

## A RESCUE.

The afternoon of Christmas day afforded, at the west end of the city, a scene of a very exciting character. A skiff, containing three men, had crossed from the island, and encountered near the shore, at Stuart's point, a comparatively narrow field of ice, broken up and driven in by a strong southerly wind. Through this the Islanders attempted to force their boat, but after entering a short distance, found themselves in a position in which they could neither advance nor recede, and one consequently full of peril. They could not leave their boat, for the ice broken up into very small cakes, and agitated by a heavy sea, afforded no footing whatever. They were now about one hundred and fifty yards from the point.—One of the men of the Rilles undertook the dangerous task of going out by means of a couple of boards, and conveying a rope to the boat, depending for his own safety, in some measure, upon the rope itself; but he had not proceeded more than half way when the line was either cut by dragging it along the broken surface of the ice or in some other manner rendered useless for the purpose.—Whether it was that the man's strength was exhausted, or that his courage failed him with the severance of his communication with the shore, we cannot say, but he seemed unable to return as he had gone out, and his situation soon became one of extreme peril, absorbing all the attention of the few persons who had been attracted by the cries for help, to the entire neglect of the parties in the boat, who were in a position of comparative safety, and suffering only from exposure. A few gentlemen succeeded with some difficulty in getting a light punt, and in dragging it to the beach, and with this Lieutenant Mogridge, R. E., and the Sergeant in command at the tower, made an attempt to reach the man, now kneeling upon a light plank, and by that alone sustained; but this effort failed, as it was found impossible to work the punt over the ice.—Mr. Mogridge then volunteered an attempt to reach the man by means of a couple of light planks, and succeeded; but here a fresh difficulty arose, and fears were entertained for the safety of both. A snow storm, and darkness had set in; the rifleman had been exposed for upwards of three hours on his solitary plank, and but little able, in consequence, to do anything for himself; and he had to be led, by a process painfully slow, to the shore, if he should succeed in reaching it. In this extremity aid was called for, and that had to be rendered quickly. A neighbouring fence fortunately supplied a sufficient quantity of light plank to lay on the ice, and give a footing by which that assistance could be rendered, and Mr. Mogridge succeeded in bringing in the Rifleman, who was at once taken charge of by his comrades, and properly cared for. Fortunately the weather was not frosty, or the consequence of the exposure might have been serious. The Rifleman deserves credit for his courageous, though fruitless attempt to afford assistance to the ice-bound islanders, while too much praise cannot be awarded to Mr. Mogridge for his persevering, perilous and successful effort to rescue the soldier. A large number of persons were attracted together by the incident, and rendered such aid as was from time to time required. The three men who were in the boat were subsequently, though at a late hour of the evening, relieved from their uncomfortable position.—*Kingston Chronicle & News.*

**MELANCHOLY AND FATAL ACCIDENT.**—We are informed that a most heart-rending occurrence took place in the township of Oxford, on or about the 26th ult. A young girl about 18, by the name of Margaret Ford, daughter of Henry Ford, a respectable farmer in that township, went to the barn to call together a number of hands, then employed at a threshing machine. She playfully proposed to get on the horse power and have a ride with a youth who was driving the horses. She was told to be careful in raising her dress as she stepped over the connecting rod, but unfortunately it caught in passing, and before the machine could be stopped, it wound up her clothes and twisted her body in a most frightful manner, around the rod. Her bones were literally crushed. She was however, taken up alive, and remained sensible, and without pain for about twelve hours when she calmly expired. Nothing seems to be more fruitful in producing accidents, than carelessness about a threshing machine. Every paper, almost, contains a warning to those who are required to use them, yet our feelings are continually harrowed by accounts of accidents more or less hurtful, and in some cases fatal. Under the new Act regarding the office of Coroner, it was not deemed necessary to hold an inquest over the body of Margaret Ford.—*Kent Ad.*

## City Improvements in 1850.

At the commencement of the new year, it may not be unprofitable to devote a portion of our space to some account of the present position of our city, and the improvements which have been made therein during the past twelve months.

In December, 1849, the ravages which had been made by the disaster of the April preceding, had been but partially repaired; several buildings, it is true, were in course of erection, but the current of business had not resumed its ordinary channel, and building materials old and new, mingled in strange confusion, obstructed the most frequented thoroughfares in the city.

Now how different a scene is presented. On the north side of King Street, we have a noble range of shops, comprising two stories, elegantly finished in cut stone, erected by T. J. O'Neill, and occupied by Curtin & Co., for the sale of dry goods, and J. R. Armstrong, for stores and hardware; another built by J. Eastwood, occupied by himself as a dry goods store; the next erected at great expense by T. D. Harris, for the hardware business; another by J. Taylor, occupied by Cheney & Co. for stores and Castings; then comes the Baldwin property, three houses, two occupied by Messrs. Hayes Brothers, for groceries, and a d. ware, the third by A. Lepper for dry goods. By N. l. Francis street, we have the two stores owned and occupied by Thomas Thompson for dry goods and boots and shoes; then comes Mr. D. Campbell's saddery warehouse, and Messrs. Sabine and Higgins, chemists and druggists; next to Nelson Street are the two stores built by C. Robertson, and occupied severally by J. P. O'Neill as the Bee-Hive clothing-store, and Mr. Robertson himself, as a grocery establishment. Beyond Nelson Street, Mr. D. Brooks has erected a substantial

block of four stores, tenanted by Messrs. Foy & Austin, grocers; J. Balfour, printer and stationer; J. Mead & Co., hardware merchants; and J. McDonald & Co., auctioneers. On Nelson Street, Mr. John Platt has erected a very substantial and handsome hotel.

Returning to King Street, on the South side, the visitor to Toronto views with surprise and admiration the really magnificent range of the St. Lawrence Hall and Buildings, occupying a frontage of 140 feet, with a height to the apex of the pediment of 75 feet, and to the summit of the cupola of 120 feet. The elaborate cut stone front of these buildings, their great height and substantial construction, fairly entitle them to rank highly among public buildings, even when put in comparison with those of older countries. The two stories forming the east wing, are owned by Foy & Austin, and Walker & Hutchinson, and occupied by Geo. Ewart & Co., and B. Sargent & Co., both as dry goods stores; those in the west wing erected by R. Brower and Foy & Austin, are occupied by J. Ritchey, Jr., dry goods merchant; and Lyman, Kneeshaw & Co., chemists and druggists; the latter shop in particular is beautifully fitted up, and may vie with similar establishments in any part of the world. The whole of these stores, having shop-fronts both on King Street, and towards the St. Lawrence Market, command high rents, varying from £300 to £370 currency per annum. In the centre of this block and beneath the Hall, is the St. Lawrence Arcade, consisting of an avenue of thirteen shops, used for the sale of stationery, fancy-ware, and confectionery; this leads direct into the St. Lawrence Market, which extends southward for about four hundred feet, and is a substantial and handsome white-brick edifice, enriched with cut free-stone dressings and arched windows. The butcher's stalls are ranged on each side of a covered way 17 feet wide, by about 35 ft. high, well lighted by windows above the stalls—the whole market forming the shape of a letter T, and containing 52 stalls and shops in all. We do not hesitate to say, that a more handsome, commodious, and substantial market building, is not to be found, excepting in the largest cities of the Old World. Even London itself, within our own memory, possessed nothing at all equal to the St. Lawrence Market of Toronto. Southward of this again, and beyond the City Hall; improvements are now in progress, which will render the vegetable and fish market in every respect equal to the upper or butchers' market.

But we find ourselves already trespassing too much upon our space, and must limit our remarks upon the other new buildings, erected or finished during the year, to the mere passing notice. On Church Street, there are the handsome cut stone stores of the Hon. H. Sherwood, and T. Brunsell, Esq., the fine block of Mr. J. A. Liddell, and the still more imposing building erected by Mr. Alderman Beard, and occupied by his brother as Beard's Hotel. Above McGill square, Messrs. Hayes, Lepper and others, have erected substantial blocks of handsome dwelling houses; and nearer King Street, we have a range of fine stores and offices, extending from St. Andrew's Church to the Court House. On Yonge Street, Mr. Ketchum has finished an imposing range of white brick stores with handsome cut stone dressings; opposite these, is another range of new stores; and southward, near the bay, are the costly and imposing wholesale warehouses of W. McMaster, Messrs. Bryce, McMurrik & Co., and Mr. Cawthra; and, on Wellington Street, of Messrs. Shaw Turnbull & Co.—all noble stone-fronted buildings of the first class. Besides all these, are many others scattered through the city—as on Wellington Street west, Gerrard Street, Yonge Street, the Garrison Common, &c. &c., which we find it impossible even to enumerate. On a very moderate estimate, the amount expended from private resources alone, in new buildings erected during the year 1850, must considerably exceed £100,000. Many other important buildings are now under contract, such as St. James's Church, the Provincial Normal School, to which may soon be added the Church University, all of which will probably be nearly or quite completed during the coming year, and will in their turn contribute materially to adorn and improve the city.

It must not be forgotten, in estimating the advances made by this city in 1850, that we have at last fairly overleaped the barrier which prevented us from progressing as our opposite neighbours have done. We have secured a Railroad to Lake Huron, which is but the precursor of other extensive works of the same kind, which will ere long, bring the north, and east, and west of Canada, within a very few hours' journey from Toronto.

We have besides obtained the control of our harbour, by the appointment under Parliamentary sanction, of a Harbour Trust, elected jointly by the Corporation and the Board of Trade. Here is a new field for enterprise; and among all the benefactors of Toronto, none, we venture to predict, will rank higher in the estimation of his fellow citizens, than the man who shall succeed in placing the harbour of Toronto in a permanent and efficient condition—which can never be done, until the esplanade contemplated in the original grant, has been carried along its whole front, and of such materials as will defy wear and tear, as well as decay.—*Patriot.*

## Strike Among the Lawyers.

There has been a terrible affair at Quebec—absolutely a strike among the Lawyers! Seventy Lawyers with black gowns and white neckcloths all struck work at once—Flung up their briefs—marched out of court—declaring they'll "gang nua inair to you town!" Happy Quebec! Most fortunate of cities! Seventy Esquires "called to the bar," called from it at one fell stroke. Can any one tell if the distemper is contagious—will it come up this way? Too much bliss—too much bliss.

Nothing that has happened during the last half century has pleased us half so much as this. Don't we recollect how these "gentlemen of the long robe" had

"The tips of their toes and the points of their noses Turned up to the roots of the daisies, oh?"

When the Press rebelled under their loads of woe. "Who are the Press?" asked they, with the pomposity of their race—"not in the books—no right

to speak to Christie—beg pardon on knees—power to out ears—chop noses! We are so glad their day is come—we rub our editorial hands with delight. Perhaps they may find out now "who are the Press!"

But what is it all about? exclaims fifty readers. What is about, silly—What else could it be about—what could produce a Lawyers' rebellion but—FEES? Of course the rumbus is about fees. The Bench promulgated a new Tariff of Law costs, cutting down the same, beautifully—and the lawyers were disgusted, utterly disgusted.

We learn from the Quebec Gazette that the Bar got an inkling of the coming Tariff previous to its promulgation, and having held a meeting in regard to it, resolved to demand a perusal of the document before that step was taken. Following this resolution up, this scene occurred:

"The Judges, being His Honor Chief Justice Bowen, Mr. Justice Duval, and Mr. Justice Meredith, entered Court on Saturday morning at half-past ten o'clock. A few judgments were delivered, and His Honor the Chief Justice proceeded to call the attention of the Bar to a new Tariff of Fees, when Charles Panet, Esq., Batonnier of the Quebec Bar, rose and said that he was engaged, on the part of the Bar for the session of Quebec, to request communication of the Tariff of fees about to be promulgated, in order that the Bar might have a hearing upon it; that in compliance with this request he would beg leave to read the petition and resolution framed and adopted at a meeting of the Bar, held yesterday, to take into consideration the object of the present application. He here read the petition and the resolution.

"Bowen, Chief Justice, then remarked, that all he could say was that by some means or other, the Bar had improperly obtained copies of the Tariff contrary to the wishes of the Court—(murmurs from the Bar). There was not on the part of the Bench any intention to diminish the fees of the Bar; that for his own part, and that of his brother Judges, he could say that he did not wish to reduce the fees, as would be seen by the Tariff; that in some trifling instances, such as uncontested oppositions, the fees were reduced, but in other cases they were augmented; and that if the Bar, in about three or six months should find that the fees were not sufficient, the Judges would change them as they had the power to do so; but that for the present they could not change them, as they were to be promulgated in so short a period. His Honor here stated that he was about to order the Prothonotary to record the Rules and the Tariff.

"Here the Bar (seventy members present, including all the Queen's Council,) rose and simultaneously left the Court. After the Advocates had entered the Advocates' Chamber, the Chief Justice laughed and made some observations in a low tone to the other members of the Bench, (which we could not hear,) and then ordered the cases to be called, and no Advocate appearing, ordered the Prothonotary to strike them from the Roll, which was done accordingly."

The Quebec Chronicle says that the Chief Justice's remark was, "I have seen a flight of crows before, but never, until this day, a flight of lawyers."

Our cotemporary further adds:—"The bar have come to the determination to discontinue practising in the Superior and Circuit Courts. The wisdom of this resolve is questionable. The salaries of the Judges will go on, and the bar will be the only sufferers. Besides it has the appearance of a vulgar 'strike,' and is likely to be treated as lightly by the government and the public, as the hegira was treated by His Honor the Chief Justice."

The Gazette justly observes:—"It would appear that lawyers, like other men, are able to reason best on other men's matters, and that they too can be carried away by their feelings when their own personal interests come into question. In the first place it was not very dignified for the seventy gentlemen in the black gowns to leave the Court in a body; sudden, out-of-the-way movements are almost always undignified, as well as those which have for their object theatrical effect. The procedure was likewise lowering to the dignity of the Court, and gentlemen of the character and standing of the members of the bar, should have been careful not to trench upon its position in any way."

Certainly—undoubtedly—most undignified. Now have not these seventy lawyers placed themselves in a pretty "fix?" The Press stopped the speeches of the "hon. and learned members" when they walked out of the House of Assembly—but what can the lawyers do? Not plead forsooth!—Ruin their clients—lose their fees—and enable the Judges to walk about with their hands in their pockets—on full salaries! They will relent from that, very soon—but we hope they won't do it at once—we do so want them to occupy their present attitude a little longer for public edification. By the way, is there nothing in the books on the point—could not a Judge's ear or nose be got at, for disrespect to the bar?—*Globe.*

The appointment of Mr. Bannerman, M. P. P., as Governor of Prince Edward Island, has been gazetted.

The Pilot of the 28th ult. says, that the river was again open in front of Montreal.

Subscriptions to the amount of several hundred pounds, have been made in England for the relief of the widows and orphans of the fishermen, who were drowned recently in attempting to reach a shipwrecked vessel at Worthing.

The Quebec Gazette of the 27th ult. contains a lengthy statement of a criminal case, the Queen vs. Urgent & Murray, two sailors accused of murder on the high seas, which the Chief Justice refused to try at the last assizes, on the ground that the Court had no jurisdiction, in consequence of the murdered man having died in a foreign country, although the blow was struck by Urgent, encouraged by Murray, while they were at sea. The publication of such a document for public arbitration is somewhat strange in itself, but the remarks hinting at ulterior proceedings by the Government, are well worthy of perusal, as they appear in the Gazette in a sort of de-mi-official form.

"The Chief Justice of the highest tribunal in Lower Canada, a man possessing deservedly a high repu-

tation for knowledge and experience as a criminal jurist, having thus refused, apparently, to grapple with the question, and having as far as he is individually concerned, most amply, and as it is apprehended most irregularly and illegally disposed of it, by thus peremptorily interdicting all argument and all reference to authorities—a course subversive of all law and justice, and without a precedent in the annals of civil or criminal jurisprudence, and which if ever again resorted to, can only be rebuked by the constituted authorities of the country—there remain but the last alternative of submitting the arguments and authorities which he disdained to receive, to publicity and the arbitrament of public opinion, and to the judgment of men of law in Canada, in the United States, and in England, who will have no difficulty in coming to a sound legal conclusion in the premises."

## UNITED STATES.

Acquittal of Jacob Green, charged with the Murder of the seducer of his wife.

The Delaware Republican gives the following account of the trial, and acquittal of Jacob Green. Jacob Green was tried on Thursday last, at New Casile, for the murder of Abraham Rodden. It was proved that Green was married about six years ago, and lived happily with a woman to whom he was much attached, and that Rodden seduced her from her fidelity to him. He would frequently take her from her house and keep her away all night; and there was proof of adulterous intercourse. On Green accusing him of it, he said—"Yes I have had your wife, and will have her again, whenever I like, and if you don't keep quiet I will blow your liver out." He carried two pistols loaded for the avowed purpose of shooting Green, and on the occasion assaulted and beat him severely. He loaded these pistols with slugs on Saturday, the 26th of July last, telling his own wife that he intended to shoot Green. That night he took Green's wife from her house, and kept her out all night.

Green discovered the guilty pair about day break the next morning; went some two or three miles and borrowed a gun; returned and found Rodden sitting asleep in a neighboring house, and shot him through the open door. He immediately surrendered himself. After doing this he told the story of his wrongs in so affecting a manner that he drew tears from the officers and all present. He wound up by saying—"Now, Mr. Hickman, had you been in my place would you not have done as I did?" to which the officer religiously, but feelingly replied: "If not retained by Divine Grace, I think I should." Green begged to see his wife, and she was brought to him. He put his manacled arms around her neck, kissed her, and gave her his forgiveness; and was taken off, as he said, to die for his love of her.

The law in Delaware makes it no higher offence than a misdemeanor for a husband to kill a man found in the act of adultery with his wife, and the jury, considering even that as beyond the guilt of this defendant under the circumstances of aggravation and outrage presented by his case, acquitted him entirely.

The widow of the deceased contributed, by her testimony, to the acquittal of the man who slew her own husband.

**SIXTY DAYS WITHOUT FOOD.**—The Livingston Union states that Abram Van Aaken, who died in Mount Morris, on the 1st inst., aged 60, of paralysis, with which he was seized in February last, had subsisted for sixty days, immediately next preceding his death, entirely without food. Nothing passed his lips but pure water.

Ex-Governor Plummer, died at Epping, N. H., on the 23rd instant, aged 92 years. He was the sole surviving member of the convention which framed the first Constitution of N. H.

Impressments with the army to conquer St. Domingo, still continue, preparations for a contemplated march are being made; the opinion among the more intelligent of the inhabitants was, that St. Domingo was in little danger from any army marching from that part of the Island.

**REMARKABLE INCIDENT.**—A singular occurrence happened in the village of Piedmont, N. H., last week. Two little children, one five and the other three years of age, having strayed from home, and not returning at dark, inquiries were made for them, a general search throughout the night was made by the people of the village. In the morning the children were discovered in an open field lying upon the frozen ground, and locked in each other's arms—one sleeping soundly, and the other awake. Although the night was a severe one, the little ones have shown as yet no ill effects from the exposure. It is truly wonderful how two such little children could pass a Winter's night upon the cold frozen ground, without perishing.—*Eastern Transcript.*

**THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE EAST.**—The following extracts of a letter sent to the proprietor of Cherry Pecoral, from El Hassan, the ruling Pacha of Trebizond, at Ezeroum, shows the peculiarities of Oriental courtesy:

To Dr. J. C. AYER: the Chemist of rare learning, at Lowell, in Massachusetts, and the United States.

GOD IS GREAT FOREVER.

I have received your letter of affectionate love, with the present of choice Essences in Bottles, by which your excellent skill teaches to cure the afflictions of my children.

As the life of one of my people is more dear to me than camels and gold, we shall pray for you in our heart, when they are raised up from the tent of sorrow by this product of your deep learning and beautiful wisdom.

For this Gift of Love to your friend, so distant over many Seas, and for this rare invention of your skill, may you be placed in such seats of honor and dignity among the great in knowledge, as we should offer to you in our dominions.

Given in this Central City of our Power, by express command of

NESCHID EL HASSAN Pacha, Ezeroum, Jamad Awah 1266.