

# THE QUEBEC TRANSCRIPT.

In consequence of to-morrow being Christmas, we anticipate our regular day of publication by sending the Transcript this afternoon.

## THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, TUESDAY, 24th DEC. 1839.

The New York papers of Monday reached us yesterday, containing dates from Washington of the 14th instant. On the preceding day the question respecting the right of the five New Jersey members to take their seats and vote, was decided negatively by the closest vote of the previous very close ones of the preceding days. The ayes were 117, and the noes the same number, on a motion made by Mr. Wise to the effect that those members be allowed to vote. This was lost as above, a tie being in the United States equivalent to a negation, the Speaker having no casting vote as in the British Parliament. Only two members of the House were absent—one (Mr. Hawes) from severe indisposition—the other (Mr. Hemphill) not yet arrived in the city. Both of these gentlemen belong to the Whig party, and would have voted for granting the commissioned members from New Jersey the rights and privileges which they claim; the papers of that party are, consequently, in a fury against Mr. Hemphill for not being at his post.

On the 4th the House proceeded to the election of a speaker; the result of the first ballot was for Mr. John W. Jones of Va. 113; John Bell of Tenn. 102; William C. Dawson, 11; Dixon H. Lewis, 3; F. Pickens, 5, and W. Hopkins of Va. 1; no choice—whole number of votes given, 213; necessary to choice, 116.

Five other trials were made with like success, and the House—or the "Meeting" as it is called—adjourned to Monday, as which days proceedings we can have no account until to-morrow.

Mr. Jones is the Government candidate for the Speakership, and the New York Times, from which we gather the above particulars, says that he cannot be elected, and that the administration party would probably unite on Dixon H. Lewis, who in the five ballots gained 76 votes on the number first given for him.

The steam ship Liverpool did not sail until Sunday the 15th instant, at noon, having been detained by some difficulty in getting her rudder shipped. Among the passengers who go out in her are, Messrs. B. Gibb, Hugh Allan, Joseph Masson, John Blackwood, J. Armour, of Montreal, and G. B. Synes, of Quebec.

Gilpin's News Room took for letters by the Liverpool about \$1400.

On Saturday night a fire broke out in store No. 45, Cedar street, New York, which proved very destructive. Two large buildings were entirely destroyed, and several materially damaged. The total loss is variously estimated to be from \$400,000 to \$600,000, only half of which is covered by insurance. It was caused by an incendiary, it is supposed, as a loafer was seen prowling about there before the watchman a short time before. When the doors of the store were burst fire was discovered in several parts of the building at the same time.

### UPPER CANADA PARLIAMENT.

We take the subjoined account of the proceedings in the Upper Canada Parliament from the Montreal Gazette of the 20th, and Toronto Commercial Herald of the 16th instant. The latter papers complain of the reporters as follows:—

"We have made every possible exertion to procure some portion of the debate on the question of the Union, but for want of some systematic arrangement among the Reporters, up to this moment we have only about one third part of Mr. Sherwood's speech on Thursday last. The House have employed Reporters at the public expense, and the public shall know why they have not the benefit of it, as soon as we get at the bottom of the mystery."

From the Montreal Gazette.

We are indebted to our private correspondents in Toronto, for an account of the latest proceedings of the Legislature of Upper Canada with respect to the important question of the Re-union of the provinces.

On the 13th, the Resolutions introduced into the Legislative Council on this subject by the Hon. Mr. Sullivan, were agreed to by a majority of that body. The following are the names of the members who voted in favour of the Resolutions:—The Hon. Messrs. Adamson, Morris, Ferguson, John Macdonald, Fraser, Wells, Dunn, Baldwin, Crooks, John Macaulay, Sullivan, De Blaquiere, McGillivray, and Kellicie, 14.

The following members voted against the Resolutions:—The Hon. and Right Rev. the Bishop of Toronto, the Hon. Messrs. Allan, Macdonell, Elmsley, VanKoughnet, Willson, J. S. Macaulay, and Crookshank, 8.

The House having waited upon the Governor General with the Resolutions, His Excellency returned the following answer:—

"HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN—The diligence and attention which you have devoted to the consideration of the important subject referred to you in my Message, demand my warmest acknowledgments, and our decision affords me the utmost gratification.

"I shall have great satisfaction in transmitting to Her Majesty's Government the resolutions which you have adopted; and you may rest assured that the confidence which you have no less wisely than generously reposed in the wisdom and justice of our gracious Sovereign, and of the Imperial Parliament for the settlement of the details of the plan of Reunion, will be felt as an additional motive for anxious attention being devoted to the establishment of property and good Government of Upper Canada.

"In the advice and recommendations which it will be my duty to offer, founded on the information I shall have acquired in both Provinces, I shall be guided by the most anxious desire to secure those important results for the attainment of which the Legislative Council of Upper Canada has declared its assent to the Re-union."

The Resolutions of the Council were to be accompanied by an Address to the Queen, urging the guards which that body thought would be necessary in the event of the Union, for the protection of the rights and interests of the British population of both Provinces. These were, namely, that Upper Canada should have a numerical majority in the United Assembly; that the English language should alone be used in the proceedings of the Legislature; that the seat of Government should be in Upper Canada; and that no change should take place in the existing Constitution; and that the seats of the Members of the Legislative Council should be permanent, as provided for in the Act of 1791; that the Speaker of that body be not eligible, unless he be a Member thereof; and that the qualification of the Members of the House of Assembly should be provided for; that the Courts of Judicature should be maintained as they now are, until altered by the United Legislature; and that a new division of the Counties of Lower Canada should be made by the Imperial Government, so as to secure a due proportion of representation to the British inhabitants of that Province.

With respect to the proceedings in the House of Assembly, our private correspondent, under date the 13th instant, writes us as follows:—

The House has been in Committee the whole day—and it is impossible to say how the question will be disposed of;—but Mr. Sherwood has moved an amendment containing the conditions of last year, upon the Union, and the House has again adjourned till to-morrow. The cause will now be, that a discussion will take place upon Mr. Sherwood's amendment, which, I am of opinion, will be supported by a majority, unless, indeed, the Reform party joined to the Anti-Unionists, prove too numerous for them. Should they do so, the question of the Union will be put without conditions, which will also be lost, because the Anti-Unionists and Conditionists will coalesce,

when the yeas and nays of the Unionists and those opposed will be taken, and, I think, decided in favour of an Union. The House may be possibly brought to the same conclusion, but I do not think they will, in which case they will be dissolved, and the probability is within ten days.

From the Toronto Commercial Herald.

On Wednesday the debate on Mr. Boulton's bill to compel voters suspected of belonging to treasonable societies to swear a certain loyal oath, was resumed, but was eventually negated by a majority of 4. The best argument we heard advanced against the bill was, that that the vagabonds who would seek the subversion of our country would not hesitate to perjure themselves by swearing falsely: We would suggest a similar bill to Mr. Boulton with the proviso that any person found swearing falsely should be forever disfranchised, and a court of enquiry be appointed for the purpose of detecting persons doing so.

It is stated on the Exchange Reading Room Register, that a letter from a member of the Upper Canada Legislative Council communicates the important information that the Assembly have, by a majority of eight, accepted the measure of the Union on the conditions proffered by the Governor General, and no others demanded.

The Kingston Herald gives the following additional particulars respecting the stage coach robbery an account of which we copied in our number of the 18th instant from the Coburg Star:—

Mr. Weller offered a reward of £100 for the capture of the robbers, and a man named James Burns, supposed to be one of them, was arrested last week at Kingston, armed with pistols and a Bowie knife, and committed to gaol. A girl connected with the party had given information which led to his arrest. Burns is one of the men who were committed to our gaol last winter for having altered two drafts on New York from \$100 to \$900, and passing them on the Sacketts harbour and Oswego Banks. He was kept in gaol about five months, and, as the United States authorities never came forward to demand him, he was discharged on a writ of habeas corpus. We understand that he is from Quebec.

From the Niagara Chronicle.

We have had some rumours of a "patriot invasion" on this frontier during the past week. The intimation of "the movement," as we are informed, was communicated to the Colonel of the 43rd Regt. at Drummondville, by the officer commanding the detachment of American regulars stationed at Buffalo. The attack, it is stated, would take place at Fort Erie, and two or three companies of the 43rd with field pieces, marched up to that place to receive the expected "liberators" with becoming formalities; and Lieut. the Hon. Mr. Lindsay was sent express to Toronto, with despatches for the Government.

It turns out that the whole affair originated in a misconception as to the intentions of a numerous body of victimized Irishmen, as the annexed letter explains:—

To the Editor of the Niagara Chronicle.

Buffalo, Dec. 11. 1839.

DEAR SIR—I understand some little excitement has been caused amongst the inhabitants of your frontier, by a report, from an apparently authentic source, that a "Patriot army" was about to make an attack upon Fort Erie.

The report was a hoax, and the facts out of which it sprung are these—a great number of Irishmen have recently come down the Lake from the Western States, one and all disgusted with the treatment they have met with in this country, and not without reason; they have been hard at work, for many months, on canals, and have been paid for their labour in shin plasters or country bank paper, which are utterly worthless. The poor fellows collected on the wharf here the other day, in number some hundreds, and after conferring on their grievances, made up their minds to emigrate to your country, and confirmed their resolve by giving three lusty hurrahs for Canada, and in Canada these light-hearted but sadly ill-treated "Paddy Whacks" will soon be found. I hope sufficient employment will be found for them, and that they will not be cheated out of their hard earnings as they have been in this country.

I think there is no probability of your being troubled with patriotic loafers this winter;

those that fed them heretofore, — hopes of profiting thereby, have discovered that the "liberation" of Canada is not so good a spec as they anticipated.—I am, &c.

The Eastern mail of yesterday furnishes with Halifax N. S. and St. John N. B. of the 14th instant. The Legislature of New Brunswick is to meet for the dispatch of business on the 28th January next.

PICQUO, December 3.

ACCIDENTS.—Alexander McSwine, an old, inoffensive inhabitant of this town, has been missing since the night of the 30th October last, and, it is supposed, must have been drowned, by falling over one of the wharves.

Thomas Casidy, of New Glasgow, was killed last Friday, by falling through the new Railroad, at the hatch or trap through which the coals are discharged from the waggons.

We witnessed, on Sunday, an accident of the most heart-rending description. A young lady, daughter of Mr. William McDonald, New Glasgow, while waiting the ferry-boat at the Ferry Wharf, lost her balance and fell over, when a sailor who was, among others, attracted by her cries, rushed down the slip to her rescue, but losing his footing, stunned himself, and, melancholy to relate, in the attempt to save the life of another, lost his own.

FIRE.—On Sunday, between the hours of 6 and 7 P. M. flames were discovered rushing with great fury from the furshop of Mr. Fischblatt, in Fabrique Street, and before an alarm could be given the fire had attained a head which precluded any idea of saving the building. It was therefore determined to break into the adjoining saddlery establishment of Mr. Thornton, who was absent at the time. On entering the latter place it was found that a wooden partition only separated it from the shop already in flames, and very few of the effects were saved before those occupied in the work had to retreat from the increasing heat. In a very short space of time the whole building was enveloped in flame, and attention was directed to the adjoining houses to the east and west, both of which were saved with much difficulty, and considerable loss on the part of the tenants from the hurried removal of property. One of these houses is occupied, in the lower part, by Messrs. Roy, as a dry good store, and above by Mr. W. Allan, hardware merchant, as a private dwelling; the other is tenanted by Mr. E. Trudeau, dry good merchant, and collector of chimney money. Mr. Allan was uninsured, and suffers the loss of some of his furniture. We have not heard whether Messrs. Roy and Trudeau had any insurance. The building destroyed was the property of Mrs. Sprowles, and was insured for £500. Mr. Fischblatt had £400 insured on his stock, and Mr. Thornton, who, we understand, has lost his books and papers, was insured for £500. All of these insurances were effected at the Quebec Office.

We understand that some gentlemen of this city have had it in contemplation, for a time past, to get up an amateur performance at the Theatre, for the benefit of the unfortunate sufferers at the fire which took place on the 16th ult., outside St. John's Gate. These gentlemen have been at considerable trouble and some expense in arranging preliminaries, but have not as yet succeeded in obtaining the use of the theatre, the relations of the late lamented Chief Justice Sewell being unwilling that it should be opened for purposes of amusement so recently after the melancholy event that has put them in mourning. It is to be hoped, however, that in consideration of the laudable object which the amateurs have in view, that their request will be granted, and an opportunity afforded them of contributing to the relief of men who have suffered severe privations from an accident which befel them while endeavouring to benefit others, and to whose claims the Insurance Company have turned a deaf and insensible ear.

The only New York this morning is the At inst. which is not so late yesterday.

From Upper Canada Observer and Brockville inst. They contain latest advices from were yesterday.

We were in error in Mr. Paradis had obtained the Government E been informed, award

The religious census far as returns are made  
Episcopalians...  
Presbyterians...  
Methodists...  
Roman Catholics...  
Baptists...  
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No returned relig

—Kingston Chronicle.

At New York, on the Knight, Comedian, in he was the second son Lane, London, so well World as a comedian, Knight, the composer, Canada, in 1830, he m the Chestnut Theatre, Mr. and Mrs. Knight a utsum of 1836.

\* In consequence Infant School taking Annual Dinner to the School will be given o

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Sale to commence  
21st December.

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