witty London newspaper has done the following edit against cert. in puns

which are peculiarly apt to beset the voracious that form of wit:—

All the following *travelling puns* are strictly prohibited:—All allusions on entering a town to a pound or the stocks—knowing a man by his gait, and not liking his style—calling a tall thinpike a kepiet a collossus of roads—seeing no sign of an inn—or replying, Sir, you are out, to your friend who says he does—talking of a hedge having a stake in the bank—all allusions to *sun* and *air* to a newly married couple—all stuff about village belles—calling a bellify a *curf of a peal*—saying to two carpenters putting up a pole, that they are very peaceable men to be *feing* in a field—all trushtabout *minors* make the man, in the shooting season, and all such stuff about trees, after this fashion, "That's a *poplar tree*—I'll turn you a new leaf, and make my *hough*," &c. &c. Puns upon field sports, such as *racin*: being a matter of course—*housen* *stare* *vine* with *it* being *fly* a good shot being fond of his *but* and his *barrel*—or saying that a man fishing deserves a *rod* for fishing with such a *line*; if he is sitting under a *bridge* calling him an *arch* fellow—or supposing him a nobleman because he takes his place among the *piers*—or that he will *catch* nothing but cold, and no fish by *hook* or *crook*. All these are prohibited. To talk of *yeow*, *pickles* at dinner, and say the way to *Turkey Green* is through *Hammer-smith*—all allusions to eating men, for *Eton* men, or *Staines* on the *tible-cloth*, or *Egg-ham*, are exploded—as is all stuff about *Moids*, and *Thornbacks*, and *Place*—or saying to a lady who asks you to help her to the wing of a chicken, that it is a mere matter of *pinion*—all quibbles about dressing hair and cutting it—all stuff about a *navy* fellow being given to *prize*—or upon helping yourself to say you have a *platic* affection for roast beef—all are entirely banished. We have not room to set down all the prohibited puns extant; but we have just shown that the things which one hears, when one dines in the city (where men eat peas with a two-pronged fork, and bet hats with each other), and novelties, and the perfection of good fun, are all flat, stale and unprofitable to those who have lived a little longer and seen a little more of the world, and who have heard puns when it was the fashion to commit them at the west end of the town. These hints are thrown out for the particular use of some sprightly persons, with whose fatiousness we have been of late extremely displeas'd—see apologize to our rational readers for the insertion of such stuff, even by way of surfeit to our quibbling patients.

CHRISTIANITY.—Pure and genuine Christianity never was, nor ever can be, the national religion of any country upon earth. It is a gold too refined to be worked up in any human institution, without a large portion of alloy; for no sooner is this small grain of mustard-seed watered with the fertile showers of civil emoluments, than it grows up into a large and spreading tree, under the shelter of whose branches the birds of prey and plunder will not fail to make for themselves comfortable habitations, and thence deface its beauty and destroy its fruits.

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 24th NOV. 1838

LATEST DATES.			
From London,	Oct 27	From New York,	Nov 17
From Liverpool,	Oct 27	From Halifax,	Nov 7
From Paris,	Oct 25	From Toronto,	Nov 9

No American mail was received in town this morning.

Her Majesty's steamer *Medea* arrived yesterday evening from Scheffat with the bark *Sophia* in tow, having the 65th regiment on board. We believe that Quebec will be Headquarters for this Regiment during the winter.

The American brigands who were taken prisoners at Prescott have been safely lodged in Fort Henry. Among them are two deserters from the 83rd Regiment, who were fighting in the ranks of the enemy against their old companions in arms.

Among the passengers that arrived last night in the steamer *Canada* was Mr. Wylie, Adjutant of the Quebec Light Infantry.

Mr. Solicitor General Stuart left town for Montreal on Wednesday evening to attend the Court Martial. As the prisoners are entitled to ten days to prepare themselves for trial, nothing of importance can take place before the 1st December.

Thomas Leigh Goldie, Esq., has been appointed Civil Secretary to His Excellency the Administrator of the Government.

The police have been engaged yesterday and to-day in taking possession of fire-arms in St. Rochs and the Upper Town of Quebec.

The *Montreal Gazette* says that the movements of the troops from that city to the other side of St. Lawrence, are unconnected with an actual or apprehended rising at Bourchers, or elsewhere, and that there is no truth in the report that the rebels had taken Belleville in the Upper Province.

From Montreal Papers of Thursday last.

We have been informed, that several shopkeepers who make some pretensions to loyalty, actually refuse to allow their young men to go out to drill in volunteer companies. For the present we forbear to mention names, but if the system is persisted in by those to whom we allude, and who will likely understand that we know them, they may depend on being exposed to the public. Every man must now show by his actions, that he is loyal or disloyal, and a shopkeeper who refuses to allow his young men to drill, must suffer in character, even although he may happen to be a volunteer himself.—*Herald.*

On Tuesday two Canadian hostmen, named Pierre Mailoux and Benjamin David, met with a sudden death. They, along with two others and a steersman, were rowing a batteau when the mast happened to break, and fell on their heads. One died instantly, and the other lived about a quarter of an hour.—*Id.*

Yesterday, a woman named Ann Turnbull, residing in Guilfordtown, died from the effects of intemperance.—*Id.*

The *Kingston Chronicle* gives some further particulars of the engagement with the rebels at Prescott, from which we extract the following items:—

Ten barrels of powder and several stands of arms, and ten thousand rounds of ball cartridge were found in the mill. Three pieces of artillery, which had been placed in front of the door of the mill, on a battery constructed of loose stones, were also captured. All the houses in the possession of the brigands were set on fire, except the mill.

It is with extreme regret that we learn that Captain Drummond, of the Glengary Militia, was shot—having gone into one of the houses on fire, and appearing at one of the windows, it was supposed that he was a rebel—the volunteers fired, and he fell dead.

The body of Lieut. Johnson, of the 83rd Regiment, has been brought up. He will be interred on Monday, at two o'clock. We would suggest to our townsmen, as a mark of respect for the gallant dead, that their shops be closed during the ceremony of the funeral.

Twenty-eight prisoners have been brought up to Kingston; and a Court Martial will forthwith be directed to assemble to try them, for their lawless and unprovoked aggression, and for the murder of Her Majesty's faithful subjects.

In addition to the above details, we have received a letter from an esteemed correspondent, who writes from Brockville, from which we make following extracts:—

One of the prisoners taken on Friday, formerly lived in Bastard, left it a year and a half ago, and has friends there now. In order to save his neck, he has expressed a willingness to tell all he knows of the proceedings of the rebels, and has already made oath to many particulars of their plans, on both sides of the Saint Lawrence, which agree with accounts recently published at New York. They are in no want of means, which he says, are liberally provided in both countries. Several persons out in this District, as members of the lodges, and the names of those have been found, among the papers of some of the killed, whose lives and property were doomed to destruction. The three guns taken in the windmill, are beautiful new brass pieces, one of the State of New York. The shot of the brigands was expended, which made them surrender so soon; but they had plenty of ammunition for their small arms, and it is said, provisions for ten days. Our long twenty-four pounder made no impression on the windmill. The killed ran towards on both sides, lay on the field an' tumbled away till Friday midday; and part of the time the weather was extremely wet. Is it not horrible that the loyal people of a British Colony should be thus exposed to

the barbarities of an infamous band of Republican outlaws?"

Extract from a private letter dated Montreal, November 20th:—

"A team containing upwards of 200 muskets taken from the inhabitants of St. Edward, 12 miles from Laprairie, has just arrived at town. They would form a rare collection for an antiquary, and are every way worthy of their former masters. A great many being sans locks, sans flints, and every other requisite to make them either formidable or effective."

The General Court Martial for the trial of the rebels in the Montreal Jail is composed of the following officers:—

- Major General John Clitheroe, President.
- Lieutenant Col. Sir John Lussace, 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards.
- Lieutenant Col. Henry Barnard, 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards.
- Lieutenant Col. Wm. Grierson, 15th Regt.
- Lieutenant Col. James Cranford, 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards.

- Major John Lloyd, 73d Regt.
- Major Henry Townsend, 2d Regt.
- Major Arthur W. Biggs, 7th Hussars.
- Captain William Eyre, 73d Regt.
- Captain Wm. B. Smith, 15th Regt.
- Captain Robert Marsh, 2d Regt.
- Captain Henry A. Kerr, 2d Batt. Royal Regt.
- Captain Augustus Cox, 2d Batt. Gren. Guards.
- Captain the Honorable George Cadogan, Grenadier Guards.
- Captain Hew A. R. Mitchell, Gren. Guards.
- Captain Muller, Royal Regiment, has been appointed Deputy Judge Advocate, and will be assisted by Mr. Solicitor General Stuart.

"Having seen a paragraph in a paper published under the title of 'The Literary Transcript,' stating that the Police had found in my possession, a my residence near the Cul-de-Sac, a quantity of arms and ammunition, I consider it my duty to say that the above article is absolutely false and without foundation, and that it has been inserted with the sole intent of injuring me."

FRANCS. PARANT.

Sworn before me, this Nov. 1838.

The above affidavit appears in the *Quebec Gazette* of last night; and in another part of the same paper appears the following paragraph:—

"A quantity of fire arms was taken by the Police on Wednesday, from a gunsmith named F. Parant, residing in the Cul-de-Sac. It has been stated that there was ammunition also, but by an affidavit in this day's *Gazette*, it would appear that this is incorrect."

We should be extremely sorry to learn that any incorrect statement of ours had proved injurious to any one; and before seeing the affidavit of Mr. Parant, having learned more particularly the facts of the case, we had intended to have rectified the mistake we made in stating that ammunition was taken with the arms found on his premises, and it is not improbable "that we should have made a very polite apology for the error into which we had been led. As it is, we leave it to the public to judge whether Mr. Parant, of whom we know nothing beyond the fact that upwards of a hundred guns, nearly as many gun barrels, and a large quantity of pistols and swords, were taken away from his premises by the police,—was justified in declaring on oath that the paragraph alluded to in the last *Transcript* was "without foundation," and that it was inserted with the "sole view of injuring" him!

From the Montreal Correspondence of the Quebec Gazette.

Montreal, Wednesday, Nov. 21.—Two gentlemen who have arrived from Upper Canada, report having met the prisoners taken at Prescott, on their march to Kingston. They were in number 148, principally sympathizers. Two deserters from the 83rd regiment are among the number. About 20 of the enemy, and about 18 of the volunteers and regulars, are reported killed.

One passenger says, that the prisoners had reached Kingston; and that the steamer St. George had arrived from Toronto with the intelligence, that martial law had been proclaimed by Sir George Arthur.

In the course of the day the remainder of the Royals, two companies of the 71st, and three field pieces were embarked on board the *Britannia* steamer for Boucherville. The object of this expedition is not exactly known. It is said that it is owing to information received by the Government, that large depots of arms and ammunition are concealed in that part of the country. Another report makes it appear that the rebels have been congregating in large numbers in the country in rear of that place.