

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly.—The determination expressed to me by the House of Assembly, to confine the exercise of their legislative functions to business of a particular nature appears to be so totally at variance with that course which is best calculated to promote the interests of the country at the present juncture, that I cannot admit of the continuance of this session.

"Anxious, however, to resort to every measure calculated to avert the injurious consequences which I cannot but foresee will result from this determination, I have resolved, by affording the house, by a short prorogation, another opportunity of proceeding with the many important matters which demand the immediate attention of the legislature; and I do therefore prorogue this general assembly to Saturday, the 3rd day of November, instant, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly."

On the 31, the house met according to proclamation, and his excellency was pleased to deliver the following speech:—

"Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly.—On considering the many important measures called for by the present circumstances of the colony, which the premature termination of your last session has left unprovided for, I have felt myself compelled, in the paramount discharge of my duty, to assemble you again for the despatch of public business.

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly.—I earnestly recommend to your attention the state in which the country will be placed on the expiration of the laws established a police-regulating the collection of public taxes and embracing many other objects deeply affecting the public welfare.

"Gentlemen of the Council Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly. It will be my duty to lay before you various communication from her majesty's government, explanatory of the grounds upon which her majesty, in the exercise of her prerogative, has been pleased to disallow certain laws of the island, and conveying her majesty's recommendation, that provision should be made by the colonial legislature for the introduction of several measures of vital interest to all classes of her majesty's subjects in Jamaica, amongst which are included those having for their objects the prevention of vagrancy, the better regulating the relative rights and duties of masters and servants in husbandry, or other kind of handicraft, the determining the qualification of electors, the regulation of a militia, and the preventing the unauthorized occupation of lands belonging either to the crown or private individuals.

"In all these, and in every other measure, calculated to promote the true interest of the colony, you will now, as ever, find me ready to afford my zealous co-operation."

On the evening of the 31 house, after some discussion, waited upon his excellency as per appointment, and presented the following address:—

"May it please your Excellency.—We thank your excellency for your speech at the opening of the session.

"We feel, in common with your excellency the emergency in which the country may be placed by the expiration of the annual laws; and we also are well aware of the necessity which, in the present state of society, exists, that laws for the prevention of vagrancy—for regulating the relative rights and duties of masters and servants—for determining the qualification of electors, for the regulation of the militia, and from preventing

the unauthorized occupation of land, should be enacted; but we are keenly alive to the fact, that our legislative rights have been violated; and so long as these rights continue to be invaded, we feel ourselves compelled to adhere to our resolutions of last session.

To which his excellency was pleased to make the following reply:—

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.—It is always my duty, and not less my inclination, to receive every communication from you with respect; but I must express my regret at your reply to the speech which I opened the present session."

Within five minutes of the house having returned, they were again summoned by the Provost Marshal General to the Council Chamber, when his excellency made the following speech:—

"Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.—It is with unfeigned regret I have to inform you, that although the House of Assembly have acknowledged the emergency in which the country may be placed by the expiration of the annual laws, and have expressed themselves aware of the necessity which, in the present state of society, exists for the enactment of laws providing for these important objects, which I pressed on your attention at the opening of this session, that body still adheres to the determination which compelled me to bring the last session to a close. So little can I reconcile this determination with the true interests of the colony, and hopeless as I am of any change in the sentiments of the people I have resolved on taking the sense of the constituency, and therefore, in the exercise of the prerogative vested in me, I do now, in her majesty's name, dissolve this General Assembly; and it is hereby dissolved accordingly.

ANTIQUITY OF P-PERAY.—Roman Catholics often talk of the antiquity of their religion, but we think (says the *United Service Gazette*) that the following dates of the origin of their peculiar doctrines and practices will show them to be too modern for a Scriptural Christian to receive:

	Year.
Holy Water .....	120
Penance .....	150
Monks .....	328
Latin Mass .....	391
Extreme Unction .....	558
Purgatory .....	593
Invocation of the Virgin Mary and of Saints .....	594
Papal Usurpation .....	697
Kissing the Pope's toe .....	709
Image Worship .....	715
Canonization of Saints .....	993
Baptism of Bulls .....	1090
Transubstantiation .....	1090
Celibacy .....	1015
Indulgences .....	1190
Dispensations .....	1200
The Inquisition .....	1204
Confession .....	1215
Elevation of the Host .....	1222

Novel Steam Vessel.—On Thursday morning some curiosity was excited at Blackwall, and below, towards Gravesend by the novel spectacle of a large heavy laden ship proceeding down the river propelled by a steam apparatus. Her appearance was that of an ordinary vessel, with the exception of a few bars of iron on her sides, crossed in different directions, to which the propellers appeared to be attached. No paddle boxes were visible, nor was the water thrown up as in the case of the paddle wheels—the action seemed to be smooth and equable. This is the first attempt, as far as we know, to adapt the use of steam power to propel a vessel of the ordinary construction, and it certainly does, on reflection, seem extraordinary that some plan for effecting this high object should not have been before now brought into beneficial use, the enormous expense attending the constant consumption of fuel in steam vessels being the great obstacle to the application of steam-power to distant voyages. The ship above alluded to is the *Marin*, going to India; her machinery, including the boilers, occupies comparatively little space.

It will be seen, that whatever course Sir John Colborne may have resolved upon for the disposal of the Canadian traitors, rebels, or invaders, his resolution respecting one portion of them must, at all events, have been promptly made. By the *Captain Ross*, which left Quebec on the 22d November, thirty-five of those offenders have been conveyed to Liverpool, and were landed there last Monday evening. On the passage they had made an attempt to overpower the crew and escort, and to seize the ship, but were soon discomfited and loaded with heavy irons.

It is said the above prisoners or the majority of them, are to be transported for life to New South Wales, where, we

make no doubt, they will be subjected to hard labour at least, or whatever degree of corporal restraint and punishment is assigned to the worst class of criminals. *London Times*, Dec. 15.

Important Private Letter from Lord Durham.—We have been favoured by a kind friend with an extract from a letter which he has received from his Lordship, dated Quebec, 13th October. The communication is highly interesting:—"All Civil Government is now impracticable here. I return home to follow out the objects of my mission in the House of Lords, where, in truth, the Government of the Canadas is now conducted. The post of difficulty—of action—is now in that House, and there I must repair.—Trust me, my good friend, I abandon not one iota of the object of my mission—on the contrary, I hold to them as strongly as ever—and I believe, that, contrary to their intentions, my enemies have unconsciously given me better means to carry them into effect. I hope to be in England by the middle or end of December."—*Dunfries Times*.

The value of Gibraltar to Great Britain has been questioned by a recent writer on Spain who doubts whether it be worth preserving. "The command of the Mediterranean," he observes, "belongs to the strongest fleet." This—albeit a debatable proposition—I will not stop to dispute, since what Gibraltar claims is simply the command of the entrance to the Mediterranean, and that clearly belongs to the Power which can readily keep a force near at hand to prevent all ingress and egress. Now, Gibraltar is so situated as to enable Great Britain to do this with very small means; whereas it would require a fleet of some other nation to watch the straits because the power would have also to blockade the port of Gibraltar. This any one at all acquainted with the localities the prevailing winds, &c., will readily admit to be at times an impossibility; and on every occasion that the blockading squadron might be driven from its cruising ground, the command of the straits would again be possessed by Gibraltar, should its batteries shelter but a few gun boats. The importance of Gibraltar will increase ten-fold in the event of a stream war, as every thing will then depend upon the vicinity of the contending parties to their coal depots.

Lieut. Governor Arthur has offered a reward of £500 for the apprehension of the murderers of Capt. Usher at Chippewa.

Nelson, Bouchette, Viger, and five others, who were sent to Bermuda, have published a long article, in which they say it is false that they ever petitioned or sought for mercy at the hands of any one, or that they implored Lord Durham not to bring them to trial.

#### AWFUL STATE OF AFFAIRS.

(From the *Key Stone*—Extra.)

The mob have actual possession of the Capitol of Pennsylvania, and it is impossible for the Legislature to meet, or the business in the departments of Government to proceed.

At the hour of half past two this afternoon, as appointed for the meeting of the House, the Speaker deputed Mr. Spackman to adjourn the House till to-morrow.

The hall was filled with the rioters, who seized Mr. S. and forced him to retire, when they all rushed out, and he was barely enabled to escape without injury. In the scuffle the doors were broken, and the hall was otherwise mutilated.

The mob have now possession of the town, and mob law reigns supreme. The officers of the law make no attempt to put down the disgraceful scene.

No life is safe—but the state authorities, we understand, have taken all measures possible under the circumstances for the preservation of life and property.

The correspondent of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* gives more particulars of the proceedings of the mob:—

"We are in the midst of a revolution," he says, "After driving the Senators from their seats, and forcing the Speaker and other members to make their escape out of the windows, the mob organized themselves at a meeting, and were addressed in the most inflammatory manner by several of their speakers."

A public meeting of the mob was held on Tuesday evening, where they were harangued by their incendiary leaders, and after passing several resolutions, they resolved to re-assemble at 9 o'clock on Wednesday.

The letter then states:—After the adjournment of this meeting they repaired to the Capitol, and again took possession of the Senate Chamber, determined, I understood, should the Senate proceed to organize, to barricade the door and station themselves at the windows, to prevent the egress of the members until they had yielded to their demands.

A majority of the Senators learning this and finding their Chamber entirely in the possession of those infuriated men, wisely resolved to postpone their meeting.

The mob at one time proceeded to the arsenal for the purpose of forcing it, and providing themselves with arms. They were only persuaded to desist upon solemn pledges that no arms should be taken thence in obedience to the orders of the Governor!!!

Shame that such a negotiation should have been entertained.

It was computed that the hall of the House of Representatives was occupied by from eight hundred to one thousand, when the hour of meeting arrived on Wednesday.

A gang of a dozen stout bullies surrounded the chair of the Speaker, and prevented its occupation.

The "*Keystone*," (a Van Buren paper) sanctions these riotous proceedings, and urges on the mob to further deeds of violence.

It declares all civil government at an end, and calls upon its followers to proceed accordingly.

A public meeting is called for to day in Philadelphia, to take these important matters into consideration. The leader of the mob is an officer of the United States' Government!

From the *Montreal Herald*, December 26.

A son of Lount who was executed in Upper Canada last year, it appears, holds the distinguished post of "military secretary" in the rebel service and in that capacity has signed a proclamation, which we have inserted in another column. A son of Matthews, who was executed with Lount it is stated has been committed to Jail at Toronto, on a charge of treason.

Some of the Patriots of Detroit have issued an advertisement offering a reward, of eight hundred dollars, "in specie" to those who will deliver to them the body of Colonel PRINCE dead or alive.

January 2.

The Canadian Frontier. Meetings of every kind and character are daily taking place along the frontier. Arms, ammunition, money and men are congregating in the northern towns of this state, and before spring we shall have another outbreak. All the principal leaders of the patriot party, Papineau, Nelson, O'Callaghan,

Theller, Van stationing at the line to con-

Sir Allan Macfadyen Commercial mentions the Ian Mac Nabbs says, "it is common from Queenston, a probable true source was stopped because he was inside their mistake pass without the Hamilton.

10th says, that shot at, a few the windows of happily united. The Bathurst Judge Jones has a letter from him and his brother's assassination.

Intelligence of the volunteers at have gallantly of the 6th, a body intended to take. Notwithstanding vast quantities of having been during the summer appears that their six-pounder had schooner, which of Rouse's Point, to the lines, that tion on board the veyed without risk quarters at Nap to the loyalists. these preparation and Gagnon, after a night in returned to the Next morning at them, which end them. They tel in the hands of of arms and a qu of them were m and a number across the line, quite a young m who was at one Nelson, was batt volunteers were. Notwithstanding ced from Napier the 6th, with 89 arms, and 200 a long pikes, up opposed by 200 an action of two and his party re and carrying off alray Captain M were killed, and wounded.

It will be in a mercer men that last year, some were captured in Texan cruisers,icans, and that tion of some time ed. In one of t of the Eliza R reduced most inju the loss of time on the stormy nearly wrecked, ged that she cou age, to Laguna engaged for a injury sustained at £1000, and the brought an action non-fulfilment of damage at £500. tion had been government, w claim, and prom clare themselves funds, to make have since laid ment, with a req as to compel th them for the loss been referred to an opinion.—Th

JUDGMENT AND CONSIDER.—In had, and being a thing from another the least difference of judgment which is in one

WEDNESDAY

(From the *Pa* "We have on this our readers to an in