

THE STAR

And Newfoundland Advocate.

Vol. V I.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1846.

No. 362.

ST. JOHN'S:—Printed and Published by JOHN THOMAS BURTON, at his Office, Meeting-House, Hill.

MR MULLOWNEY,

and Copper-plate Worker,

has come to acquaint his friends and acquaintances, that he has opened his Establishment in the above line of Business, Water-Street, opposite the Premises of JOHN H. WARREN, Esq., where he has on hand, a large assortment of COPPER-PLATE WARE, and STOVE PIPES, and offers for Sale at the very lowest prices.

Nov 29, 1846.

DOLLARS REWARD!

LOST on Monday last, from the Field of ARICK WALSH, on the Freshwater, a BROWN COW, branded on the side with the letters D M A and had a Ticket on her neck No. 42. Whoever finds the Cow, and leaves her at Mr PAR ICK, Water-Street, shall receive the above reward.

Nov 29, 1846.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

Early hour yesterday morning, before HOSSETT, Esq., and a Coroner's Jury, the wharf of Messrs. BAINE JOHNSTON & Co., merchants, upon view of the body of MURPHY, late of Placentia, fisherman.

appeared upon the evidence of John Murphy, that the deceased and himself had been on shore, but very little. That after gun-fire witness went into the boat lying at the head of the wharf. Messrs. Baine Johnston & Co. accompanied him with a candle, and to his bed in the fore-cuddy; then to the after-cuddy, believes, to bed. He was called sometime in the night, afterpart of the boat was all on fire. He only fish in the after cabin. The deceased was in the habit of sticking candles against the boards of the cuddy. Coroner remarked he would make the use of this as a warning not only to the wharf, as well as the premises, other habitations besides, might have been saved.

Kough, late of Bonavista Bay, saw the fire first in the morning when through the narrows—might be about 3 when witness went on board the boat, about 4 o'clock, the boat then lying at the wharf of Messrs. Baine Johnston & Co. still on fire; heard the deceased call to death—afterwards saw the deceased on board the boat. Has no doubt but fire was caused by negligence; and deceased came to his death in consequence. Verdict of Jury accordingly.—Newspaper of Monday.

LATE GALE.—A very melancholy accident, which has been but lately to light, occurred on the day of the late gale of the 19th September, of the vessel of which the following is an outline. MAYNE, known and respected here, carrying on business as a Planter at Bay in the North-western shore of this island, that place in an open Boat, accompanied by two men, shortly before the gale, for the purpose of visiting some per-

sons on the adjacent fishing settlements, to whom he had issued supplies; and on returning home from "the Bay of Islands," he and his companions encountered the storm, and were driven out seaward. After a lapse of some time the wind veered, and upon the morning of the 23rd, (four days after the gale) the boat was found ashore at Cow Harbour, with the dead bodies of the poor unfortunates, who had no doubt perished from fatigue and exhaustion.

Mr. Mayne was a young man of highly respectable connexions,—a native of Poole in Dorsetshire; and his untimely death is much regretted by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He was the only son of the late Captain Mayne, R. N.—Ledger of Tuesday last.

BIRTH.—On Tuesday last, the Lady of the Hon. J. CROWDY, of a daughter.

PASSENGERS.

In the Mary Hounsell, from Liverpool, Messrs. Noad, Boyd, & Rutherford.

CITY OF MEXICO.

The public square, which is paved with stone, covers an area of nearly fifteen acres, an entire side of which is occupied by the Cathedral, and another by the Government Palace: strange though it may appear, the rents of the houses in Mexico are said to exceed those of any city in the United States.—The city is sixteen miles in circumference, originally built in the form of a square, four miles on each side. Mexico, built on the site of the ancient Tenochtitlan, is beautifully situated in a great oval valley, on the very fidge of the great Mexican plateau, a chain of porphyritic mountains, at an elevation of 6700 feet from the level of the ocean. Five lakes, like inland seas, beautify this charming valley; the largest of which is the great salt lake Tezcucotl, on whose eastern extremity once stood that pride of cities, ancient Tenochtitlan, as seen in the engraving, the lake extended far to the west between the mountains on the right. The little island which the city occupied was joined to the main land by four causeways built of stone, at the cost of immense labor, whose entrances were well fortified by towering citadels. Cortes, a Spanish soldier and adventurer, discovered this country in 1519, and soon having made extensive conquests, his mind became inflamed with the accounts given by the Indians of "the famous city." His eyes were now turned towards the idol city of the Aztecs, Tenochtitlan, the residence of their great and dreadful god, Huitzilophtchi; whose altars reeked with human gore. (1) Fired with the spirit of adventure, uniting in his person the romance of the poet and the indomitable spirit of the warrior, the Spanish General collected his devoted followers among the mountains, on the 8th of Nov. 1519. The trumpet's shrill blast, summoning the muster, for the first time startled the

ancient mountains of the Aztec dynasty! Tenochtitlan's proud eagle started from her eyry, and poised on air, beheld with fear and anger the serpent she could not strangle. The trumpet sounds echoed from the snow-crowned summits of the mountains, and lost themselves rebounding on the far extended lakes. Who can picture to himself the feeling of that host, as in marshalled front they trod their way to the home of Montezuma, the residence of the great and fearful god of war! More intense became these emotions as they beheld in the grey distance the flame of the *teocallis* (2) rising in sacrificial rite from the island city! Nearer and nearer they approached, and as they trod the compact causway, not a breath was audible, no sound was heard save the tramp of mailed men, and the heavy beat of the war-steed's iron-clad hoof—the great bridge was filled with the advancing warriors, the spanish soldiery in uniform, a brilliant mass, formed the van, and this was closed up with the swarthy ranks of the allied Tlascalans. The Aztec chiefs came to meet them, and to announce the approach of Montezuma, and bid them welcome. The warriors entered the vast city, the thoroughfares were crowded with wonder-stricken spectators—the tops of the houses, and every elevation swarmed with the astonished Aztecs, gazing in silence on the white men, borne along on animals, with heads as proudly erect as their riders. To them these were strange sights. The Spaniards were received with the greatest hospitality; and soon their General expressed a desire to see the capital. His wish was granted by the Emperor. He was taken to the top of the Temple—the great Temple—the Temple of their war god, which was so constructed that the great gong hurled its thunder tones throughout the whole of that immense valley, to the distance of three leagues, summoning in ten minutes 200,000 armed Aztecs to the service of Montezuma, so that in half an hour from the first alarm, the royal halls would be alive with this immense throng, all equipped for battle.—On such a place stood Cortes—there met his eye in rich perfusion, large and spacious streets, beautiful houses begirt with shady groves and gardens never cut of bloom, looking like anethysts encased in gold. Canals like those of Venice traversing the city, large markets richly laden with every variety of vegetables, and teeming with luscious fruits. The streets thronged with artisans of every kind, with their beautifully embroidered garments and gorgeous ornaments of gold and silver—he saw the palaces of Montezuma's nobles, and the nobles themselves outshining in magnificence of show the vaunted cavaliers of his native land—he saw the silver bosom of the far-stretching lakes dotted

with floating gardens of richly-coloured flowers, like the firmament spangled with shining gems. He learned that the Aztecs were skilled in government and law, and in the science of the heavenly bodies, and that they were mighty men in war. Cortes saw it all. His jealousy was touched—his ambition took fire at the sight: he gazed in silence, and his grasping heart said, "This beautiful city shall be mine!" Montezuma saw to his dismay that he had been caressing his greatest enemy. His hospitality was his destruction—the people lost their Emperor; his proud spirit broke! Cortes constructed a mimic navy, and with it his warriors besieged the doomed city. The Aztecs held out nobly for 75 days against their besiegers—but they could no longer fight against fate, and the proud and beautiful Tenochtitlan fell! The blood-thirsty band rushed into the devoted city—her proud monuments of antiquity, her memorials of ancestry, her objects of devotion, were basely torn down by the infuriate Spanish soldiery, and the canals were closed up with all the Aztec loved. The valiant race was butchered indiscriminately, the city and the waters became putrid with human gore, the atmosphere was rendered contagious with the stench, and the houses of the nobles razed to the ground. It was like another sacking of Jerusalem. Such was the fate of that queen of cities, unhappy Tenochtitlan, the home of Montezuma and residence of their dreaded god. On the ruins of so famed a place stands the city of Mexico, the capital of the present Republic—*Republica representativa popular federal Mexicana*. The large surface of water shown in the engraving is but the eastern extremity of the great lake Tezcucotl, which flows like a sea through the mountains on the right. In the front ground, where a man is seen sitting on a rock, is an outlet, which connects the lake Cochicalco, (which he is contemplating), with the lake Tezcucotl, in which the city stands. The waters of this lake have receded since the conquest, so that unlike Tenochtitlan, Mexico is not surrounded with water, but with a marsh. So salubrious is the climate of Mexico, that notwithstanding the marshy exhalations, the purity of the atmosphere is scarcely if at all affected.

The present beautiful city, founded on the ruins of the former, is a wonder to the traveller. It has a population of 180,000 souls (3) and an immense amount of wealth. Its cathedral surpasses, in metallic lore, all the other churches in the world. The balustrade around the great altar is composed of massive silver. It has a lamp of solid silver, and of such enormous dimensions that three men enter it when they clean it! and it is encircled with ornaments of lions heads and other devices of pure gold. So great is their ecclesiastical