

eleven o'clock the weather cleared up, and the afternoon was remarkably fine—by twelve o'clock there were not less than 200 people on the ground.

The spot on which the operations were intended to commence, was a flat near the head of one of the Branches of the Twelve-Mile Creek.

The ground was laid out by Mr. Hall, and Mr. Clowes, Engineers.

The Annual Meeting of the Society of Friends to Strangers in Distress was held at the Mansion House Hotel, York, on Thursday the 9th instant, at which his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Patron of the Society, presided.

The Meeting was numerously attended and after the usual business of the day was disposed of, His Excellency was pleased to propose a vote of thanks to Deputy Assistant Commissary General Billings, for his active and meritorious services in carrying into effect the objects of the Institution, which was carried unanimously.

On motion of his Excellency, the thanks of the Society were also voted to Doctor Blackwood, and to the Barrack Master Mr. Hartney, whose care and attention to the objects of the Society have been unremitting.

The Honorable Justice Campbell, and the Honorable Justice Boulton, were then unanimously elected Vice Presidents of the Society.

It is truly gratifying to be able to state that there was a very great accession of new members, and that the subscriptions amounted to more than at any former meeting. On a reference to the transactions of the Society during the year it was evident that a great deal of good had been effected at a comparatively small expense, many distressed families actually preserved from starvation, and a number afflicted by disease restored to health.

In addition to his usual donations in aid of the funds of the Society, His Excellency has been pleased to place at its disposal a quantity of old Barrack Bedding, which has been eagerly sought after by poor settlers, and contributed exceedingly to their comfort.

(Signed)

JAMES FITZGIBBON SECRETARY.

Frightful Death.—Two men, whose names we have not learned, were reported to have been precipitated over the Niagara Fall, on Tuesday the 9th inst. One of them was a blacksmith, lately employed at Chippewa. They were going across to the American side, in a boat loaded with apples and cider; but how they got into the rapids we have not heard. Our informant was told by the Ferryman at Lewiston, that some of the apples had been observed floating down the river by that place. Pieces of the boat have also been picked up below the Falls. The bodies are not yet found.

Terrible explosion at Gainsborough.—On Monday the 7th at 2 o'clock, P. M. the frame Store of John M'Gill Esq. on the twenty mile creek, was blown up with six persons in it, viz: Dr. Samuel Woodruff, Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Malatte, Mr. M'Gill, his clerk, and a serving woman. The first four were sitting by the fire—a keg containing 58 lb. of powder was between Mr. McGill and the chimney, who was picking some lumps out of it within five feet of the fire. Another keg with 47 lb. stood open beside him. Also, other two kegs in a different part of the store, not unheeded. Some of these gentlemen were amusing themselves, producing explosions, by throwing small lumps of the damaged powder into the fire; this caused a coal to start into one of the kegs, which immediately blew up. The four sides of the store went different ways, the roof was blown up about eight feet perpendicular, and then fell down, but left room for the unfortunate inmates to crawl out below, very much hurt.

We have learned since writing the above that Dr. Samuel Woodruff, who was unfortunately hurt when Mr. M'Gill's store blew up, is since dead.

LITERATURE.

We have been favoured with a pamphlet, just issued from the New-York press, written by Mr. Buchanan, His Majesty's British Consul at New-York, addressed to the Earl of Dalhousie. It is a continuation of that Gentleman's work on the "History, Manners and Customs of the North American Indians," and is intended to submit a plan to the British public for the amelioration and civilization of the American tribes. The plan itself is to locate the different tribes, upon a grant from His Majesty of the extensive ground lying between the 44th parallel of North lat.