

MERCANTILE AND RAILROAD INTELLIGENCE.

The Hudson River Railroad Company were obliged to pay \$3,000, on the 6th inst., for causing the death of a gentleman named Buton, in November last.

ST. ANDREW'S AND QUEBEC RAILWAY.—At an extraordinary general meeting of the Proprietors of the class "A" shares of this Company, held on Thursday, at the offices, Parliament-street, Mr. Edwards in the chair, the Directors were authorized to borrow, on mortgage of the turn-out calls on the capital stock, the sum of £10,000.—(Herapath.)

The New Jersey Railroad Company set apart one car for the exclusive occupation of ladies and gentlemen accompanying them—no others to be admitted. This is an excellent idea. The present custom on most of the railroads of allowing the most powerful and active men to occupy the best seats in the cars in the general scramble, to the exclusion of ladies, often encumbered as they are by the care of children and carpet-bags, calls loudly for reform.

We find in Hunt's Merchant's Magazine for May, the following enumeration of "moving accidents by flood and field"—that is, by steamboats and railroads—that have occurred in the United States between the 1st January, 1853, and the 30th March 1854:

	Accidents.	Killed.	Wounded.
Steamboats, . . .	48	691	225
Railroads, . . .	190	262	624

The caloric ship Ericsson, lying in New York Bay, was nearly floated on Monday, when some part of the gearing gave way, and she again filled and sunk. Damage thus far estimated at \$50,000.

Mailfleet & Ransloff, who removed the obstructions of the navigation of the East River at Hurl Gate, near New York, have been appointed by our Government to make a survey of the rapids of the St. Lawrence between Montreal and Kingston, and test their method of blasting on some of the rocks which obstruct the channel.

RECIPROCAL TRADE WITH CANADA.—The Senate of Ohio has adopted the following resolution:—

Resolved.—That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and that our Representatives be requested to use their best endeavors in favor of establishing reciprocal free trade with the Canadas, and the opening of the navigation of the river St. Lawrence to the commerce of the United States.

NEW-BRUNSWICK.—The Spring is very backward in that Province. Cattle are starving to death in many parts of the country; one man lost eight head; others three and four, and hundreds are feeding out their seed-grain, and potatoes. From present appearances it must be at least a month before cattle can get their own living; in that time thousands must starve to death.

Report of the Quebec Protestant Committee.

The Protestant Committee appointed at the meeting of the 9th of June, have to report to their constituents that their labours have been very limited, and that they cannot congratulate themselves, that such as they have been, they have been attended with much success.

The Government has not done the Committee the honor to acknowledge even the receipt of communications which they have addressed to it.

The Legislature, in passing the Act prayed for by the Protestants of the city, to render the Corporation liable for damage done to property during riots, inserted in it a clause which was

felt to be in the circumstances insulting, and an aggravation of the injury which had been sustained, as well as an unconstitutional infringement on the rights of British subjects.

No one of the rioters has yet been brought to justice. The city is still under the protection of the Police and the Peace Magistrate, who were declared by the public meeting of Protestants to be underserving of the public confidence, and unfit to be entrusted with the protection of the public peace. The presentation of a Grand Jury has been treated with no little respect as the communications of your Committee.

There has been no public expression of condemnation of the outrage of the 6th of June by the authorities of the Roman Catholic Church—nor by the Roman Catholic population.

There is a general apprehension of the recurrence of such outrages, and voluntary organizations have, it is said, been formed to resist them. Your Committee cannot but anticipate, in such a state of things, some fatal collision such as all well disposed people would deplore, and should endeavor, if possible, to prevent.

They can only recommend that further application be made to the Legislature to take such steps as may tend to vindicate the law—to restore the public confidence in the purity and promptitude with which it is administered, and render voluntary organization as unnecessary as it is dangerous, by providing an adequate and trustworthy Police Force. And a Petition to that effect has been prepared and is herewith submitted to you for signature.

PETITION.

HENRY SHEWETH,—

That on the 6th of June last, at nine o'clock in the evening, when a large congregation, consisting of men, women, and children, were peaceably assembled in Chalmers' Church, in this city, a gang of rioters entered the church, broke up the meeting and severely wounded several persons, in particular attempting the life of Father Gavazzi, who was at the time delivering a lecture, while showers of stones were thrown from without, breaking the windows of the church, and otherwise injuring and destroying it. The circumstances of this gross outrage, it is the less necessary to describe, as it took place under the eye of various members of your Honorable House.

That at a large and respectable meeting of the Protestants of this city, a Committee was appointed to communicate with the Government, among other matters, in regard to the apathy and inefficiency of the Police Force and the Police Magistrate,—but that the said Committee having three several times addressed the Government through the Provincial Secretary, they have not had the honour to have even the receipt of their communications acknowledged.

That the Police Magistrate having been presented by the Grand Jury at the Criminal Term, in September last, for inefficiency and neglect of duty, on the occasion of the riot of the 6th of June, the Crown officer, notwithstanding the injunction of the Judge who presided, declined to enter a prosecution, and no indictment has yet been laid.

That though shortly before the last Criminal Term, a Commission was appointed to report on the state of the Police force in Quebec, and the conduct of the Police and the Police Magistrate on the occasion of the riot of the 6th of June, nothing has yet been done to render the Police more efficient or trustworthy—and the Police are, with scarce an exception, of the very class which Protestants, in the event of any commotion, have most cause to dread.

That though a year has well nigh elapsed, no one of the rioters of the 6th of June has yet been brought to trial for riot and assault, with intent to murder, the crimes which were undoubtedly committed, and evidence of which could and can easily be found, identifying the guilty parties.

That the effect of such apathy on the part of Government, and the total failure hitherto, to bring the rioters to justice, have been to diminish or destroy that confidence in the administration of the law, which is essential to public tranquillity and order, and there is reason to believe that large bodies of men have, on several occa-

sions, thought it necessary to attend Protestant places of worship, provided with fire-arms, for their own defence and that of their fellow-workmen, in case of attack; and your petitioners humbly represent to your Honorable House, that this state of things cannot continue without leading in the end to some deplorable catastrophe.

That your Petitioners, immediately after the riot, applied to your Honorable House for a legislative enactment rendering the city or municipality liable for all damages done during breaches of the public peace on the property of the Queen's loyal and peaceable subjects, and an Act was passed to that effect by your Honorable House, and by the Honorable the Legislative Council, which subsequently received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General, but which contained a clause rendering the city liable in the case of Lectures or Public Meetings, when money was paid for admission, only where the permission of the Mayor, or the Council of the city, should first be obtained for such Lectures or Public Meetings.

That your Petitioners are humbly of opinion that this clause is unusual, unnecessary, and an infringement on the just rights of British subjects, and that in the circumstances in which the law was prayed for, and in the circumstances in which your petitioners are, and may generally expect to be placed, it could not but be felt, and was felt by them, to be adding insult to the injury which they had sustained, however it might have been otherwise intended by your Honorable House; and they respectfully entreat that such clause may be repealed, and that your Honorable House will take such measures for the vindication of the law and the maintaining the religious liberty of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects as shall render it the duty, as it is the desire, of your petitioners to discountenance those voluntary organizations for self-protection, which, even when called for by stern necessity, are to be dreaded as dangerous to the peace and order of society.

A Popish Curse in London.

The London Morning Advertiser publishes the following under this title:—

Some two or three weeks ago a paragraph appeared in some of the public journals, stating that the Popish priest, the Rev. F. Oakley, formerly a clergyman of the Church of England, in St. Margaret's chapel, Oxford-street, London, had uttered some terrible denunciations against several of his flock, in Duncan-street chapel, Islington, because they allowed their children to attend Protestant schools. This was denied by Mr. Oakley himself, or rather he sought to explain away what he said. Happily, there is no longer room for doubt as to the words employed by this Romish priest, for the actual document is now before us. It is as follows, and was read in Duncan-street chapel, in the presence of a full congregation, on two successive Sundays, a few weeks ago:—

In the Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen!

We, Frederick Oakley and William Dolan, Priests of St. John the Evangelist's church, having duly considered the heavy obligations under which the canons and constitutions of the Holy Catholic Church require all pastors of congregations to denounce heresy, and warn the flock committed to their charge against the peril of it, do publicly give notice, in the face of this congregation.

That all Catholic parents are bound, under pain of mortal sin, to bring up their children in the faith and practice of the Catholic religion, and to this end are required to send them to such schools and places of education only as are conducted by Catholics, and in which the Catholic religion is taught and promoted.

That we have good reason for believing that certain Catholic parents in this congregation, of the poorer classes, do grossly neglect their duty in this matter, and permit their children to attend schools which are not only conducted by Protestants, but which are set up with the direct purpose of "proselytizing" or drawing the scholars away from the true faith and doc-