

THE QUEBEC TRANSCRIPT.

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QUEBEC, MONDAY, 14th OCT. 1839.

DISASTERS BY FIRE, WIND AND WATER.

The greatest fire that has occurred in New-York since the memorable one of December 1835, broke out on Saturday evening the 5th instant. The entire square, bounded by Water, Fulton and Front Streets, and Building Slip has been reduced to a heap of ruins except five or six stores in Fulton street—only one on that street being wholly destroyed. The entire square was devoted to extensive commercial pursuits, and the loss is very serious—some of the papers estimate it at a million of dollars, which is about half insured—the total amount of the insurance effected being \$474,500—some papers say \$600,000.

Upwards of thirty houses must have been burnt by the fire.

The Sunday Morning News states that a fire broke out at half-past 12 o'clock on Sunday morning in Elridge street, New-York, by which two buildings and a number of small tenements were destroyed.

Philadelphia has also been visited with a destructive conflagration on Friday. It broke out at 1 past 11 o'clock, and continued until six o'clock the following morning. Of 52 buildings which were on fire, 40 are in ruins. It broke out in Mr. Stroup's large provision stores, on South Wharves, between Market and Chesnut streets, and crossed the latter street. The National Gazette estimates the loss at \$600,000.—The Philadelphia Gazette at \$350,000, of which it says \$250,000 is covered by insurance. Several persons—it is not known how many—have been killed or severely wounded. One fireman was burnt in the ruins of Enoch Allen's house, the walls of which fell in with a tremendous crash, an engineer died in a few hours from injuries which he received, several firemen are missing, and a list of seven is given who were badly burnt.

A fire broke out in Brooklyn, on Saturday evening, which destroyed timber to the amount of \$4000.

HURRICANE.—A violent hurricane visited Bermuda on the 11th, doing great damage to the houses of the towns of Hamilton and St. George, taking off the roofs of some and greatly injuring others, and destroying large numbers of cedar trees in every part of the island.—Several schooners have been cast ashore; the British bark Sir Colin Campbell, is ashore and totally wrecked; and much injury has been done to the wharves.

Misfortunes never come single, as will be seen by the following accounts of disasters at sea which are reported in the New York papers:—

Captain Rallo, of the Sicilian brig Filomena, arrived yesterday, reports having fallen in with, in latitude 38 37, longitude 66 17, part of the wreck of a vessel. Took from it Captain Murray and five seamen. Captain M. reports the following:—His brig, the Cadwallader, belonged to St. Andrews; he sailed for Barbadoes lumber loaded, on the 6th August. In the eve of the 13th Sept. the vessel was knocked down, filled and went to pieces, and William Brett and William Richardson were drowned.

Capt. M. and five others clung to the keel, with part of the stern and stem, which was the largest of the wreck left, where they remained five days, the sea making a continual breach over them, without anything to eat or drink; when taken off they were nearly exhausted and could not have lasted another day; some of them were delirious and their clothes nearly washed from their backs; but by the kind attention of Capt. Rallo, who supplied them with clothes and every thing that he could to

make them comfortable, they have all recovered. Since they have been on the F. their skins have come off, from being so long washed by the sea.

Captain Little of the ship Glasgow, arrived at Baltimore on Saturday from Liverpool, reports that on the 10th September, in lat. 39 46, longitude 61 20, wind light from the westward and blowing, he discovered at a distance a raft with something on it, bore up and sent his boat, and took from it 12 human beings, with scarcely any life in them—took them on board and learned that they were the only survivors of a crew of nineteen, belonging to the ship Arab, Captain Robertson, of and for Hull, from Belize, Honduras, with a cargo of mahogany.

During the gale of the 13th September she was dismasted, and finally went entirely to pieces. Those saved were on the side of the poop, being four planks twenty feet long. They had been on this raft five days, without any thing except two cocoa nuts, which they found, and were in a most wretched and starving condition when taken off, and probably would not have survived another day.

There were originally nine upon the raft, including the mate, but they had previously died, or becoming deranged for want of food had jumped into the sea. The names of those saved are Wm Westwood, carpenter, of Selby, Yorkshire, Eng.; Jean Asley, a Prussian; and Halver Haraldsen a Norwegian.

The brig Eagle, Captain John C. Evans, of East Greenwich, sailed from that port on the 29th of May, last, for the Straits of Belleisle, on a fishing voyage. On the 3rd of July, Captain Evans and two of his seamen, Ebenezer Dawley and Thomas Hill, of the Eagle, and Mr. White mate, and Mr. Bicknell, seaman, belonging to the schooner Counsellor, of East Greenwich, went with the boat between Lazy island and the Main, for bait; the boat was unfortunately capsized in the surf, and all of them, with the exception of Mr. Thomas Hill, of the Eagle, who saved himself by the greatest exertions, were drowned; on reaching the Eagle he communicated the melancholy fate of his companions. Search having been made on the following day, Captain Evans, of the Eagle, and Bicknell, of the Counsellor, were found, and on the 4th of July, their bodies were committed to the silent grave, attended by the officers and crews of the different vessels in the harbour. Capt. Evans has left a wife and daughter, to mourn his irreparable loss. Mr. Dawley has left a wife and four children in a destitute situation.

FROM THE CELESTIAL EMPIRE.

By the arrival of the ship Canada at New-York, the advices from the celestial Empire are brought down to the 14th May, at which time the troubles of the foreigners were not ended, although some progress had been made in bringing their affairs to a conclusion. We submit a few extracts of the news, including portions of another piece of "celestial" bombast.

It appears that after the delivery of the opium, the British superintendent and the American and Dutch consuls applied to the commissioner for leave to withdraw from China—for their countrymen as well as themselves—which was granted by the following edict:—

"It appears that the English superintendent Elliott, the American superintendent officer Snow, and the Dutch superintendent officer Van Basel, have presented addresses, requesting that they all should return home at the head of the people and the vessels of their several nations.

"These addresses coming before us, the commissioner and the governor, and being duly authenticated, we reply—

"China has indeed no need of commercial intercourse with other barbarians. But because you have come from far over the seas, it cannot bear to push you utterly away; you have enjoyed the overshadowing, the comprehensive, and deep benevolence of the great Emperor, who has given sanction to the trade with Kwangtung. You have come to the territory of the Celestial Empire, have not only eaten of the herbage and trod the soil equally with the people of the land, but have also, by your buying and selling, acquired very rich advantages. It is naturally your duty to rest in your stations, observing the laws. But for tens of years past, you have on the contrary employed a thing hurtful to men, as a means of gaining and possessing yourselves of the people's wealth.

"The great Emperor, anxiously regardful of

the general well-being, has declared his pleasure that this should be severely prohibited." The frigate Columbia was still at Macao when the Canada sailed; the John Adams had also arrived from Manila.

Permission had been given to ship cargoes on board vessels waiting, but the shippers were not allowed to go into the warehouse of the hong merchants, and examine the teas furnished; so that the only dependence for quality was on the honesty of the hong merchants.

The Chinese are said to be expecting and preparing for hostile measures by the English. They have erected another fort at the Hoqua Tzigre, and had a strong chain ready to throw across the narrowest part of the strait, as also a number of boats laden with stones, which, in case of a hostile visit, they would sink in the channel.

The owners and consignees of the opium surrendered to the Chinese, were also sending delegates to England, to present their grievances. We venture to say that the English government will neither indemnify them nor go to war with China on their behalf.

From the Canton Register of May 14.
By private letters from Bombay via Bengal, parties in Canton have been informed that the cholera is making dreadful ravages. Death often supervenes in one hour after the attack; and to crown the distress, the inhabitants are suffering under a great scarcity of water, most of the wells being dry.

PUBLIC MEETING AT MONTREAL.—Pursuant to requisition, a numerous and highly respectable meeting was held on Monday, in the News Room, St. Joseph Street, for the purpose of adopting measures for framing and presenting an address to His Excellency Sir John Colborne, on his approaching retirement from the administration of these provinces. Samuel Gerrard, Esq. was unanimously called to the chair, and J. G. Scott, Esq. appointed Secretary. The following resolutions were unanimously carried:—

On motion of Mr. Day, seconded by Dr. Robertson,

Resolved, 1st.—That this meeting entertains sentiments of unfeigned regret at the approaching retirement of His Excellency Sir John Colborne, from the government of the province, and deems it a duty to express this belief, that to the military skill and energy exhibited by His Excellency, to his promptitude in discovering the machinations of the disaffected, and to his unceasing diligence and anxious solicitude for the protection of person and property—are chiefly owing the exemption of the greater part of this Province from the calamities of popular tumult and civil war.

On motion of Mr. Badgley, seconded by Mr. Ferris,

2nd.—That in reliance upon the continuance of that interest which His Excellency has ever manifested in the welfare of these Provinces, this meeting cherishes the hope, that when Her Majesty's Government shall submit to the Imperial Parliament the important measure of the Union, which they have determined on, His Excellency will contribute his valuable advice and recommendation to carry it into effect, and that he will aid in maturing and perfecting such other measures for their future good government as may be best calculated to ensure their permanent tranquility, and make them a valuable appendage of the British empire.

On motion of Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Driscoll,

Resolved.—That it is the strong and sincere wish of this meeting that His Excellency, on taking leave of his Government, may have a propitious voyage to England, and may there receive the honours and rewards due to his long and faithful services to his sovereign and country.

On motion of Mr. Auldjo, seconded by Mr. Armour,

Resolved.—That an Address, founded on the foregoing resolutions be prepared for signature, and presented to His Excellency, that a Committee of fifteen be now named to carry the views and wishes of this meeting into effect, and that the following do compose the said Committee:—

Samuel Gerrard, Dr. Robertson, Charles D. Day, Wm. Badgley, Henry Griffin, Adam Ferris, Robert Armour, Thomas B. Anderson, Henry Driscoll, Joseph Shuter, James Henry Lambe, H. L. Routh, Thos. Criagran, John Redpath, and Geo. Auldjo.

The Committee then withdrew to another room, and shortly afterwards returned with an address founded on the resolutions, which,

after being read by the Chairman, was approved of by acclamation.

Montreal Gazette.

A mail for the Liverpool is to be forwarded from the Post Office this day, which is the last on which letters sent from Quebec can reach New-York in time to go by the steamship.

The steamship British Queen, now on her way from New-York to London, is making good progress apparently. She was seen on the 3rd inst. at 9 a.m. by a vessel arrived at New-York, 400 miles off Sandy Hook, which is at the rate of about twelve miles an hour, and which, kept up all the time, would send her home in less than eleven days.

The papers received from the Lower Provinces, yesterday, do not contain any news.

The great activity which at present prevails in re-building on the Burnt District, and in erecting houses in other parts of the City, has caused an unusual demand for Mechanics, Labourers and Building Materials. Mechanics, understand, are not to be had at any price, and labourer's wages are most extravagant, a shilling, and in some cases, fifteen pence an hour being on demand.—St. John, N. B. Courier.

The Upper Canada papers received since our last are without news of importance. His Excellency Sir George Arthur, it appears, will not visit Montreal, as was reported. His Excellency and Lady Arthur returned to Kingston, from Brockville, on the 5th instant, and in the evening, His Excellency would depart on his return to the seat of government.

Mademoiselle Albina Stella's concert, in which we alluded in our last, comes off this evening, at the Albion Hotel. We had much pleasure in learning that Miss Hill, the talented Organist of St. Patrick's Church, will render her valuable assistance, by presiding at the piano.

ORDERS IN LEGAL CIRCLES.

Mr. Attorney General Ogden to be Chief Justice of Montreal; Mr. Solicitor General Stuart to be Attorney General; and Mr. Queen's Counsel Day to be Solicitor General.

On Friday morning shortly after ten o'clock the culpable negligence of some miners was excavating a sewer in the old haymarket was almost the means of causing loss of human life. A stone upwards of twenty pounds in weight was projected a distance of ninety feet, with almost the velocity of a ball from a cannon, into the centre of the Upper Town Market, and which, ricocheting from where it first alighted broke one of the spokes of a cart wheel doing, miraculously, no other damage. It whizzed passed the ears of a woman and a boy. We hope that the proper officer will see that in future, the men under him will take precaution to prevent such disagreeable projects from visiting any place in which Her Majesty's lieges do congregate.

A person named Alex. McDermitt, has been sentenced to three months imprisonment in Kingston jail, Upper Canada, for deserting the Queen. He formerly belonged to the United States Army.

The whole quantity of Flour inspected at Richmond (Virginia) for the last two years, is as follows:

1838	1839
132,258 barrels	261,496 barrels
3,967 half do	6,521 half do

Thus showing the excess of inspection this year over the year preceding, to be 129,238 barrels and 2,554 half barrels.

SPECULATING ON A DEAD COW.—A farmer in the rear of the Township of Hull had a cow died lately. After taking off the skin, the carcass was dragged into the bush, where it attracted the wolves, and no less than five of them were caught in a trap. The scalps of these bring a bounty of, we believe, ten dollars each, making what a Yankee would call a good speck.—Bytown Gazette.

BY THIS MON

New York dates are at which time there is Liverpool.

The following General Assurance to the numerous are not forgotten by

Montreal

GENERAL ORDER.

No. 2.—The Governor in command of the Forces of the Province, without request manding Volunteer Companies, thanks to the Officers and men who have performed in defence of the institutions and from the combined attacks and marauders from the insensible of the arduous duties, of the hardship consequent on them, and with the misery inflicted by the predatory and from the States of New other frontier States of winter, His Excellency opportunity of recording forbearance which, an unprecedented provocation of the Volunteer contingent, will be continued as soldiers, and ensure every civilized nation, with which a peaceful relation, imperfectly armed forward to crush the first must be ever gratefully Empire which they represent which they command.

By Command,

SHIPP INTELLIGENCE

PORT OF ARRIVAL

10th Oct. 1
Bark Brilliant, Lefevre, general cargo, Montreal
Bark Queen Victoria, Residant, ballast, H. N. Jones.

CLEARED

Oct. 1
Bark Caladonia, Huxtable,
Bark Clie, Brown, Padstow
Bark John & Mary, Moore,
Brig Harmonie, Arnott, St.
Bark James Harris, Wright
Bark Recovery, Shaxson, C.
Brig Industry, Daly, Cork
Bark Ipswich, Smith, Plym
Bark St. Ann's, Retalick, I.
Ship Marchioness of Butte
Shapley & Co.
Brig Mercury, Edwards, I.
Brig Sarah Mills, Pearson,
Brig Oscar, Port Cad, Ma
Bark Resolution, Forrest,
Brig Industry, Watson, Tri
Bark Edwards, McKenzie,
Bark Wolfe's Cove, Drym
Bark Ware, Broadfoot, Li
Bark Halifax Packets, Du
Caldwell.

12th Oct.
Bark Maria, Cockerill, Gh
Bark Cumberland, Power,
Bark Candies, Armstrong,
Ship Wainworth, Neilson
Brig. Eliza Ann, Landry,
Brig John & Mary, Harvey
Bark Gilmour, McArthur,
Bark Thomas, Allen, Lond

ENTERED FOR

Oct. 1
Princess Charlotte, 411, La
mond Harbor.
Bark, 403, Chatham Pr
Princess Queen, 704, Lond
Bark, 328, Lond

13th
Bark Hall, 300, Newcastle,
Bark Ann, 62, Miramichi,
Bark, 307, Beredice, H
Bark, 107, Newfoundland,
14th
Bark, 238, Stockton,
Bark, 382, Gr
Cape Cove.
Bark, 251, Bristol, Atkins
Bark, 466, London, W. Pe