

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, MONDAY, 25th NOV.

mounted upon it, and felt along the wall above his head with both hands. At length they touched a large iron hook firmly driven into one of the beams.

At that moment he was interrupted by a loud knocking at the door below. After a little hesitation, he opened the window and demanded who it was.

"I want Mr. Nickleby," replied a voice. "What with him?"

"That's not Mr. Nickleby's voice, surely," was the rejoinder.

It was not like it; but it was Ralph who spoke, and so he said.

The voice made answer that the twin brothers wished to know whether the man whom he had seen that night, was to be detained, and that, although it was now midnight, they had sent in their anxiety to do right.

"Yes," cried Ralph, "I detain him till tomorrow; then let them bring him here—him and my nephew—and come themselves, and be sure that I will be ready to receive them."

"At what hour?" asked the voice.

"At any hour," replied Ralph, fiercely. "In the afternoon, tell them. At any hour—at any minute—all times will be alike to me."

He listened to the man's retreating footsteps until the sound had passed, and then gazing up into the sky, saw, or thought he saw, the same black cloud that had seemed to follow him home, and which now appeared to hover directly over the house.

"I know its meaning now," he muttered, "and the restless nights, the dreams, and why I have quailed of late, all pointed to this. Oh! if men by selling their own souls could ride rampant for a term, for how short a term would I rather mine to-night!"

The sound of a deep bell came along the window, one.

"Lie on," cried the usher, "with your iron tongue ring merry for births that make expectants weep, and marriages that are made in hell, and toll ruefully for the dead whose shoes are worn already. Call men to prayers who are godly because not found out, and ring chimes for the coming in of every new year that brings this cursed world nearer to its end. No bell or book for me; throw me on a dung-hill, and let me rot there to infect the air!"

With a wild loud round, in which frenzy, hatred, and despair were horribly mingled, he shook his clenched hand at the sky above him, which was still dark and threatening, and closed the window.

The rain and hail pattered against the glass, the chimneys quaked and rocked; the crazy ornament rattled with the wind as though an impatient hand inside were striving to burst it open. But no hand was there, and it opened no more.

"How's this?" cried one, "the gentlemen say they can't make any body hear, and have been trying these two hours?"

"And yet he came home last night," said another, "for he spoke to somebody out of the window upstairs."

They were a little knot of men, and the window being mentioned, they went up in the road to look up at it. This occasioned their observing that the house was still close shut, as the housekeeper had said she had left it on the previous night, and led to a great many suggestions, which terminated in two or three of the boldest getting round to the back, and so entering by a window, while the others remained outside in impatient expectation.

They looked into all the rooms below, opening the shutters as they went to admit the fading light, and, still finding nobody, and every thing quiet and in its place, doubted whether they should go further. One man, however, remarking that they had not been to the garret, and that it was there he had been last seen, they agreed to look there too, and went up softly, for the mystery and silence made them timid.

After they had stood for an instant on the landing eyeing each other, he who had proposed their carrying the search so far turned the handle of the door, and, pushing it open, looked through the chink, and fell back directly.

"It's very odd!" he whispered, "he's hiding behind the door! Look!"

They pressed forward to see, but one among them, thrusting the others aside with a loud exclamation, drew a clasp knife from his pocket, and rushing into the room, cut down the body.

He had torn a rope from one of the old trunks, and hung himself on an iron hook immediately below the trap door in the ceiling, in the very place to which the eyes of his son, a lonely, desolate, little creature, had so often been directed in childish terror fourteen years before.

The Toronto Patriot of the 15th instant has taken the trouble to devote five columns to so insignificant a subject as William Lyon Mackenzie, and our worthy contemporary appears to entertain some faith in the statements of that reptile with regard to the mode of administering justice in the United States. We do not believe that the majesty of the law is upheld in the Republic in a very striking manner, but we are certainly disposed to entertain a more favourable opinion of American institutions from the moment that we find W. L. Mackenzie pronouncing them bad. The sayings of a creature whose whole career has been composed of treachery and falsehood, must be taken to mean the contrary of what he expresses; that black is white and white is black, exactly as Mackenzie's "dear friend," Joseph Home declared himself willing to state, when it suited his purpose.

The five columns in the Patriot are composed principally of extracts from Mackenzie's Gazette which is still published, at Rochester, we believe; and they go to show that the writer "sees nothing," now, "to envy" in the institutions of the United States, or at all events that salutary one the "Monroe County Penitentiary," from which, under date of Nov. 5, 1839, he has addressed a letter to his friend, Mr. Home, in the hope probably that by the intervention of that highly influential member of Parliament, means may be found to shake off the "baneful domination of"—the Penitentiary task-masters! The letter commences with the following paragraph:—

"If I had been told at any former period of my eventful life, that the day would come in which I would deeply feel and be compelled to acknowledge the effects of American injustice and ingratitude; that I would be the victim of laws founded on political expediency, partially and vindictively executed; that fifty or sixty thousand persons would seek an alleviation of my sufferings from the authorities of the republic and seek it in vain; and that I would see the highest seats of the bench of civil and criminal justice prostituted to party purposes, without a hope of relief to the sufferers, I would have replied—"all this may be true of England, but of America, never!"

The writer then goes on to recapitulate the services which he has rendered in the cause of liberty and concludes with recommending to the notice of his friend Mr. Home a series of articles in the Gazette—one of which is headed "A peep behind the curtain," but as we have neither time, nor do we think our readers have much inclination, for a long story about such trash, we merely give the introduction and summary afforded by Mackenzie himself, thus:—

INQUITOUS CONVICTION OF MACKENZIE AND CASE.

I challenge the Globe—the Argus—the Evening Post—the Era—the Ohio Statesman—the Pennsylvanian—the Mohawk Courier, and other administration papers to defend the practices shown up under the title, "A peep behind the curtain," if they can. The honor, the reputation of their nation is at stake, in its tenderest point.

CONTENTS OF THE ARTICLE.—The Canadiana Trials—law and practice in summoning jurors—the panel for McKenzie and Case secretly and illegally selected—Judges Thomson and Conklin's decision—Burr's case—Detroit usage Jurors how summoned in New York City—corruption in partisan officers of Dauphin—anti-masonic juries—an indictment quashed—another quashed—Harrisburgh jurors—Stoughton's murder—an array quashed in Delaware—W. Leggett charges Mr. Marcy with re-appointing an old drunkard to the bench—Pennsylvania practice—the Mohawk Courier—Mr. Van Buren openly charges his political opponents with want of common honesty—the Globe exhibits them as dishonest and fraudulent—President Madison indicted—

the Attorney General of Pennsylvania denounces the grand jurors as a set of perjured men—inquisive mode of selecting jurors in the United States Court, N. Y.—the Pennsylvanian exhibits the sworn judges of elections at Philadelphia, as perjured villains—the Globe accuses one of the presidential candidates with receiving a bribe to get out of the way, and the Governor and County Clerks of New Jersey with acting contrary to their oaths to gain a political end—conclusion.

The British America steamer which left on Friday morning for Green Island to endeavour to bring up the ship *Maintainer*, hence for Sheerness, which is disabled with loss of rudder, returned in the evening, having been only able to proceed as far as Kamouraska where she encountered a strong easterly wind with a heavy sea precluding all hope of going with safety.

The port of Quebec, has resumed its wintry aspect, at very nearly so, for but two vessels the *General Hewitt*, for London, and the *Ware*, for the Azores, and two steamers the *St. George* and the *Canadian Patriot* remain in it. The latter leave this evening on their last trips for the season and, it is doubtful, whether there will be more than one steamer to arrive here from Montreal, until next spring; the *Canada*, we understand, is expected tomorrow. The *General Hewitt*, and the *Ware* cleared the Custom House, the former on the 19th inst. and the latter on Saturday last & both will put to sea to-day. The *Ware* is a brigantine of 165 tons and left the Downs for Quebec at the unusually late date of the 28th Sept. with Ordnance Stores, &c. for Government. She arrived here on the 20th instant, discharged her cargo and took in another, of staves &c. and cleared at the Custom House, for the Azores in less than four days.

On Friday we mentioned the mishap that befell one of the outward bound fleet, and to-day we regret to have to record another similar occurrence. The *Barb Hibernia*, Capt. Stevenson, which sailed from here on the 17th instant for London got aground in the Traverse on Friday last, and Captain S. has returned to town to communicate the particulars to the shipper.

Yesterday morning at about ten o'clock, a heavy fall of snow commenced which lasted for nine or ten hours and then changed into rain which still (9 A. M. Monday) continues. The state of the streets in the city may be imagined; they are in a horrible mess, and the pedestrian is beset with dangers under foot and above head. In taking care to avoid wet feet the chances are that he will be saluted on the head and shoulders with an avalanche of wet snow from the house tops, while if he hears this coming and endeavours to avoid it, ten to one he finds himself on the broad of his back in a detestable mixture of snow and water. The safest plan is to remain in-doors along side the fire.

The Upper Canada papers contain accounts of a case of "Swartwouting" that has recently occurred at, or rather from, Niagara. The Messrs. Chrysler, importing merchants, it appears, are absconding debtors and the amount of which they defraud their creditors is said to be the prodigious one of two hundred thousand pounds. They are advertised by the sheriff by virtue of several writs of attachment but it is to be hoped that the amount of their defalcation is exaggerated.

The Baltimore Chronicle of the 18th instant, contains the following short paragraph respecting the slave trade, but the editor leaves it in doubt whether his regret is caused by the existence of the nefarious traffic in his city or in consequence of its being found out:—"We regret to learn that three gentlemen of this city, occupying respectable positions in society, were arrested and held to bail on Saturday upon a charge of being concerned in fitting out vessels designed to be employed in the slave trade."

Among the passengers in the *Great Western* which sailed from New York on the 16th inst. was Sir Lionel Smith, ex-Governor of Jamaica. Previous to his departure a meeting of the colored citizen of New York was held, and an address to Sir Lionel adopted expressive of gratitude for his "equity, justice and firmness with which he has administered the laws enacted for the emancipation of their brethren in that Island." Sir Lionel made the following reply:—

Gentlemen,—I assure you that I feel highly honoured by this address, referring as it does to the trials and difficulties I had to contend with in my administration of the Government of the Island of Jamaica.

In common with those who compassionate the wrongs and sufferings of the slave population in all countries, I most sincerely hope that evil system, in this beautiful and otherwise happy country, may soon terminate, so that liberty may no longer be a blessing to be regulated by compulsion.

Gentlemen,—I pray God to bless your efforts in this great cause, and I thank you very sincerely for the flattering terms in which you have estimated my humble labours in it.

BEAUTIES OF REPUBLICANISM.

The following short chapter illustrative of the beauties of republicanism and cheap government affords an admirable proof of the blessings to be derived from the institutions so much vaunted by the advocates of Responsible—alias Republican—Government, in the Canadas. We copy it from a late New York paper:—

Banking and Finance in Pennsylvania.—The state of Pennsylvania is on the eve of one of the most extraordinary revolutions that ever took place in any state of the confederacy. The whole frame of society—social, political, judicial and financial—will be exploded in less than a year, and most probably tumble for a time into utter ruins. In the years 1816, '17, '18 and '19, Kentucky was brought to the verge of social dissolution by a similar arrangement in her monetary system; but the evils which afflict Pennsylvania are deeper, wider, more intense than any similar cases that has ever been developed in this country. In Kentucky the whole frame of society was shaken to its centre—in Pennsylvania we can make no prediction of the result, so deep-rooted is the disease.

Let us be understood. The state of Pennsylvania has a debt of \$32,000,000. The interest on this debt is \$2,000,000, per annum, and her revenue to pay it is only \$500,000. The surplus revenue of the whole chain of public works, after paying repairs and expenses, including every other species of revenue, will not yield over \$600,000. Of course every year she gets deeper and deeper into debt. But this is not all—The U. S. Bank and many other of her banking institutions are in the same rotten condition—making probably a state and bank debt of \$100,000,000. One half of this enormous debt is due to stockholders in Europe, and the rest to stockholders in this country. Their available assets have merely nominal values, while the revenue arising therefrom, is not equal to a fourth part of the yearly interest and dividends.

In this state of things, what will the legislature of Pennsylvania do at their next session? The banks can raise no more funds by issuing post notes,—nor the state loans by issuing stocks. Their currency is in a frightful state of disorder, and daily getting worse. Nobody in Europe or America will buy either kind of their securities. The state is as bankrupt and rotten as her banks, and both will have a fearful ordeal to go through at the next legislature. If the corrupt and rotten politicians of either, or both parties, attempt to prop up their fortunes by direct taxes, by passing stop laws, or by sustaining the swindling banks, a new movement and a new party will spring up, and both the old parties, banks and politicians, will be swept from existence by the agricultural interest like reeds before the wind. Perhaps the whole debt may be repudiated, and the state declared bankrupt and will thus defy its creditors.

This is the dilemma in which Pennsylvania is placed. The state must pay regularly the annual interest on the debt, by direct taxation, or be declared utterly bankrupt. There is a third or other alternative.—This most disgraceful state of things has been brought on them by the politicians and the financiers of both parties—

a more unprincipled set of politicians than that state do not exist from personal and intimate are the greatest scourges changed between these middling interest—the throughout Philadelphia extremely industrious neither leading financial nor truth. During the bravely has been freed, out of the state and bank debt of \$65,000 in politics and finance wealth, but the state is with the currency in a

AN ANTI-MALTHUSIAN. Mr. Pepin de Lachance of one hundred years. Jean, Island of Orleans married and by his first children. The last ordered the state of we November, 1838, will of Tessier thirty-five y groom being in his nin

During the late election the opposing candidate were father and son; Fees" and the latter was that the son beat as follows:— Seth Sprague, Seth Sprague,

M. THE BATTLE OF S Turpin * has just finished engraved map of the where Colonel Wether correctly drawn, press the position of the two village of St Charles, ed. Altogether it forms a—New York Here * Of Quebec.

From the United ALTERATION OF THE announced in our Gaz that it was in contemp vice and depot compar the exception of those ladies) upon a uniform numerical strength; as to the subject, as soon Chief should have given the proposed arrangement has not yet done so, to our determination, I journal of Saturday last to the effect, that the depot and service comparison question had been agreed upon would consist of men. That such an temptation is possible, I been approved and adopted erroneous assertion. ers that no fixed establishments has yet been decided scale which was laid down augmentation of regular file, still remains in force service companies of North America was strength of the depot The strength of the settlements in Jamaica and rank and file; the str parties 150. The str companies of regiments se near, at Bermuda, the Mauritius, and Ceylon establishment of 479 companies were increased alteration in these e be made, there is little question whether Lord large a depot establish led by our contemp ble; and which we cannot cause the inconvenience by, and still considerab indeed, the establishm