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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER.

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Weekly Almanack.

Table with columns for Day, Sun, Moon, Full Moon, and other astronomical data for January 1853.

NEW-BRUNSWICK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Office open every day, (Sundays excepted,) from 11 to 12 o'clock. JOHN M. WILSON, SECRETARY, PRESIDENT.

The Garland.

TO A YOUNG LADY, ON HER BIRTH DAY.

From "The Rising Village, with other Poems"—By OLYMPIA WILSON, a descendant of the Author of "The Deserted Village."

May every sun that wakes the morning skies On thee in health, and peace, and safety rise; And as he sinks in glory in the West, Still leave thee happy and supremely blest.

A I R.

(From the same.) She left her father's halcyon cot, And his heart to sad despair;

She fled from home and every pleasure When the bold seducer came; She never thought how rich a treasure In a maiden's spotless name.

THE HISTORY OF A LIFE.

BY DAVID CORNWALL.

Day dawned. Within a curtain'd room, Filled, to faintness, with perfume, A lady lay, at point of doom.

Articula.

"THE FIRST CONSTITUTION.—Chief Justice Shaw, of Massachusetts, states, that the first written constitution of government that can be found in the history of civilized nations, was formed by the Pilgrims in the cabin of the May-Flower, before they had set their feet upon the shores of America.

be traced back to that devised by the passengers on board the May-Flower. Nor is this all. As far as the notions of Europe have advanced in the indications of their condition by breaking down their old forms of government, their written constitutions show their regular descent from the Plymouth Pilgrims.

Love and Hate Stealing.—The present term of Middlesex Oyer and Terminer and General Quarter Sessions, says the New Brunswick, N. J. Freeman,

has been one of extraordinary interest. On the 20th inst. the trial of Catherine Daywell came before the Quarter Sessions, on a charge of Horse Stealing. The Court house was filled with anxious spectators. Joseph Warren Scott, Esq. with his usual philanthropy, volunteered his services in behalf of the unfortunate stranger, and Mr. Daywell's counsel, with extraordinary ability, and with such effect as to draw tears from the audience. The story of this poor girl's pathetic and singularly romantic life, having formed an attachment for a young man in the service of her father, named Charles Stuart, he was banished from the house of his employer, and it is supposed sailed for America. It appears that she became so ardently attached to him, that she assumed his name, and travelled from Yorkville to Liverpool, where she engaged as a common sailor, and sailed in search of her lover. She arrived safely at New-York, and after wandering for some time through the streets of that city, she travelled to Boston, from thence to Philadelphia, and even to New-Orleans. After a fruitless search there, she returned again to New-York, and still meeting with disappointment, she came over into New-Jersey on her way to Philadelphia, and having stopped for the night at a barn near Kingsten, was, broken hearted, dejected, and in a foreign land, the horrible idea of suicide presented itself as the only end of her sufferings. But from this fruitless and melancholy alternative she was diverted by circumstances altogether providential.

Instead of pursuing her original intention, she caught one of the horses in the field in which the barn was situated, and rode off towards New Brunswick; the other horse followed. Circumstances (and her own confession) all go to prove that she meant to make herself amenable to the laws—and horse stealing being in her own country punishable by death, she sought it as an end to her sufferings and sorrows. These were the impressions as far as public opinion was expressed concerning this poor unfortunate stranger, whose generous love and exulting attachment (to use the language of another) "seems more like the tale of romance than the truth of narrative." [The anecdote when put upon her trial pleaded guilty, and refused to retract it; but her counsel was permitted by the Court to enter a plea of not guilty, and the case went to a jury who brought in a verdict of not guilty. No one appeared against her, such was the sympathy excited in her case, and so young was the girl that the act she committed was one of pity, and not of deliberate intention.—New-York Observer.]

\$15,000 FOR THE TEMPERANCE CAUSE.—The cause of temperance falls with its withering height, in some way, more or less, upon all. It is, therefore, with unfeigned satisfaction, we give place to the following notice, handed to us for publication, by the President of the New-York State Temperance Society.—Of the meritorious character of this gentleman, of his untiring zeal and virtuous enthusiasm in the great cause to which he has dedicated himself, this is not the place to speak at large; but we could not insert the notice of such a result, as is announced below, without some allusion to the individual whose instrumentality it was effected.—The following gentlemen have agreed to contribute the sums set opposite to their respective names, towards the support of the Press, the chief agent, under Divine Providence, in the great cause of Temperance. The Executive Committee take this mode of tendering their hearty thanks to the gentlemen who have thus so generously and so liberally come forward in aid of this noble cause.—

Table listing names and contributions for the Temperance Cause, including Stephen Van Rensselaer, Albany, \$1000; E. Corning, do, 1000; F. G. Delavan, do, 1000; Henry Dwight, Geneva, 1000; A. Champion, Rochester, 1000; Samuel Ward, New-York, 1000; Brown, Brothers & Co., do, 1000; Peter Remson, do, 1000; Roseman & Johnson, do, 1000; John Jacob Astor, do, 1000; P. U. Stuyvesant, do, 1000; J. W. Leavitt, do, 1000; Anson Blake, do, 1000; Charles Hoyt, Brooklyn, 1000; A Friend, do, 1000.

The leading object, as we understand, of this magnificent subscription, is to enable the friends of Temperance to disseminate more and more widely through the land their admirable exhortations and rebukes.—New-York American.

Distressing Occurrence.—Mr. Joseph Scott, a native of Ireland, came to this town about ten years ago, from Philadelphia, where he had carried on the business of soap boiler for a considerable time, (but ultimately failed,) and set up the same here. He was industrious and persevering, and in a little time built up an establishment of much greater extent than any of the kind that had preceded it in this place, and he had the most decided prospect of success in his undertakings. But he was unfortunately addicted to habits of intemperance, an increasing indulgence in which caused him embarrassments and losses, which he could not surmount.—Yesterday morning his lifeless body was found immersed in a lievat in his factory which was filled with the liquid in its greatest strength. The Jury of Inquest could ascertain no particulars. He was at the house of a neighbour near a state of inebriety. The conjecture is, that he went into the factory on his return, without a light, and groping about in the darkness, accidentally fell into the vat, and not being in a condition to extricate himself immediately, was overcome by the powerful strength of the alkaline liquid, and so perished. His face and hands were shockingly excoeriated by the corrosive nature of the lie. Mr. Scott was about 30 years of age, and we understand has left no family.—Verdict accidental death.—New-York Herald.

Whiskey, a Clog upon the Trade.—Our good country-brother of the Bethania (Lancaster county) Palladium, thus satisfactorily accounts for the non-appearance of his paper:—"The Palladium, has not been issued for the two past weeks because, the distiller made whiskey, and the retailer sold it, and the person who helped me to print the paper, drank of it, until he became drunk and foolish, and I would have him no more. I have help now, that promises better for sobriety, and the paper will go on."

SINGULAR INCIDENT.—An old inhabitant of this city, a foreigner and a German, well known to the public, was a few evenings since called on to go to a public house to see a transient gentleman, also a German, stopping there, who had been remarked to bear a great similarity to him, in person, speech, and manners, and which had attracted the notice of some gentlemen present. Having attended to the call, after an introduction, the parties commenced a conversation in their vernacular tongue, relative to the nativity and paternity of each, when after a few moments, they rushed into each other's arms with the exclamation, "Mine Got, you are mine brother," and they wept in holy silence. The scene was extremely affecting to the beholders. The brothers had been separated in youth, and for a period of thirty-seven years had been unknown to each other. Though the transient gentleman had been recently here on matters of business, and the personal admission had been remarked, a dissimilarity of names had prevented a recognition, the one resident here having been impressed into the British service, while in London, and sent to the West Indies, from whence he escaped to this country, in a vessel belonging to this port, which circumstance induced him to adopt a different cognomen from that by which he had been known. He has since been a man of property, lived respectably among us, and has brought up a numerous and industrious family.—New-Haven Herald.

Power of Machinery in Great Britain.—Mr. W. Paine, at a public meeting, lately at Birmingham, stated in proof of the increase of the power of production, by the improvement of machinery—that in 1725, the machinery in existence was equal to the labor of 100,000 men; in 1827, to 200,000 men; and in 1834, to 400,000 men. In the Cotton trade, spindles that used to revolve 30 times in a minute, now revolve 100 times in a minute. In one mill at Manchester, there are 130,000 spindles at work, spinning one million of a hundred thousand miles of cotton thread per week. Mr. Owen of New-Lanark, with 2,500 people daily produces as much cotton yarn as will run round the earth twice and a half. The total machinery in the Kingdom is calculated now to be equal to the work of 400 millions, and might be increased to an incalculable extent under proper arrangements.—Birmingham Journal.

SALARIES OF ENGLISH OFFICERS.—The great officers of state in England are well compensated for their labors. Of the 11 uses of Commons the Speaker is the highest functionary. His emoluments do not vary much from £2,400 sterling per annum; and £1,050 extra, called equipment money. Immediately on his election, he receives two thousand ounces of plate, two hogheads of claret wine, £100 to buy stationery, besides a superb residence, rent free. First Lord of the Treasury receives £6,000; Chancellor of the Exchequer, £5,000; Lord Privy Seal, £2,000; Secretary of State, Home Department, £5,000; Secretary of State, Colonial Department, £2,000; First Lord of the Admiralty, £4,000; President of the Board of Control, £3,200; Postmaster General, £2,500; Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, £3,500; Paymaster of the Forces, £2,500; Chief Secretary of State for Ireland, £3,500. These officers constitute the King's cabinet. The contrast between the salaries of the English and corresponding officers of the Government of the United States, is very striking.—Scientific Traveller.

A medal has just been struck at Berlin in Prussia, in commemoration of the Translation of the Bible by Luther. On one side is the obverse of Luther, with the legend "Interpreter of the Divine Word." On the other, he is represented delivering to Germany, which is inclined before him, an open Bible. Above this group are these words:—"The Holy Scriptures in German Tongue;" and below it—"Commenced at the Wartburg, in 1522, finished at Paltensberg, in 1534.—Julius of 1824."

At Pölsch, in Lithuania at the end of October, a man died aged one hundred and eighty-eight. He had seen seven monarchs on the throne of his country, served Gustavus Adolphus as a soldier during the thirty years' war. At 93 he married his third wife, who lived fifty years with him, and bore him several children.

Louis Philippe, the King of the French, is one of the richest, not the richest man in Europe.

LOWER CANADA. CONSTITUTIONAL ASSOCIATION.

(Circular.) QUEBEC, 31st Dec. 1854.

SIR, It has been for some time evident that a party, composed of a few designing persons in the House of Assembly of this Province, has been labouring to inculcate the minds of the French Canadian Population, distrust and hatred of their fellow-subjects of British and Irish descent, and as a result of confidence in the measures proposed or adopted by the King's Government in England.

The late subdivision of the Province into new Counties, has given to this Party an influence in Public Affairs throughout the Province, of which it was not previously possessed. One of the means employed to effect its purposes, was the voting of certain Resolutions (to the number of ninety-two) by a majority of French Canadians in the House of Assembly at its last Session.

The principles on which these Resolutions were founded, being further developed by the proceedings of the same party, during the late General Election, it was no longer a matter of choice, but of imperative necessity on the part of the British and Irish Inhabitants, to come forward in defence of their rights, as Subjects of the United Kingdom.

A Constitutional Association has been consequently formed, the causes of which, and the objects it has in view, are set forth in a Declaration, of which we have the honor to transmit you a Copy, as printed in the Quebec Gazette of the 12th instant.

As a further illustration of the views of the dominant party in the Assembly, we beg to refer to Mr. Papineau's Address to the Electors of Montreal, (printed in the same Paper,) wherein the late Speaker and principal author of the resolutions, openly claims hostility to His Majesty's Government, advocates resistance to its authority, and recommends a total cessation of intercourse with all persons of British or Irish origin and others, who will not subscribe, without reserve, to the opinions and ultimate designs of the party of which he is the ostensible leader.

Annexed is also a Copy of one of the Resolutions passed by the late Assembly, inviting certain individuals to form Committees, part of whose duty will be to correspond with such persons in the United Kingdom and the British Colonies, as they may deem expedient, for the purpose of supporting the claims of the House of Assembly, which the resolutions designate to be those of the People of the Province.

Novo-Scotia or Nova-Immick, by Committees constituted as suggested in the above-mentioned resolution, we are directed by the Executive Committee of the Constitutional Association to declare, that the tendency of the Resolutions and the avowed objects of the party who approve of them, are, to introduce the principles of Election throughout the public institutions of the Colony,—to subvert the present form of Government, and finally, to sever the connection with the Mother Country, and that they are a violation with, not in subordination to the well known and publicly declared sentiments of the Inhabitants of British and Irish origin, and of numerous other subjects of His Majesty, residing within the Province, who desire faithfully to discharge the duties of their allegiance to the King, and to maintain the Constitution as granted by the Act of 1791.

It is unnecessary to point out the effect which the change contemplated by the majority of the late Assembly, in the system of Government in Lower Canada would produce in the other British Colonies.—It is so evident, that the Association appeals with confidence, on behalf of its Constituents, to the people of those Colonies, for countenance and support, in its endeavours to oppose, by every Constitutional means, the attempts that are now making, under the presence of redoubtable powers, to destroy the Constitution of this Colony and to disunite it, and eventually, the other North American Colonies from the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

We have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient Servants, HENRY LEMBERSURIER, THOMAS A. YOUNG, JAMES DEAN.

(Declaration of the Constitutional Association before referred to.)

"Resolved, That this House invites the Members of the minority of the Legislative Council who partake the opinions of the People, the present Members of the House of Assembly until the next General Election, and afterwards all the Members then Elected, and such other persons as they may associate with them, to form one Committee or two Committees of Correspondence, to sit at Quebec and Montreal in the first instance, and afterwards at such place as they shall think proper; the said Committees to communicate with each other and with the several local Committees which may be formed in different parts of the Province, and to enter into correspondence with the Honourable Denis Bertholin Viger, the Agent of this Province in England, with the said Daniel O'Connell and Joseph Hume, Esquires, and with such other Members of the House of Lords or of the House of Commons, and such other Persons in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as they may deem expedient, for the purpose of supporting the claims of the People of this Province and of this House of forwarding such information, documents and opinions, as they may think adapted to make known the state, wishes and wants of the Province; the said Committees also to correspond with such persons as they shall think proper, in the other British Colonies, which are all interested that the most populous of their sister Colonies should not sink under the violent attempt to perpetuate the abuses and evils which result as well from the excess of the Administration, Legislative, and Judicial departments, out of which have sprung insult and oppression for the People, and, by a necessary consequence, hatred and contempt on their part for the Provincial Government."

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASSOCIATION.

- Andrew Stuart, John Neilson, Henry Le Mesurier, James Stuart, Henry Black, T. A. Young, John Daval, James H. Dyer, Peter Loribor, Samuel Neilson, William Price, James Bell Forsyth, George Pemberton, John Fraser, Alan Comour, Thomas Ryan, Et. Fargues, Alexander Simpson, William Power, H. B. Gourinier, James Dean.

From Neilson's Quebec Gazette, Dec. 12.

Meeting of the Constitutional Association.

A Meeting of about 400 or 500 Members of the Quebec Constitutional Association, took place at the Albion Hotel, on Thursday evening, 11th inst., for the purpose of taking the sense of the Association with respect to a Declaration drawn up by the Sub-Committee. John Fraser, Esq. was called to the Chair, and R. H. Gaidner, Esq. acted as Secretary.

Andrew Stuart, Esq. explained the object of the Meeting, which was, to take the sense of the Members generally with regard to the Declaration which he then held in his hand, and which had received the unanimous approbation of the Sub-Committee, and also, of the General Committee. The most proper course to be pursued, therefore, he apprehended, would be to read the Declaration, paragraph by paragraph, so as to give every one present an opportunity of expressing his opinions.

The following Declaration was then read, paragraph by paragraph, and the question of concurrence being put on each, they all passed by acclamation, with the exception of the 8th, the only dissentient voice to which was Mr. Gagy.

DECLARATION.

Of the causes which led to the formation of THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASSOCIATION OF QUEBEC, and of the objects for which it has been formed:— The political evils under which Lower Canada has long laboured, have recently been increased in so alarming a degree, that the subversion of Government itself is to be apprehended, with the consequent disorders of anarchy, unless the progress of them be arrested and an effectual remedy applied.

Under the influence of a party in the Assembly of the Province, labouring by every means which they could devise to concentrate political power in the hands exclusively of a few individuals, national distinctions have been fostered and established, the administration of the local Government has been pervasively obstructed and impeded, its authority brought into contempt, and public and private security essentially impaired, and endangered; while the just subordination of the Colony to the Parent State has been openly questioned, and resistance to its authority, if not avowedly inculcated, certainly covertly promoted.

In prosecution of the views of the party to which these evils are mainly attributable, that portion of the population of the Province which has been by them designated as "of British or Foreign origin" has virtually been, and now is, deprived of the privilege of being heard in the Representative Branch of the Government in support of their interests and views. The exercise of the prerogative thus reserved amounts to about one hundred and fifty thousand souls, or one fourth of the whole, and comprises nearly all the Merchants, the principal Members of the learned Professions, a large body of skilled and wealthy Artisans and Mechanics, and a great number of respectable and industrious Agriculturists, possessing extensive real estate, and being by far the greatest portion of the

capital employed in the pursuits of trade and industry, all which interests are liable to be burthened, and in fact have been injuriously affected, in consequence of the proceedings of the said party and of the majority of the same origin by whom they have been supported in the Assembly of the Province.

The class of persons by whom Members of the Assembly are almost exclusively returned,—that is, the Inhabitants of French origin, who form the majority, and whose character is in other respects most estimable,—has shewn itself peculiarly liable to be seduced upon ambitious and self-interested individuals, who, by exciting the latent national prejudices of the majority against their fellow-subjects of a different origin, and, as appears from late events, lead them astray by specious though perfectly unfounded representations addressed to their prejudices and passions.

By these means the party in the Assembly already alluded to, has acquired a dangerous ascendancy over the class of the population, and the result of the late Elections evinces that they will use it for the purpose of securing the return of such persons only as will act in subserviency to them. Upon that occasion it is notorious that no other qualification was asked or required from Candidates than an implicit acquiescence in the views and wishes of the party as expressed in the Resolutions of the Assembly to be presently adverted to.

While the Representation of the Province continues on such a footing with the concentration of power incident to it, experience has shewn that there can be no hope of a fair and impartial administration of the powers of Government, and there is too much reason to apprehend that in a Body so constituted, the public and general interests of the Province, Commercial and Agricultural, will continue to be overlooked and neglected or subjected to injurious regulations, its improvement obstructed and retarded, and the whole internal Government of the Province deprived of the Legislative superintendence and provisions which are necessary for its efficiency, and the promotion of the general welfare.

The political evils arising from the constitution and composition of the Assembly have been greatly increased and aggravated by the Act of the Imperial Parliament phing at the disposal of the Assembly, absolutely and unconditionally as it is understood by that body, the important Revenue by means of which the Civil Expenditure of the Province was previously defrayed. By this increase to the power derived from great numerical superiority in the Assembly, have been superadded the irresistible weight and influence necessarily enjoined with the exclusive power of appropriating the revenues absolutely and indisparably requisite for defraying the civil Expenditure of the Province, by means of which the Executive Government has been rendered entirely dependent on the will and pleasure of the leaders in the Assembly for its very existence, and public authority both administrative and judicial, from the Governor in Chief and the Chief Justice of the Province to the most humble individual in the scale of office, has been subjected to their interested, partial, vindictive or capricious control.

If any doubt could heretofore have been entertained as to the design and tendency of the proceedings of these men, that doubt must have been removed by the Resolution passed in the Assembly on the 21st day of February, 1824, containing divers false and scandalous imputations on so general a nature as not to admit of answer or investigation, against the character and conduct of His Majesty's Government in this Province,—against the whole body of its Officers, Civil and Military,—against the Legislature,—against the second Branch of the Provincial Legislature,—against a large portion of the Inhabitants of the Colony engaged solely in the duties and pursuits of private life, and against the British Government generally as respects this Province since the Cession of Canada to His Majesty by the Crown of France.

These Resolutions passed by a majority of 56, of whom 31 were Members of French origin, against 24, of whom 17 were not of that origin: They formally class and enumerate His Majesty's subjects in this Province as persons of "French origin" and of "British or Foreign origin," the former class, whom we erroneously stated as consisting of 325,000 and the latter of 75,000 souls.

The Address to His Majesty and to the two Houses of Parliament, wherein these Resolutions are embodied, and which have been transmitted to England, claims a revision and modification, by the majority of the people of this Province, of the Constitutional Act; an extension of the elective system contrary to the prerogative of the Crown and the British Constitution, for the purpose of vesting the appointment to offices of honor and profit in the said majority of the people; the election of the second Branch of the Legislature now appointed by the Crown for life, in virtue of the aforesaid Act; threatening at the same time the British Government and Parliament with the example of the late Colonies now the United States of America, and insisting upon being supported in the demands contained in the said Resolutions, that the people of this Province may not be forced by oppression to regret their dependence on the British Empire, and to seek elsewhere a remedy for their afflictions.

In furtherance of the views of the framers of the said Resolutions and Address, the said Resolutions were, shortly after the close of the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, printed and distributed in great numbers throughout the Province at the public expense; and certain Committees were therein invited to be formed, to aid in giving effect to the same, under a pledge of the honor of the Representatives of the People to reimburse the expenses of the said Committees, to them or to such persons as might advance money to them.

The party already referred to, composed of certain Members of the House of Assembly, of French origin, has for several years past, as already stated, and as is well known, taken advantage of every opportunity,—both by Speeches delivered in the House of Assembly and elsewhere, and through means of newspapers under their control,—to excite the ancient national prejudices of the inhabitants who are of French origin, against their fellow-subjects who are not of that origin; and particularly by the aforesaid Resolutions printed and distributed as aforesaid, and by meetings and committees in support thereof, they have in fact so operated upon the prejudices of persons of their origin, as to excite a great number of them to frequent public expressions of hatred, and threatened violence to those not of the same national origin.

In consequence of these machinations and others connected with and resulting from them, it has come to pass, as might have been looked for under such circumstances, that at the late General Election, (as the Poll Books kept of record according to Law will shew,) majorities consisting of persons of French origin have chosen nearly the whole of the Members who are to compose the House of Assembly for the ensuing four years, of persons of that origin who have publicly approved of the said Resolutions, or pledged themselves to their support.

As subordinate to the grievances now stated, but contributing materially to the political evils of this Province, other Departments of the Government may be mentioned as to which measures of reform are greatly called for. The system of Justice established, it is only rarely known, is the most inefficient and unsuited to the present state of the