

DREADFUL STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT.

The Belle of the West Burnt—One Hundred Persons Lost—Horrible Suffering of the Emigrants, &c., &c.

CINCINNATI, April 23.

The Ohio river has again been the scene of a most dreadful and heart-rending catastrophe, and (with the exception of the explosion of the steamer Moselle at this port) the most fatal that has ever occurred in this section of the country.

This morning the steamer Belle of the West, while on her way down the Ohio, one mile below Warsaw, Ky. caught fire, and was almost wholly consumed, together with everything on board.

She had on board, when she left Cincinnati, a great number of emigrants bound for California, about one hundred of whom are supposed to have been either drowned or burned to death.

The scene is described as having been one of the most truly agonizing ever witnessed. The few who were saved had left here in company with their boyhood and bosom friends—friends whose interests were blended into one—for the land of golden promise.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

Madison, Indiana, April 23.

From the officers of the steamer Wisconsin and an eye witness of the burning of the Belle of the West, we gather the following:—

About half an hour after midnight, this morning, the steamer was discovered to be on fire in the hold, and was immediately run ashore near Warsaw, and made fast.—Up to this period the flames had not yet burst forth, and the after hatch was opened for the purpose of getting water into the hold; but such was the rapid headway of the flames, that all efforts to check them proved wholly fruitless, and in a few minutes the entire boat was a mass of fire.

The total number of passengers on board was 400; among whom were two California companies, and thirty families who were removing to the West.

At the time of the deck falling in, a lady and gentleman with a child in his arms, were standing between the chimneys. There were also on board a large number of horses, which were mostly all burned to death, and those that were not, were so badly burnt, that they were obliged to be killed, to put them out of their misery.

CHANGE IN THE LICENSE LAW.—We learn, with no small degree of satisfaction, that a movement is on foot to place our License Law on an entirely new footing. This is a subject of immense importance to the welfare of society.

THE ST. LAWRENCE HALL.—This new public building, erected on the site of the old City Hall, is fast approaching towards completion.

AWFUL EXPLOSION.—Cleveland, Sunday, April.—From Mr. Vorce Clerk, who arrived here this night, we learn the following particulars of the steamer Anthony Wayne.

sons got ashore in her. After six hours' exertions, Capt. Gore, James Edgcomb, First Mate, and Mr. Vorce Clerk, were saved. J. L. Moore, first, and Edward Burdell, second Engineer are both lost.

Monday, 9 o'clock A. M.—One of the vessels which went out took from off the Hurricane deck some 30 passengers, 6 dead. D. A. Eddy is safe.

NEW YORK, April 26. P. M.—The building adjoining Barnum's Museum, in Broadway, and formerly occupied by the Commercial Bank, fell this morning, and buried several persons beneath the ruins.

STEAMBOAT ARRANGEMENTS.

We stated a few days ago that a Convention of the steamboat proprietors was about to meet at Kingston to make arrangements about the business of the season.

Permission having been granted to certain persons indicted for murder at the Bytown riot of the 17th September last, to traverse the indictment to the present Assizes in this District—the case came on at 3 o'clock, P. M., on Wednesday last.

GOLD AND GRAVES.—The New Orleans C. cent says:—A gentleman who has just returned from California, having been absent from the States about fourteen months, states that when he reached California, curiosity led him to visit a grave-yard, where he found only 11 graves; nine months from that time he followed the last remains of a friend to the same grave-yard, and during the time intervening between the two visits there had been no less than fourteen hundred persons interred in the same yard.

The London (C. W.) Times states that a person answering to the description given of Patrick Doyle, one of the three miscreants who committed a diabolical murder in the township of Mariposa, in January last, was arrested at St. Thomas, on the 25th instant, and conveyed to London Gaol, where he now is.

It is stated that a gigantic steam hammer, weighing 6 tons, is in process of manufacture at Liverpool for an establishment in this city.

The new ocean steamer Atlantic has no wooden boats, but five galvanized iron ones. She is also to have one of those invaluable "Life Cars," so as to be able to communicate with the shore under all circumstances.

It is stated that a species of vegetable has recently been discovered, which points to the pole with the same unerring certainty as the magnetic needle.

A sum of £36,324 was expended in the construction of eight new, and maintenance of other light-houses, on the coast of Ireland, during the year 1849.

The agricultural commission of the Times have recently visited the Duke of Wellington's Strathfield estate, and report his Grace a truly liberal and model landlord.

A gentleman who has kept a record of the weather, says that the present month, thus far, has been the coldest April we have had in some twenty years.

Father Matthew was presented with seven hundred and fifty dollars, by a number of gentlemen of temperance in New Orleans, on the 15th inst., in token of their respect for the man and his cause.

ABUNDANCE OF NEWS.—Six steamships are on their way from Europe, namely, the "British Queen," from Hamburg, the 2d; the "Cambria," from Liverpool the 13th; the "City of Glasgow," from Glasgow, the 16th; the "Helena Sloman," from Hamburg, the 15th; the "Canada," from Liverpool, and the "Washington," from Southampton, the 20th instant.—N. Y. Herald, 26th.

At Liverpool Assizes on Wednesday, Rev. Moorhouse James was found guilty of a misdemeanour in having refused to solemnize a marriage because the intended bridegroom was unconfirmed.

RETRENCHMENT.—The British Whig states that reductions are about being made in the Customs Department at Kingston—the salary of the chief officer at that port is to be \$2400 instead of \$4,000, as heretofore.

THE FIRST BOAT OF THE THROUGH LINE.—The Comet Capt. Taylor, leaves Kingston for Toronto and Hamilton, at 12 o'clock noon, to-day. This is the first boat of the new line, and will be followed in due succession by the New Era and Passport, as fast as they can be got ready.—Kingston Whig, April 22.

The Directors of the St. Lawrence and Lake Champlain Railroad have raised the fare to St. Johns 25 per cent. This has excited so much dissatisfaction that a large majority of the passengers go by second class cars, though it sometimes occasions them no small inconvenience.

DEFALCATION.—It would appear by the Pilot, that Mr. Glackmeyer, the Secretary or Treasurer of the "Quebec Fire Loan," has recently absconded with a portion—amount not yet ascertained—of the funds entrusted to him.

FIRST ARRIVALS FROM CANADA WEST.—The steamer Bytown, and barges Oxford and Wellington, to McPherson, Crane, & Co., arrived in port on Tuesday evening. They brought 1950 barrels of flour, 4,140 bushels of wheat, and 9 barrels of pork.—Montreal Herald.

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This Journal will vindicate the great principles of Protestantism; but especially that form of Protestantism termed dissent or non-conformity. The equal civil rights of the several sections of the Christian Church, the support of the Gospel Ministry by voluntary contributions, the introduction of lay agency into all the Councils of the Church, are some of the positions which will be advocated in the Watchman.

maintain a position equally distant from the airy region of romance and the spiritless monotony of an uninteresting compilation. The following plan of Departments has, after much consideration, been adopted.

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2. THE FAMILY CIRCLE—in which the duties, responsibilities, advantages, &c., &c., of the most ancient compact will be discussed.
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5. ECCLESIASTICAL.—or an index of the progress or decline of evangelical Christianity in the world.
6. THE WATCHMAN of principal editorial department—containing a faithful testimony to the truth, a solemn protest against the prevailing errors in the doctrines, practice, polity, &c., of professedly Christian Churches; also a review of news.
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T. T. HOWARD, Proprietor and principal Editor. Toronto, Jan. 21, 1850.

GREAT INDUCEMENTS TO BECOME SUBSCRIBERS TO THE WATCHMAN.

The PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE is to assemble on the 14th of May; and we imagine from the almost restless anxiety which the public mind has evinced relative to the assemblage and work of our Legislators at the ensuing session of Parliament, that every one will be desirous to know, at least weekly, what the people's Representatives are doing.

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