

NEWS.

It appears that the Montreal Corporation has seriously set to work to diminish taxation. The debt is however large. Complaints of the filthy and dusty state of the streets, &c., are loud in the newspapers; such complaints are, however, very general in corporate towns on this continent.—*Quebec Gazette.*

The *Vengeance*, 84, with one of the battalions of the 20th Regiment, arrived at Halifax on the 4th inst., and after disembarking that corps, would convey the 2nd battalion of the 60th Rifles to England.—*G. zette.*

DEPLORABLE ACCIDENT AT THE LUX.—On the 15th inst., about 10 o'clock in the morning, the house of Mr. F. C. O'Neill, a brewer, took fire. Madame O'Neill and her child were burnt to death. The unfortunate mother had thrown herself into the house in the midst of the flames to save her children, and lost her life with her maternal devotion. The lodges have been found horribly burnt and mutilated, and have been buried together. Mr. O'Neill was absent at the time of the accident, and it is unknown how the fire originated.—*Minerva.*

The last number of the *Mountain* informs us that an Inkeeper in St. John, Niagara District, was recently complained of for selling liquor on the Lord's Day in opposition to the statute. The correspondent furnishing the particulars, says: "A complaint was made by some of our worthy citizens to John Davis, Esq., one of the 30-jurors of the Peace for the District of Niagara, who summoned the parties to appear before him, and on the charge being made, the landlord and denier gave their plea in the guilt; but it was fully established by the evidence of eight witnesses who were reluctantly given their testimony. The worthy Magistrate deserves credit for his openness in eliciting the truth, and for imposing a fine on the landlord of three pounds five shillings currency, with three pounds twelve shillings and three pence costs, for selling liquor, and allowing drunkenness in his house, on the Lord's Day."—*Guardian.*

DISGRACEFUL PASSENGER.—Under this head the Liverpool Mercury states that Mr. Frederick Douglas, the fugitive slave, was denied the privileges of a gentleman in his passage home in the Cambria. Mr. Douglas engaged his passage of the agent in London. He first inquired for a second class passage, but was told that no such distinction was recognised by the company. He then asked if his colour would prove any barrier to his enjoying all the rights and privileges of the other passengers; and being assured that it would not, he paid the usual price for both No. 72. On reaching Liverpool, however, he found that his berth had been given to another, and was told that the agent in London had acted without authority in selling the ticket. The Liverpool agent would not allow Mr. D. to go on board the Cambria unless he would agree to take his meals alone, and not to mix with the saloon passengers. Having made all his arrangements to return home, and his luggage being on board, Mr. D. had to submit to these disgraceful conditions, though he had paid the full price. The Mercury speaks of the conduct of the agents in terms of great severity.

Mr. George Thompson, President of the Anti-Slavery League, the association in England recently organized under the auspices of Mr. Garrison, has been bound over for trial, on a charge of assaulting one William Wardell in an omnibus.

LORD DUNDONALD'S WAR PLAN.—We understand that the secret official trial to ascertain the effect of a continuous evolution of intense gas, in projecting shells or shot from a tube, resulted on an average in throwing 25 lb. powder shot to the distance of 7000 yards. From this fact it is clear that balls of greater diameter would far exceed the range of common artillery. Another important advantage is said to accrue—namely, that the continuous rush during their emission would prove much less injurious to vessels projecting such missiles than the shock or recoil of single discharges. We learn that Lord Dundonald's ingredients produce an elastic emission, like that which would be evolved by kindling the end of a hawser or cable formed of hard twisted gun cotton.—*Hampshire Telegraph.*

A GOOD REGULATION.—The Great Western Railway has made a very good regulation in respect to passenger's luggage. In addition to the label showing the destination of the luggage, a ticket with the initial letter of the passenger's name is also pasted to it and the luggage is sorted alphabetically, so that when the passenger goes to Paddington, supposing his name is Brown, he has only to go to a bin marked B. and find his luggage.

EXTRAORDINARY SPEED AND POWER ON THE BROAD GAUGE.—An engine on the Great Western Railway was, on Tuesday, urged at the speed of seventy miles an hour, with a load of sixty-five tons. It is calculated that with some improvements, speed of ninety or a hundred miles may be accomplished.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.—The American papers bring us detailed accounts of the battle of Sierra Gorda, which took place on the 7th of April. According to the American estimate their own loss is 500 killed and wounded, and 6000 Mexicans have been taken prisoners, among them Gen. La Vega again. The Mexicans lost in killed and wounded is not ascertained, but is presumed to be very great. Santa Anna made his escape with difficulty after the army was routed. Five Generals, besides La Vega, are among the prisoners. The writer to the *Picayunes* says:—The route of the Mexicans last evening was total—complete. They were pursued within four miles of Jalapa by Gen. Twiggs, at which point there were none to follow. No one at present can estimate the loss of the Mexicans—they are scattered on the hills, in the roads, every where. Nothing but the impossibility of finding a road for the dragoons to the rear of the enemy's works saved any part of Santa Anna's grand army, including his own illustrious person. His service of massive silver, nearly all his papers, his money—everything in his carriage, even his dinner, was captured. The Mexican loss upon the heights was awful—the ground in places is covered with the dead: Among the bodies found was that of Gen. Sanchez, and near him was Col. Falcone, mortally wounded. Their loss in the retreat was terribly severe—every path was strewn with the dead. The way is now apparently clear to Gen. Scott to the city of Mexico.

ANOTHER "GLORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT IN MEXICO"—The papers contain a long and magnificent account of the capture of the "far famed brig Malek Adhel" in the harbor of Mazatlan, by the U. S. ship of war Warren. This bold enterprise was effected by seventy men from the *Wron* in the launch and cutters, who actually succeeded in broad daylight, in "cutting out"

the brig, and taking as prisoners the whole unresisting crew—a midshipman and six starving sailors! With charming *isoterie* the historian of this small and of naval adventure says that "the fact of these cowardly men making no resistance does not in the least detract from the glory of this bold enterprise; for no one knew to what extent the brig was armed and manned!" And this is another of the grand "achievements" for which the people of the United States are to illuminate their towns and cities!—*Jb.*

FRENCH STRAMERS.—The first French ship an steamer to run to this country in the regular line, was expected to leave Havre on the 1st inst, and another is to leave the same port for New York on the 16th inst. So that with the Cunard line, the French line, and the Bremen and Coves line, our news from Europe will be received in rapid succession. The French steamers are said to be elegant vessels, with accomplished commanders, engineers of the highest reputation, and crew as really built and of the best material. GENERAL TAYLOR'S PLANTATION.—Gen. Taylor, in the year 1841, purchased, it is said, a plantation, stock, &c., near Rodney, in Mississippi, for which he paid \$50,000. An exchange paper learns from Hon. W. M. G. w. of New Orleans, a personal friend of Gen. Taylor, that some miscreant opened a breach in the levee, about two miles above the plantation named above, and it is now wholly under water. The loss of the crop follows as a matter of course, and a moderate estimate would set this loss at about \$30,000.

FATHER MATHEW COMING.—Father Mathew writing to the Albany Evening Journal that he has every expectation of visiting America this summer. He speaks in glowing language of the charitable contributions from America. "This magnificent humanity," he says, "is inspired every heart in this island with gratitude."

A GREAT PROBLEM.—The great problem of ages, "Can a woman keep a secret?" is now about to be solved. A lady has become an operator in the Springfield office of the Boston Telegraph Line. All the business of the line passes under her eye.

The new town of Lawrence is going up with a rush. Houses can't be had; and good sized households rent at handsome prices, as private residences for small families.

More than thirty thousand negroes in Africa and the West Indies have subscribed towards the statue of their benefactor, Sir F. Buxton.

Sidney papers, of the 14th December last, contain the results of the census of New South Wales for 1846, as follows: Population, Malta, 114,769; females, 74,840; total, 189,609. This disparity between the sexes cannot be very congenial to morals.

Distress in France.—The distress that exists in all parts of the country is very great. The Government, however, has taken every measure that ingenuity could suggest to keep prices moderate at Paris, and the extraordinary dearth of food would have occasioned some outbreaks in the capital, if the municipality had not devoted many millions of francs to enable the poorer of the working classes to get bread at the extraordinary rate. The sum spent in this way during the present month amounts to about 1,500,000 francs; for the month of April it is calculated at 1,460,000 francs; a similar amount will have to be given in May, and perhaps in June; and even since the end of October, a sum equally considerable has been spent every month. West importations of corn have been made from Russia, Turkey, the Levant, Sicily, and the United States, but especially from Russia. From the States the arrivals have been much fewer, and much less important than were expected.

The Pope has ordered general gas works to be constructed beyond the walls of Rome, in order to light the streets and supply private consumers.

PRODUCE PRICES CURRENT.—MONTRÉAL, May 17, 1847.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
ASHES, Pots, per cwt	27	6	28	6	WHEAT, prime Mess,	60	0	62	6
" " " " "	27	6	28	0	" " " " "	50	0	52	6
FLOUR, Panama Su-					" " " " "	00	0	00	0
" " " " "	35	9	36	3	" " " " "	00	0	00	0
Do. Fine,	34	6	35	0	" " " " "	00	0	00	0
Do. Extra,	35	0	35	3	" " " " "	00	0	00	0
Do. Middling,	none				" " " " "	92	6	95	0
Indian Meal, 168lb,	none				" " " " "	77	6	80	0
Oatmeal, brl, 224lb.	34	6	35	0	" " " " "	67	6	80	0
GRAIN, Wheat U. S.					" " " " "	00	0	00	0
" " " " "	7	6	7	9	" " " " "	00	0	00	0
Do. L. C. per min.	7	0	7	3	BUTTER, per lb. ...	0	7	0	8
BARLEY, Minot,	3	7	3	9					
OATS,	2	6	2	7					

THOS. M. TAYLOR, Broker.

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