

THE QUEBEC MERCURY.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1834.

VOLUME XXX.

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MORE BY STUDIA ET POPULOS BY PRÆLIA DICAM.
VINO. GEORG. IV. 6.



THE QUEBEC MERCURY,
PUBLISHED THREE TIMES A-WEEK.
CONDITIONS:
Subscription, in town, one guinea per annum—Sent by Post, one pound five shillings, including postage.
PRICE OF ADVERTISING.
First insertion, 6 lines and under.....2s 6d.
7 lines to ten.....3s 4d.
Upwards of 10 lines.....4d. per line.
Subsequent insertions—Quarter price.
All Advertisements, unaccompanied with directions are inserted until forbid, and charged accordingly.
Orders for discontinuing Advertisements to be in writing, and delivered the day previous to publication.
Persons not having Accounts at this Office, will be required to pay on giving Advertisements.

MR. McMULLAN respectfully informs the public that at the request of several respectable gentlemen, he has lately opened a Day School, at No. 31, Saint-Amatol street.—The branches he intends chiefly to teach are Writing, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, and English Grammar.—Terms may be known either at the School-room, or at his residence, No. 30, St. Ursule street. Quebec, January 20 1834. k-3

APPLES.
The subscriber offers for sale at his store, No. 10, Palace street, a few barrels of very superior Apples, consisting of Greenings, Newton Pippins, &c.—They are in excellent order, and suited either for baking or the table.
PETER HOLT.
Quebec, 1st February, 1834. u-3

NOTICE.
The subscriber, Executor of the late Will and Testament of the late ETIENNE ROUHELEAU, of Quebec, Merchant, requests all persons who may have claims upon the Estate of the deceased, to present the same; and those indebted to the said Estate are required to pay without delay to Mr. M. TESSIER, Notary, AUGUSTIN GINGRAS, Testy Executor. Quebec, 29th Jan., 1834. 2x3

WANTED ex-HERR, Smith, master, from London, in June last, and now living in the King's Warehouse, a Cask Sherry marked 'JM' No 61. If not applied for within six months from this date, it will be sold by Auction according to law to pay expenses.
LEMESURIER, TILSTON & Co.
Quebec, 29th January, 1834. u3

The subscriber being about to retire from business, requests all those indebted to him to make payment previous to the first of April next, otherwise his accounts will be given to his Attorney for collection.
R. YOUNG.
St. Augustin Mills, 28th Jan. 1834. u-3

FOR SALE OR TO LET.
A DESIRABLE BUILDING LOT, in CARLETON street, 50 feet fronting on the said street, by a depth of 42 feet; bounded on one side by Mrs. MONTGOMERY, and on the other side by GEORGE POZER, Esq. and in the rear by the Royal Artillery Barracks.
In its present state, it would answer well for a Carpenter, or for Stabling, there being a building about 40 feet long on the premises. Apply to the undersigned proprietor.
R. SYMES,
or to Mr. J. B. PRUNEAU,
Rue de l'Eglise, St. Rochs,
Quebec, 29th January, 1834.

FOR SALE.
SIX LOTS OF LAND, containing 200 acres each, in the Township of Stouffville, as follows:—
Lot No. 2, 2d Range,
11, 3d ditto,
8, 7th ditto,
7, 10th ditto,
12, 11th ditto,
6, 11th ditto.
Apply to CHARLES F. AYLWIN, Goudie's Wharf. Quebec, 11th January, 1834. u-3

OFFICE OF THE PEACE.
Quebec, 24th December, 1833.
To Tavern Keepers of the City and Bailliage of Quebec.
NOTICE is hereby given that a Special Session will be held at the Court House, in the City of Quebec, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of each and every day, (Sundays and Holidays excepted,) from the 25th day of January, to the 15th day of February next, inclusively, for the purpose of qualifying Applicants for Tavern Licenses, and for the renewal of former Tavern Licenses for the City and Bailliage of Quebec; and that it is the desire of the Magistrates that all Applicants for renewal of such Licenses do lay before that Session their License for the last year; and that no other Special Session for granting Tavern Licenses for the City and Bailliage of Quebec will be held after the above stated period, unless it be for notable Taverns, Hotels, or Coffee-Houses paying *bona fide* a rent of not less than one hundred and fifty pence a year.
By Order,
PERRAULT & SCOTT,
Clerk of the Peace.

BUREAU DE LA PAIX.
Quebec, 24 Decembre, 1833.
Aux Aubergeristes de la Cité et Bailliage de Quebec.
A VIS est par ces présentes donné, qu'il se tiendra une Session Speciale, au Palais de Justice, à DIX heures du matin, tous les jours (les Dimanches et Fêtes exceptés,) depuis le 25e jour de Janvier jusqu'au 15 de Février prochain inclusivement; ayant pour but de qualifier les personnes faisant application pour avoir des Licences, et pour renouveler les Licences d'Aubergeristes pour la Cité et Bailliage de Quebec, et que les Magistrats desireront que toute personne faisant application pour ainsi renouveler leur Licence, mettent devant la dite Session copie de leur licence de l'année dernière; et qu'aucune autre Assemblée Speciale sera tenue à cet effet d'accorder des Licences d'Aubergeristes pour la Cité et Bailliage de Quebec, après la dite période mentionnée, si ce n'est pour des auberges remarquables, des hôtels ou cafés, ou maisons payant *bona fide* une rente de pas moins de cent cinquante sous.
Par Ordre,
PERRAULT & SCOTT,
Greffiers de la Paix.

Cet Avertissement doit être publié par tous les Papiers nouvelles de cette Cité en Anglois et en François, depuis le 25e Decembre, 1833, jusqu'au 15e Février, 1834.
P. & S.

NOTICE.—The LIBRARY of the MECHANICS' INSTITUTION is OPEN EVERY EVENING from SEVEN to NINE o'clock.—From Mansel's Hall, Baude street.

DOINGS IN THE BONNY.
THE SLAVE TRADE.
Few things here, of late, excite more interest among general readers, than the simple narratives of sea life—the one here offered, however, is an 'o'er tale' by an eye-witness; not related to feed mere curiosity, but to call the public attention to the insufficiency of England alone persecuting the slave trade.
On the 3th of September, 1831, His Majesty's brig Black Joke boarded a French Slave, and learnt that there were two Spanish brigs in the river Bonny, in the Bight of Biafra, ready to receive their slaves on board—the one mounting eight guns, was formerly a man-of-war, and the other having four broadside guns, and one mounted on a pivot. They were said to intend to sail together, in order to be a match for the Black Joke, which they suspected to be prowling near; and the latter vessel, confident in her of trial powers (not only in capturing the Marinerio, but even before she became the Dryad's tender,) longed to pounce upon such a tempting quarry. On the following day she was joined by the Fair Rosamond, also tender to H. M. S. Dryad, commanded by Lieutenant Huntley. To sharpen the eyes of the 'lookouts' at the mast-head, the officer rewarded the lucky fellow who first spied a prize, and the commodore on the station gave a dollar per hundred on the slaves captured.—The Kroonien, having a very penetrating sight, were generally the first to give the joyful tidings; and accordingly, at half-past eight on the morning of the tenth, while our two cruisers were at anchor in order to preserve their station, about twenty miles from the mouth of the river, one of these Kroonien, perchance on the mast-head of the Fair Rosamond, exclaimed, "Sail, ho!" In a few minutes two large brigs were distinctly made out, and, as they were evidently approaching, Lieutenant Huntley, the senior officer, desired that the tenders should get every thing ready to weigh, but not to stir till the strangers ceased to near them.
About half-past nine the enemy anchored, just inside the outer bar of the Bonny, upon which the tenders instantly weighed, and made sail to get at them; the Fair Rosamond leading half a mile ahead. At one o'clock the two strangers were observed to be signalling, shortly afterwards they hoisted Spanish colours, weighed and stood to sea. All now on board the tenders were elated with the hopes of an action; but, when they were within three or four miles of them, the Spaniards bore up, in order to run back to Bonny, setting their studding sails in a manner, however, that would not have disgraced a British man-of-war; and, indeed, performed all their manoeuvres with a quickness and precision that has long since disappeared from their Government vessels.
It is necessary here to mention, that the mouth of the Bonny is surrounded by shoals, and that there are two dangerous bars to pass, one, when open in the river, nothing can be finer, the water deepens to about ten fathoms, and for the first seven or eight miles the breadth is about four, when it receives a large tributary stream, which vessels, not drawing more than thirteen or fourteen feet, can ascend for some miles. Vessels loading for palm oil, lie two miles below this stream. Thus, the Bonny ought never to be attempted without good pilots on board, and Mr. Huntley was aware of it; yet, acting with that decision and resolution which on almost every occasion, are so essential to the naval officer, he bore up, and made all sail after the slaves; the Black Joke of course followed her leader. The bars (thanks to Capt. Owen's excellent surveys) are passed in safety—the river is entered—they gain upon the chase—the fair Rosamond still a quarter of a mile ahead of her companion, and about a mile and a half astern of the Spaniards;—the tributary stream is now reached—the slaves trim their sails and haul up—it the tenders quickly follow, when a sight of unalloyed horror presents itself!—The Spaniards actually throwing their slaves overboard, shackled two and two, and a great number of the small sharks, which infest these rivers, attacking their helpless victims, who, thus encumbered and wounded, chiefly perished, some few, indeed, reached the shores, and others are landed by canoes; but the shrieks of the drowning, and the contest of the sharks for the bodies of the dead and dying, formed so harrowing a scene, as to be almost too horrible to recur to it.

The boats of the tenders were immediately sent to try to save some of the poor negroes, but could only pick up two with their hand hooks, who were just sinking. Meanwhile, the largest slave ran aground, upon which the Fair Rosamond, knowing that she would be taken care of, dashed on after the other, and Black Joke coming up immediately, laid her on board, to prevent any more negroes being thrown overboard. She took possession without any resistance, for most of the Spaniards, thinking that we would take vengeance upon them for their cruelty, jumped overboard of their own accord, as our men boarded, and several shared the same shocking fate to which they had consigned the blacks. The captured vessel proved to be the Spanish brig Regula, with two hundred and twenty slaves still on board, having sailed in the morning with four hundred and sixty. She was pierced for sixteen guns, but had only eight mounted, with a crew of sixty men.
The Fair Rosamond also quickly came up with her antagonist, and took possession of her in the same way. She proved to be the Spanish brig Rapido, of five guns and fifty men, and had sailed that morning with four hundred and fifty slaves on board—all of whom she had now got rid of; but the two who had been picked up, as before mentioned, and were now on board the Black Joke, had, fortunately for the slave's condemnation, been embarked in the Rapido. When taken to Sierra Leone, they gave so positive and distinct an evidence, and, in spite of the large offers made by the opposite party, adhered so strictly to the truth, that the Court was obliged to condemn their vessel as well as the Regula.—These two poor wretches had something so amiable and kind in their disposition, that those who would have consigned them to a watery grave, must have been very demons. They had not been many hours on board of us, before they endeavoured to make themselves useful—thus, sweeping the deck. The sailors, of their own accord, they began, observing the dejected, gave them clothes, encouraged them in every way in their power, and showed considerable regret at their departure. The quick manner in which they learnt our ways, was extraordinary, particularly when it is considered that they were probably brought from the interior of Africa, as no one at the Bonny knew where they came from, or understood their language. Another little trait in their conduct, testified the warmth of their gratitude, for soon discovering who commanded the vessel, they insisted on kissing his hand whenever he came on deck, and then returned smiling to their work—for they were never idle.

But to return—the assistant surgeon, as is customary, examined the captured slaves in the Regula, and reported that there were three very ill of the small pox; adding, that if they were not removed, not only all the rest, but many of our own men would soon catch the fatal disease, doubly dangerous in a tropical climate. They were, therefore, ordered to be unshackled and sent on shore; but now another distressing circumstance took place, for dreading the infection, none of the villagers would receive them, and about midnight they crawled back to the swamps off which the vessels were lying, and great indeed must have been their distress, when, in pitiable language not to be misunderstood, they supplicated to be taken on board again. This, however, could not be complied with, although their heart-rending moans—lasted all night; in the morning they were heard no more—nor could we learn what became of them; but death alone it is to be feared, could put an end to their miseries.
All the four vessels were now aground, and during five days and nights were almost constantly at work, getting into the air way, and preparing for sea. Nearly every thing had to be got out of one of the prizes before she would float, and the labor was very trying—sometimes under a deluge of rain, and directly after, under a vertical burning sun; besides which, let it be recollected, that during the few hours of repose that could be allowed the crew, they had no comfortable bed to go to; for on board these tenders the only sleeping place is the hard deck. It is gratifying to mention, that there were two English palm oil vessels lying in the river, whose officers and men, with characteristic good feeling, gave all the assistance they could, and one of the masters being an excellent pilot for the place, rendered us most essential service.

Two days before sailing, Lieutenants Huntley and Ramsay waited upon the king, who received them with much politeness, and made them partake of a repast; but, although good natured, he is unfortunately addicted to drinking palm wine, and negligent in wielding the sword or justice, whence he is not esteemed by his subjects. One of the principal men in the place, who speaks a little English, said to Mr. Ramsay, "He no proper king like his father—he never had cut off man's head." And when Mr. Huntley expressed his noble majesty in strong language, the cruelty of the slave trade, and that he ought to put an end to it in his dominions, all he answered was, "Spaniard man did very wrong to drawing poor black man," and put an end to the conference by saying, "Make my compliments to my brother, King William, and tell him to send me 'dash'—the African would for 'present,' and immediately retired. His subjects, in general, a quiet, industrious race of people, exporting a large quantity of palm oil. There is, perhaps, more trade from the Bonny, than any river on the coast; and if, as is now supposed, it is the principal mouth of the Niger, its commerce will increase rapidly. Although the people have made some progress towards civilization, they are still very superstitious and ignorant relative to religion. Formerly they principally worshipped two large live lizards; until thinking that domesticating one might be sufficient, they commissioned a large brass one from Birmingham, about three years ago, which now shares their worship with its live partner; yet ridiculous as this is, no nation along this coast, is so advanced in general knowledge.

The master of a palm-oil ship, who was there during this occurrence, touched at Fernando Po a month after, and stated that having occasion to pass the beach off which these wretched slaves were thrown overboard, he counted upwards of one hundred bodies, shackled together by twos, emitting an intolerable stench.

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FROM AMERICAN PAPERS.
New York, February 1st.
The old line of Liverpool packets is disposed of, having been purchased by Messrs. Baring, Brothers, & Co. of London. The line will be continued in the same manner as heretofore, having merely exchanged owners. It is understood that the same great house is preparing to enter into the China trade, on the expiration of the restrictions in April next.—(Albion.)

There are four packets which may be considered due from London, viz.—the Samuel Robertson, was to sail Nov. 21th; Canada, Dec. 7th; Sovereign, Dec. 17th; Hannibal, Dec. 27th.
Seven from Liverpool, viz.—the Howard, Nov. 30th; South America, Dec. 1st; United States, Dec. 8th; Britannia, Dec. 16th; Napoleon, Dec. 24th; Ajax, Dec. 30th; New York, Jan. 1st.
Five from Havre, viz.—the Charlemagne, Dec. 1st; Francis Depan, Dec. 8th; Polaad, Dec. 16th; Lorie, Dec. 24th; Albany, Jan. 1st.

There are seven ships now daily expected from Canton viz.—the Roman, Nabob, Merchant, Dorothea, Omega, Pioneer, and Clematis.—(Jour. of Com.)
The *Norwath* is the name of the last new packet ship. She is for the Havre Union line, and to be commanded by Capt. Pell. She is built in the most perfect manner. The principal cabin is on deck, much in the manner of the Francis Depan. It was a relief to see changed the style of finishing the cabin. The mingling of various kinds of wood is not less so. The state rooms, and all the accommodations, are the perfection of convenience and comfort.—(Id.)

The Old Line of Liverpool Packets will be completed by the addition of the Orpheus and the new ship Columbus, now building by Messrs. Webb & Allen, under the direction of Capt. Cobb. These ships will take the place of the Pacific and New York.
The sloop Ramher, having on board about 50 tons stone ballast, was cut through by the ice on Thursday night and sunk, off Pine street wharf. The crew were not on board.
Files of the St. George's Demerara Chronicle to the 5th of October have been received.—In one of the numbers the editor inserts an interesting article on the consequences of the West India Bill, he says:

"It is the general, and we believe the most correctly formed opinion, that our labouring population, once free, will, at least for a time, cease to cultivate the cane, or to do any work now their exclusive occupation. This opinion is grounded upon experience."
GREAT FIRE AT ROCHESTER.—January 26, 1834.—We were visited this morning with a more calamitous fire than has ever occurred in this village. About five o'clock it broke out in the market, and before any effective exertions could be made by the firemen, the market which was of wood, and the block of wooden buildings extending from the market on the west, to the Globe Buildings on the east side of the Genesee river, were enveloped in flames. From this block, it entered the Globe Buildings, an immense pile, near a hundred feet square, six stories high on the west, and four on the east side, built of stone, which, in less than two hours was burnt to the ground. The loss may be safely estimated at from fifty to sixty thousand dollars, a large part of which falls on Messrs. Newell & Stephens, who owned the south half of the Globe Buildings, in which they had a Dry Goods Store and a Carpet Manufactory. They had no insurance.
GOING THE WHOLE FIGURE!—A man by the name of James Garland, who has accumulated some \$150,000 by his business, has been arrested in Missouri, on the charge of manufacturing and vending counterfeit bank notes. It appears his operations were carried on upon a very large scale—that his establishment was in such a condition as to enable him to print forty thousand dollars of assorted notes in one day—and that, since the breaking up of the band of counterfeiters in Canada, last spring, he has sold counterfeit bills amounting to one million of dollars! The Cashier, whose name is Spencer, was not taken, having been a short time before, despatched to Alabama with a large amount of counterfeit paper. Spencer is a young man, who arrived there from New York some two years since.

Indeed it would seem the affairs of the concern were in a most prosperous condition; at any rate, when the United States Marshal paid them his last official call, he was so struck with the proprietors and their establishment that he not only took them under his especial patronage and guidance, but also what work they had in hand—bills, plate, counterfeits, and all!
No less than forty or fifty individuals are intimately concerned, and many others implicated in these nefarious transactions, several of whom are to be tried at St. Louis, on the 3th inst. It seems their business was conducted with as much system and regularity as other banking institutions, and we doubt very much—now that their deposits are removed, whether the bank will be re-chartered! No wonder people talk of making money like dirt in Missouri! for it appears the same company of forty or fifty used to clear a thousand dollars per day! A pretty snug business we should judge!—why a smart fellow could make more at it than we could here in New York, writing items, four quills went on the thunder and lightning principle, propelled by a nine hundred horse power!—*Atlas and Constellation*.

We understand that there has been a blow up of a domestic bank (not under the Safety Fund) at the village of New London, Oneida County. In other words, one of the most extensive gangs of Counterfeiters ever discovered in this State, has just been broken up at that place. Sixteen of the Counterfeiters have been apprehended. Among this precious lot, we are informed that there is a Lawyer, Tavern keeper, and a Constable!—*Id. Evg. Jour.*

FROM UPPER CANADA.—Under the Acts of the last Session of the Legislature, the objects for which money was authorized to be loaned, and the sums are as follows:—
£70,000 currency for the improvement of the St. Lawrence.
£5,291 13s. 4d. to pay War Losses.
£20,000 for the improvements of Roads and Bridges.
£33,000 Gs. 3d to pay of outstanding debentures against the Province now due and bearing 6 per cent interest.
LONG FASTING.—A singular instance of protracted abstinence has lately occurred in the Township of Clarke, which, however strange, may be relied upon as a fact. Mr. Richard Shaw, son of the late General Shaw, under an unfortunate aberration of intellect, refused to take any sustenance whatever, under an impression that he could "live by faith." For thirty-five days successively he has sat down to the table, but has refused to take the smallest article of food—from the apprehension of his doing himself a personal injury, persons have attended him night and day, but to every solicitation to take food he has pertinaciously adhered to his purpose. A day or two since, he stated that he had seen two serpents pass by him, by whose temptation he had been induced to break through his plan of perpetual abstinence. Medical attendance has been regular, and it is his opinion that it is the longest instance of abstinence (where death has not supervened) upon record.—*Cobourg Reformer*.

4 O'CLOCK, P. M.—While we were examining the proof of the burning of the Castle of St. Lewis at Quebec, the fire-bell, sounded the dreadful signal of Fire! The source of the alarm was in the Kingston Foundry, the roof of which had ignited from an elevated smelting furnace—the fire, however, was soon extinguished. We were pleased to see the uncommonly prompt attendance of the firemen and carters.—*Kingston Chronicle*.

PARLIAMENT, LOWER CANADA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Debate on the Emigrant Tax Bill, continued from the Mercury of Thursday.

The Hon. G. MOFFATT conceived that the honorable Members who had previously spoken, should have confined themselves to the amendment, not enlarge on the merits of the Bill itself. He looked, however, upon this Bill in a very different point of view. There was involved in it an important constitutional principle—and it was for that reason he wished for a full house. He should wish also to move an Address to His Excellency the Governor in Chief for a copy of the Despatch on which the Message sent down to the House had been founded, for there must have been some very powerful reason to induce Mr. Stanley to advise His Excellency to reserve the Bill for the signature of His Majesty's pleasure.—That the Bill was unconstitutional he had not the smallest doubt. He had opposed it on its former passage through this House, and he should oppose it now in every stage. The Bill was unjust, inasmuch as it taxed one portion of His Majesty's subjects for the benefit of another portion. It taxed passengers from Liverpool for the benefit of passengers from Sligo or Belfast.—It involved a constitutional principle, inasmuch as it taxed the locomotion of British subjects within the British Empire, in a British colony! Such a thing was monstrous, and unheard of in the history of legislation. Let the supporters of this Bill shew any precedent for imposing restrictions on persons passing from one place in the empire to another. If they have a right to tax British Emigrants in their passage through this Province to Upper Canada, they have an equal right to lay a tax upon a person passing through Three Rivers on his way to Montreal.—The manner in which it was attempted to defend the tax, appeared to him most futile. On what principle could any one maintain, that if two vessels arrived at Quebec, one coming from Scotland and the other from Ireland—the passengers in the one requiring aid, and the passengers in the other requiring none—on what principle of justice could it be maintained, that one vessel should be taxed for the benefit of the other? It certainly was desirable that emigrants in need should be assisted, but not this way. Was it not absurd to say to the emigrant with means: "we are very glad to see you. You are an acquisition to us. But the person who accompanies you is poor. You must pay for him!" It would be much more equitable to take the necessary funds for the assistance of distressed emigrants from the public moneys. The emigrant on arrival here immediately becomes a consumer of articles of necessity, such as tea, sugar, salt, &c. Nothing can be fairer than that any assistance he may require should be afforded from the public funds, to which, as a consumer he immediately contributes. It has been said that we ought to pass this Bill, because it aids Emigrants desirous of going onwards to Upper Canada. But by enforcing the Tax, we virtually declare we do not want them at all in the Province; and after all, all that is done is to send them there poor and penniless. There is on the statute book a British Act of Parliament which says, you shall not lay a tax upon property passing through Lower Canada on its way to Upper Canada. Now if you do not tax property here, can you tax the person? The Bill is objectionable in another point of view. Here we impose a direct tax upon a portion of His Majesty's subjects coming in this Province, whereas strangers are admitted freely and without tax. This latter is a manifest injustice, besides an absurdity.—But the hon. member (Fulton) says, a British subject may be taxed on arrival here, because he comes to participate in our institutions and establishments, and because he becomes a part of ourselves. If so, does he not contribute his share of the revenue raised by his consumption of all necessary articles? To tax him, therefore, beyond this is unequal taxation, and contrary to the rights of the subject. The hon. member has also insisted that this tax did not fall upon the shipping interest. But the House was incompetent to lay any tax upon navigation. It had no such power. But because the House had not the power to tax the vessel, was it proper to tax the subject? To lay on this tax carries with it the right of saying, "You shall not go beyond the Isle of Orleans, unless you pay five shillings per head." It carries with it the restriction of personal liberty—and how constitutional does it sound, to say, "I cannot lay a tax upon the vessel, but I will limit the liberty of the subject." The tax is now, he admitted, but five shillings; but once grant the principle, and it may be made one hundred pounds. You may prejudice Emigrants coming at all from the mother country. Another anomaly is that citizens of the United States may enter Upper Canada at pleasure with baggage and effects. Could the Imperial Parliament intend, that while they permitted the people of a foreign country to enter the British dominions without any tax, British subjects coming from a British port into a British Province, were to undergo this monstrous imposition? It was very true that this Bill had been originally recommended by the late Colonial Minister, but his successor with more enlarged views, seeing its impropriety, has resolved not to persist in its continuance. Recommended as it had been on the former occasion, it had been carried only by a mere majority of one. He perceived several members now present who were absent on that occasion. He hoped they would not form a mistaken notion of consistency and support this Bill because it had been passed. In fact, he was sorry that consistency had not much to do with the proceedings of the House upon this Bill. The Honorable Baronet had only a short time before the passing of this Bill thrown out a measure, laying a small tax upon tonnage for the same purposes as those now contemplated; and yet after the interval of a few days he had voted for the passing of this Bill. He had endeavoured to state his objections to the Bill, which were sufficient, in his opinion, to induce the House to pause. One thing he had omitted. The Hon. Member (Fulton) was right in saying, that the competition of freight among shipowners was very great, causing the cheapest offer to be accepted; but in the case of emigrant passengers, he knew many instances where the passage money had been reduced five shillings on account of the tax, so that in fact the tax was paid by the vessel. In conclusion, the Hon. Member declared, that he took his stand on the unconstitutionality of the measure, and its palpable injustice. Nevertheless, if the House should overrule his motion, he should be ready to lend his assistance in improving the Bill.

The Hon. Sir J. CALDWELL, in answer to the allusion made by the Hon. Member who had just sat down to his vote on the former occasion, when this Bill passed the Council, said, that he had then been called upon to decide upon two propositions, very dissimilar in themselves. The first proposition was thought exceptional, because it was a tax upon British shipping, a tax upon tonnage. He cordially considered that improper and unconstitutional, and he voted against it. The second proposition came recommended to us from His Majesty's Government; and upon examination he did, he confessed, appear unexceptionable. He voted for that proposition because he saw the dreadful situation in which the emigrant would be placed without some fund. The House was justified in resisting the tax on shipping; but on the recommendation of His Majesty's Government, he conceived it would have had an ungraceful appearance not to have passed that Bill. Much has been said about the unconstitutionality of this Bill, in which he could not altogether agree. Men in society were not unwilling to give up part of their liberty to preserve the rest; so would he waive some objections in order to accomplish a great good. In this case many of the emigrants were objects of charity on arrival.—By having paid the tax, they have established as it were a kind of Savings Bank for a portion of themselves, who may become sick or destitute—pre-eminently a Savings Bank as regards the poor—and the rich are equally benefited by the operation of the tax, as it prevents their being burthened for the conveyance and support of their poorer fellow passengers. He was desirous of doing that, which would show to His Majesty's Government our true situation, and which would induce it to come forward with some other fund to aid poor emigrants. To allow such persons to land and to throw themselves upon the charity of Quebec was both unjust and cruel, and he could not believe His Majesty's Government would permit such a state of things, after having been informed of it. To that end he wished to send home the Bill.

The Hon. G. MOFFATT said his objections were to the principle of the Bill. The details were of little importance. It was a monstrous regulation that all the beggars of the earth may come into the Province, but the only ones that shall be taxed shall be British paupers! This bill goes to tax one portion of the public to pay another—now how would the Hon. Baronet like it, should the Legislature of Upper Canada lay a tax upon him on entering that Province?

Sir JOHN CALDWELL.—"I would gladly pay it to see the country."

The Hon. G. MOFFATT continued by objecting to the Tax as a breach of Magna Charta, which provides that no tax shall be imposed on persons passing through England. This was the most odious Bill which had ever made its appearance in any part of the British dominions. It taxes even residents in Canada going home on business, and returning to the Province. Shall we not amend such a Bill as this? It is said to amend it will be to throw it out. Be it so, then let us throw it out.

The question being loudly called for, the House divided, when the majority consisted of the Hon. Moffatt and Molson. The original motion was then carried by the same majority.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 5, 1834.

Present—The Honorable Speaker, Hon. Messrs. Hale, Sir J. Caldwell, Felton, Cuthbert, Hunt, Molson, Moffatt, Stewart, Bell, Gates, Baxter, Du Rochelleau.

House in Committee on the Emigrant Tax Bill.

The Honorable W. B. FELTON in the Chair.

The Hon. G. MOFFATT wished that the Committee would postpone for a short time the consideration of the first clause of this Bill. His reason was to make intelligible an amendment which he had to propose, and which was intended to come in at the end of the first clause.

The Hon. Sir JOHN CALDWELL wished to observe, that the Bill might certainly be amended, but if so, would necessarily be lost.

The Hon. J. HALE said, it was perfectly useless to take up the time of the Committee on this Bill. He has always looked upon it as an indirect mode of attempting to stifle emigration from the Mother Country. In point of fact, this bill would never be looked on twice by His Majesty's Government.

Hon. Sir J. CALDWELL—His object was by sending home this Bill, as he had observed yesterday, to show the Colonial Minister that some measure was required to protect the inhabitants of Quebec and Montreal against the misery attending the influx of poor emigrants, and to relieve the destitute therefrom. He hoped the Bill would pass the Committee, not thinking that it would receive the Royal assent; but in order to accompany it with an address requesting that some other fund might be charged with the necessary means of relief.

Hon. M. BELL—Notwithstanding that this Bill had been so often called unconstitutional, he thought the new Secretary of State for the Colonies would not have allowed the Governor to reserve it, had it been his opinion. He would have instructed him to reject it, or not to receive it at all. It appeared to him that by the message a kind of temptation was held out to the Committee to pass this Bill. He would consent to pass the bill, because under the circumstances we had no other way of making our opinions, and the wants of the emigrants, known. If he could contemplate the chance of any other bill coming up from the Assembly, he would not vote for this. The hon. member then alluded to what had fallen from the hon. member (Moffatt) yesterday, when he said, that we sent poor and penniless people to Upper Canada. He would state what had come under his own knowledge. A family had arrived, with whom he had some acquaintance. He had in vain endeavoured to persuade this family to settle in Lower Canada, and finding the best so getting for the upper province, he had furthered their views by bringing them sent there, promising that if they should be disappointed in their hopes, he would still endeavour to get them established in this province. This family went to Upper Canada, and he had letters from them stating that they were doing so well there, that nothing would induce them to quit it. He sincerely hoped the Bill would pass.

Hon. J. HALE still thought there was some want of decorum in this bidding defiance to the Governor's Message. His Excellency has said in the civilised way, "I cannot assent to this bill, if you send it me."

Hon. G. MOFFATT—"The amendment I wish to propose is founded so strongly on equity and justice, that I cannot conceive that any opposition can be made to it in this Committee."

Honorable Sir JOHN CALDWELL—"The Bill will be lost, if amended."

The question having been called for, the motion for the postponement of the first clause was lost.

Hon. G. MOFFATT said, he never yet had seen an instance in that house where a member had been placed in the situation in which he was. He had only asked for the postponement of the consideration of the first clause of the Bill, in order that he might introduce his amendment where it would be intelligible. But the Committee had refused his request, and he now, therefore, had to move his amendment under all disadvantages. The amendment which he had to propose went to extend the tax to strangers, as well as to subjects of His Majesty. He could not foresee any opposition to this proposition—a proposition which he conceived was founded in justice and equity.—When the bill passed two years ago, no one objected to the iniquity of a tax on our fellow subjects, while strangers, foreigners, were allowed to pass free! It is plain, though hon. members will not see it, that this bill has been sent up from the House of Assembly for the purpose of testing the consistency of the Legislative Council—it has come up solely with that end—but will this house be consistent in what is decidedly unconstitutional in a measure which was only carried at all by a majority of one? If so, all he would say, was, that gentlemen have not always been teapots of their consistency. The hon. member went on to maintain that all taxation without representation was unconstitutional—that all unequal laws were unconstitutional—that this tax fell under both those imputations. As well would it be constitutional to impose a tax upon Quebec to support the poor of Montreal? As well would it be constitutional to tax the emigrants from Hull to support the emigrants from Cork? Is it constitutional to tax the locomotion of the subject? Yet why will you confine this tax only to British subjects? Why give to them the painful pre-eminence of taxation? Will you not tax strangers, as well as your natural fellow subjects? It is because British Emigrants have extended to this country the rights of the British constitution, and the benefits of British enterprise, that they are selected for the imposition of this odious tax. If so, go on a little further—bestow a serpent in your bosom at the expense of British interests, and you will soon discover his sting. The hon. Gentleman concluded by moving his amendment.

Hon. M. BELL still thought that, if this bill had really been unconstitutional, it would not have been allowed to remain in force for two years. Every exertion had been made by Upper Canada and by those connected with the shipping interest to get it disallowed.

Hon. H. GATES—the amendment of his honorable friend was perfectly equitable, and no one could reasonably object to it. But he felt bound to support the Bill, for the ulterior object to be gained by it.

Hon. Sir J. CALDWELL—the amendment was perfectly equitable in itself, but as he had before observed, to amend the Bill at all would defeat the measure. It ought to be remembered that extensive emigration was a novel feature of the times, and the call for provision must be met in some manner or other.—As to the unconstitutionality of the Bill, surely it cannot be improper to make emigration pay the necessary charges upon it. As to a tax upon the locomotion of the subject, that is daily and hourly trampled in England, as in the case of the poor laws, and of many other laws and institutions.

Hon. G. MOFFATT—the honorable Baronet scarcely means to say, that the poor rates of England are raised in a manner similar to the tax contemplated in this Bill? Has not the Imperial Government declared it will not tax the Colonists, but the Colonists are to tax British subjects coming into the province? As to the necessity of passing this bill for any ulterior object to be gained, there was none. An address to the King would be sufficient; and His Majesty has already told us that the money necessary for the relief of emigrants ought to be taken from the Public Funds of the Province. No advantage is even pretended to be gained by passing this bill, beyond informing the minister of our wishes and of our wants. Let us then reject the bill, and address the throne—not throw a measure in the face of the King, which we know he disapproves of, and then ask him to name another fund. If any fund, however, is applicable, he would say it is that which is called the Land and Timber Fund.—Sufficient could be taken from that fund to answer all the benevolent objects of the bill. As to the observations of the Hon. Member (Bell) that the Bill had been allowed by His Majesty's Government to continue two years, it could not be expected that Lord Goderich, who had himself recommended the Bill, would have advised His Majesty to disallow it. But the present Minister, who was well known to be well acquainted with the constitutional rights of the subject, has instructed the Governor not to accede to its renewal. It was well known that this Bill had always been obnoxious to the people of the Upper Province, and he thought the House ought to pause before they renewed a Bill which had so justly excited dissatisfaction there. The duty, which the amendment goes to extend to strangers and foreign emigrants, ought to be imposed on both alike, Upper Canada has an unalienable right to receive a portion of the tax. Under the Act which regulates the intercourse between the two Provinces, all duties collected at Quebec must be subject to the participation of the Upper Province. If this Bill be passed in its present state it will eviscerate the extraordinary determination of the House to lay a tax on the transit of the River St. Lawrence, and it will have the sure effect of ultimately obtaining for Upper Canada the port of entry, about which so much has been said.

Hon. H. GATES could not agree with his Hon. Friend who had just sat down, with respect to the just dissatisfaction of Upper Canada on account of this tax. The fund raised by it did not altogether go into the coffers of Lower Canada. The portion of it which was expended in Montreal was expended in forwarding emigrants as far as York in Upper Canada. Should sickness come upon them in the Lower Province, they are deemed until they recover their health, when they are forwarded in a condition likely to be useful to that Province. A benefit is in fact thus conferred upon Upper Canada; and there

is reason to believe the people of Upper Canada are well satisfied to receive labourers and servants forwarded in this manner. He declared he was bound to support this Bill as an act of necessity.

Hon. P. DE ROCHELLEAU was opposed to the amendment of the Hon. Member (Moffatt) though he fully admitted its equity. But if the Bill was sent back to the Lower House, it would be lost. Certainly the tax ought to be general, but he thought it better to tax emigration itself, than to tax the two cities of Quebec and Montreal several thousands a year. Many charitable institutions are completely exhausted by the numerous calls made upon them. The despatch of His Excellency recommended provision from the public funds. There might be a fund in the Province better adapted to this object, but in the absence of any other provision, he should support the Bill and oppose any amendment.

Hon. J. CUTHBERT—The question before the House is purely a question of principle. If the Bill be right nothing should induce him to throw it out—if wrong nothing would prevent him from opposing it. That which is itself wrong, cannot by any expediency be made right. The Hon. Member declared his opinion, that though the amendment was a good one, and perfectly just in principle, he could not vote for it; for he was against the Bill itself, which he should oppose in every stage, and he should also resist every proposition to amend it. He begged to take a more extended view of the subject. In his opinion, the message of the Minister, recommending a provision from the public funds of the Province was extremely unjust; and whether injustice be done by him or any other, he would fearlessly oppose it. The tax ought to be imposed in a manner which would be equally just to the British nation, to Upper Canada, and to ourselves. To do this would be, to make the Parishes in England and Ireland provide a certain sum for the support of sick and destitute Emigrants arriving in this Province, and lodge the same in responsible hands here. There could be no doubt that the emigration to this country had of late years been a great relief to the parishes at home. Where was the injustice of making those pay who received the benefit. For the same reason Upper Canada ought to bear some part of the expense of transport to that Province. As to the fate of the Bill itself, to which he was strongly opposed, it was evident that the Minister had advised the Governor to withhold his assent. It could not be expected, therefore, that the Government at home would allow it.

Hon. G. MOFFATT again supported the amendment—why should the Committee persist in this Bill, when it is admitted that there are funds better adapted to the object in view? Another objection he had was, that by the Emigrant Societies' Reports it appears, that some hundreds are expended in administering the tax; perhaps a seventh or eighth part is thus expended in the operation of the Act. He begged to be understood as not intending to find any fault with this, but still it was to him a further objection against the Bill.

Hon. S. HATT said he had no objection to the principle of amendment, but as the Bill will not be lost if amended, he was bound to oppose it. There was a time when he considered this Tax unconstitutional, but he had since reason to change his opinion. It certainly is unjust that this Province should have the burden of supporting all poor emigrants who arrive—he thought there was more unconstitutionality in that than in laying on the tax. Great Britain ought to relieve us of this burden as she is benefited. Upper Canada is also benefited, and ought to bear a part. This Province, which derives the least permanent benefit, has all the present inconvenience.

Hon. J. CUTHBERT—The simple fact is, that the lower House have rejected this bill because they are offended with the Colonial Minister's interference with their legislation. The arguments, therefore, of gentlemen would have been more candid, if they had remembered the real intentions of that House. With respect to the public funds, it was a mistake to suppose there was plenty of money in the chest. The fact was, there was not enough to make good the appropriation. But it is unjust that this Country should pay for the relief of Emigrants. The mother country, which is naturally benefited should provide for their immediate wants on their arrival, which is all that would be necessary. The pauper emigrants, it ought to be recollected, were not the original movers of their own actions. They were not all voluntary emigrants.

Hon. G. MOFFATT said, that all emigrants were not paupers, not more than one-seventh. If those require relief, the advantages derived by the country from the other six-sevenths, is fully equivalent. The Hon. member (Cuthbert) says it is unconstitutional to tax the public funds for the assistance of emigrants. But the emigrant is a consumer, and contributes to the revenue by the amount of consumption. He did not see why a revenue derived from commerce, should not be as properly applied to the relief of emigrants, as to the macadamizing of roads.

Hon. H. GATES said if the amendment would have the effect of strangling the Bill, he would reluctantly vote against it, although he approved of it in equity and justice.

Hon. W. B. FELTON considered the Bill perfectly constitutional. When the Hon. member (Moffatt) declares that all taxation without representation is unjust, unequal, and unconstitutional, how comes it that he wishes to impose this tax on strangers, who cannot by any possibility be represented? This is inconsistent. The Hon. member then went over and replied to the arguments used against the Bill, after which the Committee divided, and the amendment was lost. Minority, Hon. Messrs. Moffatt, Cuthbert, Hale and Molson.

The Bill was then gone through and reported without any amendment.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, 7th Feb. 1834.

PLACES OF ELECTION IN THE COUNTY OF ROYVILLE.

Mr. LEMAY moved that the House concur in the Bill as amended.

Mr. RODIER objected to it as being the greatest injustice that could be done to the inhabitants, if St. Athanasie is not fixed the second place for polling there, its population being after St. Marie, the most considerable in the county, and its situation such as to answer all voters, the House in Committee had once decided that it should be so, and although it had subsequently given the preference to Henryville, he was almost persuaded it was for the want of knowing the locality; he said that the voters living at the distance of 14 leagues from St. Marie had never complained before, and could not with propriety do so hereafter when another place for voting was fixed nearer to them. The petition from the inhabitants of St. Marie, he considered of no weight, as they could not reasonably complain, having a poll in St. Marie. Both St. Marie and St. Athanasie wanted a Court House and Prison, and both members representing the County being from St. Marie, are in a manner interested that the former should have the preference, and it was this, which it was necessary the house should know, that had given rise to the rivalry and party spirit in that County. He did not want to throw any blame on the members representing that County, but thought that St. Athanasie was not represented, it is a flourishing and populous village and as such entitled to have the poll there. He hoped the House would not become instrumental in fostering the party spirit existing in that County, and in order that those who are not acquainted with the County may have an opportunity of being so, he should move that the subject be again referred to a Special Committee.

Mr. NEILSON considered Henryville as the most suitable and most central for the second Poll, both St. Marie and St. Athanasie being in the north of the County, would still subject the south to great inconvenience; he said party squabbles and local disputes ought to be of no weight in the House, and justice to all electors and their convenience alone should influence its decision.

Mr. LEMAY said St. Marie had not petitioned for a second Poll, but for a division of the County; it wanted public buildings for its use, and it was not right to make others contribute to their erection. Henryville being older than St. Athanasie, in the south, and more convenient to the electors of the seigniorie of Foucault, Noyan and Sabrevois, ought to have the second Poll in preference to St. Athanasie, which had only two leagues in superficies and few voters, who lived partly in cabins and had not even titles of their lands.

Mr. DIONNE in consideration of what had fallen from the hon. member who had spoken last, thought that he was not very favourably inclined towards St. Athanasie, that he was rather interested, and that otherwise he ought to have no objection to refer it again to a Special Committee.

Mr. HOTTÉ said if the opinion of the hon. member for l'Assomption prevailed, both Polls would be in the North of the County, and that it would not be doing justice to the seigniorie, as their population is greater than that of St. Athanasie.

Mr. RODIER thought the reflections made on the inhabitants of St. Athanasie by the hon. member for the County of Royville not becoming; he had no personal interest or connexion in that county, his only object was justice to all parties.

The House then divided.

For the amendment 26, and 34 against.

MR. KIMBER, on moving the concurrence of the House in the report of a Special Committee recommending an Address to His Majesty in reference to said Estates, said, that according to the opinion of the Committee of the House of Commons these Estates or the revenue of them ought to be applied for the purpose of education in the Province. The revenue now produced by these estates amounted to about £3800, one third of which was expended for the administration of them; that about £90,000

had been diverted from their original destination; that these Estates might be made to acquire much importance and to produce a revenue equal to one half of the public expenses. By Lord Goderich's dispatch it was seen that, but for the convenience of lodging the troops, Ministers did not refuse to give them up; but to raise a building for that purpose from the revenue produced by these estates, would deprive the country of a great part of the benefit it was entitled to, and to secure which the Address was intended for. Agreed to.

MONTREAL PRISON.

Mr. QUENNEL moved for the concurrence of the House in the Bill of the Commissioners for the New Prison in Montreal, which goes to reimburse the Commissioners a sum advanced by them for improvements in that building, some of which Mr. Quennel considered as absolutely necessary, such as the acquisition of a lot of ground and the introduction of water, besides a number of others which he detailed at length; he also mentioned that a penitentiary system might be introduced there.

Mr. NEILSON observed, that Commissioners were but too generally in the habit of submitting purposely low estimates, knowing that a vote of money once obtained and applied, would, if not sufficient, be followed by another, thus, not only going beyond the law, but compelling the House in a manner to vote an additional sum or leave the work undone; as to the introduction of a penitentiary system that was for the consideration of a subsequent Legislature.

Mr. SPEAKER concurred with Mr. Quennel, adding that the Commissioners had kept within the bounds of the law, and deserved great credit in giving up their commission amounting to about £500.

Mr. QUENNEL said, the expenses incurred over and above the sum of £20,000, voted, might be considered as the necessary furniture of a house, and were unforeseen, such as the common sewers wanted and the price of the ground bought.

Mr. NEILSON said, that although he approved of the Commissioners in setting an example of disinterestedness in not charging the commission they were by law authorised to do, still blamed them for expending £1500 more than by law entitled to do, and said that the improvements considered necessary ought to have been made known to the Legislature, and the expenses incurred in making them ought not to have been before the House voted them.

Mr. QUENNEL replied, that in 1831, the Commissioners had reported to the House as might be seen by the Journals, that the House had done nothing and that they had been left to themselves.

The report was then agreed to.

TRANSPORT OF PRISONERS FROM POINT LEVI.

Mr. BOUCHARD moved that the House concur in the report of the Special Committee naming Special Constables for the transport of prisoners and providing remuneration.

Mr. SPEAKER objected to the particulars or detail of that report, but more so to the principle, and particularly to the naming of Special Constables, and said that unless it was entirely dropped, it ought to be again referred to a Special Committee.

Mr. BOUCHARD replied, that the persons subjected to this disagreeable and onerous employment deserved some consideration, and if the hon. Speaker's objection was but to the name of Special Constable, he was willing to substitute ferry-man or any other for it.—Mr. B. agreed to refer it again to a Committee.

The House adjourned at nine o'clock.

ROUTINE BUSINESS.

FRIDAY, 7th Feb.—10 o'clock, A. M.

A Message was received from the Council, agreeing to:

1. Audit Bill, with amendments.
2. Receiver General's Office regulation Bill, with amendments.
3. Bill to acquire Grande Isle, without amendments.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton, the House is to go into Committee, to-morrow, to consider if it is expedient to amend the acts 31 Geo. III. cap. 6, and 24 Geo. IV. cap. 5, so far as they relate to the Jurisdiction of the District of Gaspé; and also, to enquire into the expediency of amending the Ordinances and Acts relating to debtors.

The Congregational Societies Relief Bill, and the Free Will Baptists' Bill, were passed.

Dr. Beaubien was examined before the Committee on the events of 21st May, 1832.

Four o'clock, P. M.

The Certificate of the Election of Alexis Godbout, Esq. for the County of Orleans, was read.

The Clerk laid before the House, a Report of the applications and demands made to him up to the 31st inst., for Salaries, wages or indemnification, and which he has found himself unable to meet.

On motion of Mr. Guillet, that part of the Petition of the Electors of the County of St. Maurice, for a Law to authorize County Justices to settle differences between masters and servants, was referred to a Special Committee, that part for amendments to the Agriculture Act, to the Standing Committee of Agriculture; and that part praying that orders and summonses be made out in the language of the persons upon whom they may be served, to the Standing Committee of Courts of Justice.

Mr. Viger reported on Messrs. Lachapelle and Quenneville's Toll Bridge Bill, committed for to-morrow.

Mr. Lottie reported on the Petition from the Corporation of the Montreal General Hospital, and other Petitions from Charitable Institutions at Montreal, and also on the Return of the Inmate and Foundlings at Montreal; committed for Tuesday next.

Mr. Courteau presented the Report of the Commissioners for Bridges in the County of Lachenaie.

Mr. P. E. Tachereau, reported the Small Causes Bill; committed for to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Carillier, the Revenue statements, and the statement of the public money in the vaults, were referred to the Standing Committee of Accounts.

Mr. Morin was added to the Committee of Seigniorial Rights and the waste lands of the Crown.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton, the expediency of granting a circuit allowance to the Judge of Gaspé for presiding at the Courts of General Quarter Sessions for the District of Gaspé, is to be taken into consideration to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Stuart, the House resolved to consider in Committee, to-morrow, the propriety of disqualifying by a Law to be passed, to that effect, certain public officers from sitting or voting in the Legislative and Executive Councils.

On motion of Mr. Lottie, the Provincial Secretary was ordered to lay before the House, a certified copy of the Registers transmitted to him up to this day, in conformity with the provisions of the 5th Clause of the Act 1, William IV. Cap. 33, for the naturalization of aliens in this Province.

And the Clerk of the Peace for the District of Montreal was ordered to transmit a certified copy of the Registers he has kept of the names of the persons who have taken the oath of allegiance in conformity with said Act, since 1st of January last up to this day.

The Bill for establishing new places of Election in certain Counties, was read the third time. Mr. Rodier moved to recommend the Bill, negatived, yeas 26, nays 34. The Bill was then passed.

The Elementary Education Bill, and the Bill relating to defendants residing in different Districts were passed.

Thirty-two Committees reported that no inconvenience has resulted from the want of funds to indemnify witnesses and seven Committees reported that inconveniences had resulted therefrom.

Alexis Godbout, Esq. took the oath and his seat.

The following resolution passed in Committee on Wednesday last, was reported, and concurred in:

STATE of the THERMOMETER last week at 8 o'clock, A. M.—24, 26, 20, 30, 5, -4, -4.

COMMISSARIAT EXCHANGE, 4s. 3d. sig. per dollar.

QUEBEC, FEBRUARY 8, 1834.

New York and Boston papers of the 31st instant, were received by Post this morning. They contain no later Papers, Packets now due. The George Washington was the only Liverpool packet at the above date at New York.

EMIGRANT TAX.—Yesterday, after an animated debate, the Emigrant Tax Bill was passed in the Legislative Council by a majority of 7 to 4. It has now passed both branches of the Legislature, but from the instructions His Excellency the Governor in Chief has received, and which have been communicated by the signature of His Majesty's pleasure thereon. The Governor stood in rather a delicate predicament in regard to the matter—it will be recollected that two years ago, after having rejected a Bill sent up by the Assembly imposing a smaller tax, the Council, on the Minister's recommendation passed the Bill, which will expire on the 1st May next. The Bill sent up by the Assembly this year being in fact a renewal of the former, could not therefore very well be refused, although the present Ministry may have a different, and we think a more just opinion on the constitutionality of such an Act from that entertained by their predecessors. The passing of the Bill will, no doubt, be accompanied by Addresses from both Houses, setting forth the necessity of a fund being provided for the relief of sick and suffering Emigrants.

The Universalists of Ascot Registry Bill was read a second time, and referred to a Special Committee of three members.

In the Report of the debates in the Council in the Mercury of Thursday, the remark attributed to Sir J. Caldwell, "that he would sit all day to hear the admirable speech of the Honourable member," should have been attributed to the Honourable J. Hale.

The *Vindicateur* may take the full credit for the discovery it has made that, after Mr. Hay's letters of the 15th of May and 5th June, in both of which he, on the part of Mr. Stanley, expressly stated that Mr. Viger could not be received "in an official capacity"—the latter was absolutely admitted to an audience with that Minister. But the *Vindicateur* studiously conceals that these interviews were with Mr. D. B. Viger, as a private gentleman, and not with the agent from the Assembly of Lower Canada, or as he described himself as "Charge de représenter les Intérêts des Habitans de Bas Canada," a character in which he had already been distinctly told he could not be received. The *Vindicateur* also, in its great love of truth, omits to notice a certain, other, note from Mr. Hay, of the twenty-eighth of June, 1833, by which Mr. Stanley refuses to enter into any discussion with Mr. Viger relative to an Address of the Legislative Council of this Province, to His Majesty, on which Mr. Viger had been silly enough to obtain some remarks. Neither does the *Vindicateur* notice a note of July 10, in which Mr. Viger is apprised that "as soon as the Minister can find more leisure than he can at the present command, he will feel happy in having an interview with him, personally to explain to him, his view of Mr. Viger's position in England." On the 10th of the following month, August, Mr. Viger, grown weary, it would seem, with waiting addressed a letter to Mr. Stanley, pressing upon him the expectation, laid out in the note last quoted, of his being admitted to an interview. Mr. Viger was so pathetically polite in his address, that the Minister must have had a heart of marble who could refuse an interview upon such a pressing petition.

"If," says Mr. Viger, "my conjectures do not deceive me, the weight of your occupations may be somewhat diminished. Nevertheless, as the number of subjects to which you are obliged to give your attention must be considerable, I feel that you will not take it amiss if I remind you of my request for an interview, which the press of business prevented you from granting, and which I take the liberty of again soliciting."

The Minister hereupon seeing himself fairly between the horns of a dilemma, and that he must either submit to be bored with Mr. D. B. Viger's eternal letters, or stand the brunt of an interview, and learn, by word of mouth, what that gentleman had to say; on the 15th of August, five days after the date of Mr. Viger's supplicatory epistle, he remarked, writes him of a note, which as it is couched in the language of official civility, the *Vindicateur* mistakes, or pretends to mistake, for a cordial invitation.—"Mr. Secretary Stanley presents his compliments to Mr. Viger, and will be happy to see him on Tuesday, the 20th instant, at noon. Thus gaining a further delay of five days before he submitted to the visitation.

To this Mr. Viger overjoyed at being again admitted into the Minister's office, in Downing Street, returned the following answer:

"Sir,—I shall not fail to be at the Colonial Office on Tuesday next, at the hour appointed by your note of yesterday, for which I pray you to accept my thanks, with the assurances of the profound respect with which I have the honor to be, &c."

After this Mr. Viger continued to pour in his epistles on the Colonial Minister, and on the 10th September addressed to that functionary one of his rignaroles, which produced the following note:—

"Mr. Stanley presents his compliments to Mr. Viger, and will be happy to see him to-morrow at two o'clock. Colonial Office, September 11, 1833."

The rest of the Report consists of long letters addressed to the Colonial Department by Mr. Viger, but the short note above given is the last communication from the Colonial Minister, or any person under him to Mr. Viger, contained in the published Report. We are therefore fully justified in the view we took of the Honourable Denis Benjamin Viger's position in England, and though we did not in our former notice follow the history of his intercourse with the powers in Downing street to the end of the chapter, our statement was correct, and the public will see we have not been guilty of the suppression of truth; the *Vindicateur* has had effrontery to charge us with. All the *Vindicateur* has shown is, that Mr. Viger persevered till he absolutely bored the Minister into admitting him to his presence, but a very far from showing, even by presumptive evidence, that the Honorable gentleman stands in a position in England to do us good, in return for the enormous sum he has hitherto received, as that the *Jesuites* he continued to address to the Minister meet with any attention.

As we are noticing the *Vindicateur*, we may as well set the Editor right in another point in which he has endeavoured to reach our statement, and in doing this we shall avoid ourselves of the following letter which, our old and respected friend, the Hon. R. McKenzie has addressed to the Editor of the *REAL HERALD*, completely contradicting the late assertions of the *Vindicateur*, respecting the Earl of Dalhousie, and as completely justifying our statement, that his Lordship's removal was on promotion and as a mark of favour and not of disgrace.—

"To the Editor of the *Montreal Herald*.

Sir,—In the *Vindicateur* of the 21st instant, under the Editorial head is a violent article against the Earl of Dalhousie—in which you and two of your confidants seem interested as Editors.—My object is merely to appear as evidence in the case—to give you genuine information as I possess, in hopes of setting the quack at rest for the present. The article will speak for itself.—

"THE HERALD, GAZETTE AND MERCURY.—Some remark which we had occasion to make by way of exemplification of the administration and fate of Lord Dalhousie, have excited the bile of the treble jumbo whom we have placed at the head of the paragraph, and as may naturally be expected, in place of argument, every abusive epithet in the Dictionary is thundered down on our devoted head. 'Slander,' 'scribbler,' 'falsehood,' 'calumny,' 'lies,' are the beautiful expressions which adorn the wreath which the gang have wove for us. The Mercury came last, and has had the advantage of all the researches of Billingsgate fifth which his confederates had made. We shall therefore confine ourselves to his attack.

"Our assertions regarding the Earl of Dalhousie, were these:—First, that he was guilty of such excesses as to require his recall. Can this be denied by any impartial man. The report of the House of Commons proves that a different system to that of Lord Dalhousie followed, was to be adopted. His Lordship necessarily be withdrawn, and he was withdrawn. His excesses therefore, were the cause of his retirement from the government. The Mercury, who was one of Dalhousie's chief and this adherents, may have the impudence to deny this, but it is not the least true. We next asserted that 'he was recalled.' The Mercury, we presume, will deny this."

"The author of the above 'argument' if not bilious, must be a stranger in the country and imposed upon by his new friends, for the whole of his assertions regarding the Earl of Dalhousie are the very reverse of the facts which he wishes to establish, as he will find presently by the following extracts of a letter from His Lordship, addressed to me—dated, Castle of St. Louis, 6th March, 1833.

"I have anxiously looked for the December mail to bring me an answer to my request of leave of absence. It has at last reached me—and also an intimation from the Duke of Wellington that His Majesty has most graciously named me to succeed Lord Colborne as Commander in Chief in India.

"Both these, however, leave to myself to fix my convenient time to return home—and no successor will be named till I 'fix my time.'"

"This quotation has been perused in the original by several of my Canadian friends—some of whom are friends and subscribers to the *Vindicateur*, and who therefore, can bear witness to the correctness of the transcript—required."

The Committee appointed by the House of Commons to enquire into the state of the civil government of Canada, made their Report on the 29th July, 1833. The Report therefore, could not be known in this country previous to the sailing of Lord Dalhousie in September. Nor has that Report scarcely ever been acted upon—

I am, Mr. Editor, your obedient humble servant,
ROD. MACKENZIE.
Terrebonne, 25th January, 1834.

At the present moment when the political affairs of this Province are approaching to a state which it appears must inevitably require the interference of the Imperial Parliament, the Report made by a Committee of the House of Commons on the Civil Government of Canada, and ordered to be printed on the 23d July 1833, is particularly deserving of attention, and we strongly advise a copy of it to those who are in possession of, or can borrow, a copy.

For the present we shall restrict ourselves to noticing the contents of the evidence of Austin Cuvillier, Esq., on the 10th of July 1833, which will be found at page 174, and is as follows:—
There are certain items of charge, of salaries, to individuals to the payment of which the Assembly have objected, as unnecessary—are you of opinion that if those salaries were discontinued, and those situations done away with at the expiration of the lives of the parties holding those salaries there would be any indisposition on the part of the Assembly to pay them during the lives of the parties?

ANSWER.—The Assembly have already done so in some instances, when it was required of them; and I verily believe that they would have no objection to convert those salaries into pensions for myself I should decidedly vote for it; I verily believe there would be no objection provided that all other grievances were removed.

This was the evidence of a man who justly appreciated the humane and liberal system which is acted upon in cases of the kind in the parent state.
It did equal honor to the head and to the heart of Mr. Cuvillier, and there is no doubt that it essentially contributed to the adoption of those measures which have since been pursued by his Majesty's Ministers with a view to removing the grievances complained of by the Delegates from Lower Canada who were sent to England.

But what has been the result on this side of the Atlantic?—Look at the course pursued by the Assembly ever since the return of those Delegates to Canada. Look at the Supply Bill of last year—look at the state of distress and destitution to which all the officers of this Colonial Government are now reduced—look at the speech of the Speaker himself in the House of Assembly on the 31st of the past month—and in all these the result will be seen.

The Lectures at the rooms of the Literary and Historical Society, on Wednesday last, was on the History of Geography, it was delivered by the Revd. Gentleman to whom the Society and another public Institution in this city have been so much indebted, for his public discourses on subjects connected with Literature and Science.—The Lecture on Wednesday next will be on MINERALOGY.

The Bazaar of the Ladies of Quebec which, as we noticed in our paper of Thursday, was opened on that day, continued in our opinion crowded on Friday, and it is a certain that not less than £500 were received, for sales, at the different Tables and at the hour. Yesterday, the stock which remained unsold was disposed of at auction, and the total produce was consequently augmented by the operations of the day. The show was very good indeed, and some of the contributors sent articles of considerable value, displaying great taste and which must have been procured with no ordinary industry.

The following ladies had tables.—Messdames G. Vanfelson, L. Masse, Jos. Panchand, E. Hebard, Frs. Des, Misses Duport, M. Berthelot, L. A. Hulet, E. LeDoyre, H. Tourangeau, Vanfelson, Bateau, Mercier, E. Pelletier.

The THEATRE VOCALISTES have their farewell Concert this Evening at the City Hotel, opposite St. Andrew's Church.

AMATEUR PLAY for the Benefit of the Female Orphan Asylum of Quebec, by the Soldiers of the 79th Highlanders, On Thursday evening the Soldiers of this distinguished Corps performed the Drama of Rob Roy, in the Theatre of this City. The play was got up with great care and the performers in general acquitted themselves very creditably, especially when it is taken into consideration that some of the principal characters had been undertaken at a very short notice. Haillie Nicol Jarvis was an excellent piece of acting, the performer was happy in embodying the spirit of the character.

Between the play and farce, some songs were very well sung by Soldiers of the Corps, and the entertainment concluded with the Farce of *L'ore a Mode*. The whole went off with great spirit. The Lady Aylmer was present and the Boxes were filled with fashionable company. The Pit and Gallery were reserved for the free admission of a portion of the Soldiers of each Corps in Garrison. The circumstances which gave rise to this play are highly creditable to the good feelings of the Corps.—The Ladies conducting the Asylum received into it the Orphan of a deceased Soldier of the 79th Regiment, and the non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers wishing to show their gratitude, proposed to act a play for the Benefit of the Institution. The plan not only with the approbation of, but was warmly encouraged by Lieut. Col. Macdonnell, and the result has, judging from the appearance of the House, enabled these gallant fellows to give a substantial proof of the sense they entertain of the kindness done to the Corps in the reception into the Asylum of the orphan daughter of a Comrade.

We are sorry to learn from a gentleman who was present at the fire, that the hose of most of the Engines were far from being in that efficient state they require to be, much water being lost by leaking at the seams. The plan of forcing water from one Engine to the other so as to keep up a constant supply, was tried, and succeeded, though not so perfectly as it would have done had the hose been in thorough repair. It was suggested as an improvement, that the hose of all Engines should be fitted to screws of the same size, which would enable them to be extended without difficulty; yesterday some of the screws being of a smaller size than others, the pipe attached to them was rendered useless for that purpose. The whole of the Fire Companies exerted themselves with the utmost activity, and the students of the Seminary rivalled the zeal of the older corps, the Military also were on the spot, and as usual rendered the essential service.

The annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Quebec and Halifax Steam Navigation Company, was held on Tuesday, 25th January, when the following Report was adopted, and the Committee of Direction were requested to continue in office for the ensuing year:—

This meeting of the Shareholders of the Quebec and Halifax Steam Navigation Company had been called in conformity with one of the sections of the Act of Incorporation, for the purpose of laying before the shareholders a general statement of the affairs of the Company, and electing a Committee of Direction for the ensuing year.

The embarrassed circumstances of the Company, which led to the seizure and sale of the Royal William, have already been laid before the shareholders, at the general meeting that took place in April last. It will also be recollected that at that meeting the Committee communicated the handsome offer of the gentlemen who, at Sheriff's sale, became the proprietors of the Royal William, to transfer their purchase to the original stockholders without any profit, on condition that they would continue to run the vessel between Quebec and Halifax, in accordance with the original views of the Company, and upon the suggestion of one or two of the stockholders deeply interested in the trade between the Lower Provinces and Canada, the meeting was adjourned until the first day of June, in order that ample time might be given to the stockholders in Halifax and Miramichi to come forward should they see fit.

Copies of the proceedings of the meeting were immediately forwarded to the agents of the shareholders in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but no notice whatever was taken of the communication.

The Committee regret that the proceeds arising from the sale of the Royal William, so far from enabling them to discharge the various debts due by the Company, proved insufficient to repay the mortgages, there therefore remain debts due by the Company to different individuals, to the amount of £1639 2s. 6d., which the Committee have no adequate funds to liquidate,—for detailed statements of these debts and the affairs of the Company generally, the Committee refer to the statement and to the books of the Corporation, which will be open to the inspection of all stockholders on application to the agent.

The Committee view with deep and sincere regret the failure of this first attempt to establish a navigation by steam between the Lower Provinces and Canada.

On a review, however, of the various accidents and misfortunes that occurred to the Royal William, most of which could neither have been foreseen nor prevented, and which, in a great degree contributed to the failure of the scheme, and taking into account the almost daily improvements in steam navigation, they entertain a hope that the time is not far distant when a second attempt will be made under the existing Act of Incorporation, and crowned with complete success.

By order of the Committee, Quebec, January 26, 1834.

CIRCULAR.
From the Lord Bishop of QUEBEC, to such of the Clergy of the Diocese as derive their stipends from the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.
Quebec, 4th January, 1834.

REVEREND SIR,
The circumstances and prospects of the Church in this diocese impose upon me the duty of calling your attention and that of your congregation to a measure which might indeed without impropriety have been long ago urged, and the execution of which can no farther be delayed.

The maintenance of the Clergy in the Canadian has hitherto, as you are aware, with very slight exceptions, been provided for partly by His Majesty's Government and partly by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, whose funds are at this moment charged with allowances to about 150 Missionaries in the British North American Provinces, besides Theological Students, Catechists and the Widows of Missionaries receiving pensions.

The Circular which you have lately received from the Secretary of this Society has informed you of the diminution of its resources caused by the reduction and approaching extinction of the grant from the Imperial Parliament, which for a long series of years had constituted part of its funds, and of the consequent necessity for a great retrenchment in the allowance made for the support of its existing Missions, and a total suspension of the establishment of additional stations.

The former measure, without some speedy remedy, will press with severe inconvenience upon many of the Clergy of this Diocese; the latter, if no other resource should be substituted, will leave the Church without means to answer the calls made upon her on all sides by the rapidly rising settlements of these Provinces, to provide for the spiritual wants of the inhabitants.

It is, however, evidently unreasonable to expect that the Colonial Church should continue very long to draw its supplies from the mother country, and whatever may be the ultimate fate of our just endeavours to preserve inviolate the allotment of the Clergy Reserves, the nature and situation of that property must prevent its becoming available at present to the entire support of any number of Clergy at all approaching to what the Diocese requires.

I must not here be understood as either speaking in disparagement of that provision which the wise and pious beneficence of the Government has allotted for the permanent support of the Clergy, or as abandoning the hope that it will yet be made to render its destined fruit. It is that provision which humanly speaking, I regard as the means upon which we must rely for placing the institutions of religion upon a solid basis throughout the country, and perpetuating a body of well qualified Clergymen, at the same time that it is not fairly liable to be represented in an obnoxious light as imposing a burthen upon the people for the support of the Church. And if it had not been for untoward circumstances which, especially in the Lower Province, have obstructed the operations of the Clergy Reserve Corporations, some greater advances might have been already made towards the general efficiency of this reservation for the purposes to which it was originally destined.

It is only therefore, as a temporary measure, that (as I hope) it will be found requisite to call to any considerable extent upon the people. But in the actual position of the Church, there is a very evident necessity that wherever their circumstances permit it, they should contribute towards the support of their Minister. I have indeed received a direct suggestion in an official letter from the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, as to the imperative need which exists for resorting to such a measure. And I trust that there will be no backwardness to answer the appeal. When it is considered how much has been thus far done for the people without charge to themselves, and how plainly it is enjoined in the word of God that men should honor the Lord with their substance, and suffer those to reap of their worldly things who sow unto them spiritual things I indulge a hope that no difficulty will be found in carrying those principles into effect among our congregations.

In all cases where the salary of the Minister, in conformity with the scale of reduction now established, is confessedly inadequate to the decent and respectable maintenance of himself (and his family, if he has one,) according to his situation in society, it will be expected that an addition shall be made to his income by the voluntary contributions of his hearers, and it will be necessary to establish a mutual understanding that the Society continue to afford their allowance upon condition that the Congregation contribute an amount proportioned to their resources. It is difficult to establish any kind of uniform rule in fixing the amount of the sum; but I am disposed to say that with the exception of the four principal towns of the diocese, the maximum should be £100 currency, a year. The minimum I would fix at £25. The gradation of the intermediate annual sums must not be broken into any thing smaller than a difference of £5, between one sum and another.

I shall commit it to the Archdeacons in correspondence with the Clergy of their respective Archdioceses to ascertain the amount which can be raised in each parish or mission, and to report their conclusion to me so soon as conveniently may be, in order that no time may be lost in carrying the system into operation throughout the Diocese.

It only remains to notice, upon this subject, the provisions to be established respecting the manner of collecting and paying the contributions. I conceive that it would be objectionable in several points of view that the Clergyman himself should either solicit or collect them from house to house. Neither do I think that the Church-wardens alone can be fairly expected to take upon themselves the duty or the responsibility. I would therefore recommend that the Congregation proceed first of all to the election, after due notice of such intention having been given, of persons to constitute a Select Vestry, whose number should not exceed ten, nor be fewer than four, and to whom, in conjunction with the Church-wardens, should be entrusted both the management of this matter, and such other temporal concerns of the Church as may fall most properly within their charge. The Vestry-men now to be elected might continue in office till Easter, 1835, after which the stated elections, may proceed according to rule. They should be responsible to the Minister for the sums received from the Subscribers at the periods mentioned in the accompanying form, which I am disposed to think are the most generally suitable that can be named. It will be necessary that the subscription paper should express the obligations of the contributors who sign their names to continue their subscriptions for the three years next ensuing, payable at these periods; and the parties responsible to the Clergyman must sign a separate obligation to be lodged in his hands. In some cases it may be found expedient to admit the partial introduction of contributions in produce. In others, if it should be found more easy of management, the payment may be made chargeable in part upon the pew-rents instead of being made in the shape of contributions raised by subscription.

You will please to communicate the foregoing letter to your Congregation, either when assembled after divine service, or at some meeting specially convened for the purpose.

I have the honor to be, Reverend Sir, your faithful servant,
J. C. QUEBEC.

To the Editor of the Mercury.
Sir,—By inserting the following in the next number of the Mercury you will oblige one of your subscribers. On Thursday last the Volunteer Firemen, of Ward No. 6, gave their Captain, Mr. Nicholas WELLS, a Public Dinner, as a mark of their esteem for his indefatigable exertions in training his Company, and bringing it to that perfection that the Company received the public thanks of the Quebec Corporation on a recent occasion, when their said Captain received likewise a Medal.—The Company proceeded to the residence of their Captain in St. John street, at seven o'clock in the evening to the number of thirty members, in a dozen carioles, from whence they conducted him to Mr. Bragg's, in the Lower Town, the place appointed for the dinner, which was laid out in the best style. Amongst a number of toasts given, the following are a few.—His present Majesty William the Fourth.—The Queen and Royal Family.—Lord Aylmer and the Provincial Legislature.—The Quebec Corporation.—The Captain's health was next drank, which was prefaced by an appropriate speech, made on the occasion by one of the members.—Another was drank which was—Strength and unity combined in our motto "one and all"—this being the motto of the Company, which they wear painted on their firecoats, created repeated cheers. The company broke up about half past eleven after a merry evening. I remain, &c. A FIREMAN.

February 7, 1834.

To the Editor of the Quebec Gazette.
MR. EDITOR.—On Thursday last, the first examination of the British and Canadian Infant School, took place in the school room of the Canadian and Canadian School, St. Roch's, which was kindly lent for the purpose; nearly a hundred children were present, of ages varying from two years to six, whose appearance was highly interesting. The examination they underwent, and which continued nearly two hours, was eminently calculated to show the excellency of the system of infant education, and did much credit to the ability of the teacher and the attention of the pupils. The service commenced by singing a Hymn and speaking the Lord's Prayer, which was done by the united voices of all the children, and created delightful feelings in those who were present. Various questions were then proposed to them in Natural History, Arithmetic, Geometry and Geography, all of which were answered in a manner sufficient to prove the truth of the subjects on which they were examined, were familiar to their minds. The service concluded as it began, by singing a Hymn and Prayer, nor was it possible to hear their sweet infantile voices, thus employed without being reminded of the words of our Saviour "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings, God hath ordained praise." There was a very large assembly collected together on the occasion, and I believe it is not too much to say that out of the hundreds that were present there was not one that was not highly gratified with the exhibition.

A SPECTATOR.
Quebec, February 1, 1834.

From the Old Quebec Gazette of yesterday.
FIRE at PARSON-VILLE.—Ten or twelve houses have just fallen a prey to the flames. A fire broke out about ten (this forenoon, in a house belonging to Jas. E. Marret, Esq. occupied by Mr. Hagerman, grocer. It appears to have broken through the roof early, having taken in the upper part of the house, from the stove-pipe or chimney. The houses destroyed occupied both sides of the street, under the Caps; and were bounded on the River side by timber yards and wharves, which were still burning at two o'clock, p.m. The fire had elsewhere been suppressed. Two or three houses not burned, have been nearly destroyed. Some of the houses adjoining those rebuilt since the large fire on the spot, in May, 1832.

Twenty or thirty families at least, are supposed to have occupied the buildings; and many are now in very destitute condition. The following was hastily collected, as the names of the sufferers:—

On the River side.—House occupied by Mr. J. Hagerman, owned by Mr. Marret; houses occupied by Mr. Barret, surgeon, John Ellice, Semples, butcher, (with stalls) all belonging to Donald Fraser, Esq.; house belonging to, and occupied by widow Bickel; house occupied by Mr. Eaton, baker, with shop, &c., belonging to Mr. Tweedel, founder.

On the Cape side.—House occupied and owned by Mr. Maher, said to be insured at the Quebec Fire Office, for £750; house and bake-house belonging to D. Fraser, Esq.; a large stone house, known as Mrs. Brown's, now owned by Mr. McLean, London Coffee House, unoccupied; and a house belonging to Mr. Kelly, tavern-keeper.

Mr. Fraser, we learn, had £1300 insured at the Alliance Office; and Mr. Marret's house was insured at the Quebec Office for £900. Probable to the amount of £10,000 has been destroyed.

The following has been handed us by a person who took an active part in arresting the progress of the fire:—

At about half past nine o'clock this morning, an alarm of fire at Parson-Ville was given. On reaching the spot, a house, the property of Mr. Marret, occupied as a store by Mr. Hagerman, on the south side of Champlain street, was rapidly enveloped in flames, which spread with alarming rapidity to the neighbouring houses on both sides of the street. The authorities, perceiving that the street must very soon be rendered impassable, forwarded the first fire engines which arrived towards the western extremity of the fire; and the wind being westerly, these engines were soon enabled to prevent the fire extending further in that direction; but at the same time great alarm was felt at the easterly side of the fire, the wind spreading the flames with overwhelming force from house to house. A wooden store belonging to Mr. Martin, along the Cape, being lower than the adjoining stone house of Mr. Kelly, and the house of the heirs Leitch, in front of Martin's store, on the south side of the street, being also much lower than the adjoining stone house, some hopes were entertained that the progress of the fire might be arrested here; Captain Welsh's engine was in consequence immediately charged with the preservation of the wooden store of Mr. Martin's. Captain Manly's with that of the heirs Leitch, on the side of the street, and Captain Cazault was placed on the wharf, to preserve the same house in the rear. With the constant and really extraordinary efforts of those gentlemen, and of the men under them, it soon became apparent that this operation would prove successful; and in about two hours afterwards, all apprehension of danger on this side ceased.

Great confusion arose during the fire, from the numerous inmates of these and the neighbouring houses trying to save their all, through a narrow street; from the consequent difficulty to get the water to the engines, from the eagerness of the firemen to be the first where most danger existed, from some of them not having their uniforms, from the Town Councilors not having marks of distinction, and from the consequent inability to get their orders executed.

Eight houses have become the prey of this devouring element. One of the greatest sufferers by this calamity is Patrick Kelly, an individual who by his industry had acquired two houses in that part of the town, one of which, uninsured, has been totally destroyed. The same individual was a sufferer by a former fire in that neighbourhood.

We are desirous to correct this.—The fire commenced, we are informed, in the house of Mr. Barret, surgeon.

Messieurs Quibler and Conte, of the Montreal Seminary, were examined Wednesday and yesterday, before the Special Committee of the Assembly, on the alienation of their estates. We have been informed that nothing new was elicited by their examination. The right to *Lods et Ventes* being contested in the Courts, the English Government opened a negotiation for the cession of their property, on payment of an annual sum. These negotiations were prosecuted for several years, and ended in the gentlemen of the establishment saying, that they could agree to no alienation, without the preliminary consent for their Bishop. The negotiation remains in that condition.

The election of the County of Orleans was closed on Wednesday afternoon, by the return of Mr. Alexis Godbout, shopkeeper, outside Païnce street. The poll at its close, stood as follows:—

Mr. Godbout..... 268
Captain Plante..... 253
33

We regret to learn, by a private letter received from a friendly and attentive correspondent at York, that a destructive fire broke out in that place on the morning of the 31st ultimo, when the large brick store, occupied by Mr. A. McDonald, auctioneer, was totally consumed with all its contents. The adjoining house of Mr. W. C. Ross was with much difficulty saved, having been on fire several times, and being gutted, his loss will be principally in the damage of property. Mr. McDonald was insured at the Phoenix of the amount of £300, a sum insufficient, it is supposed, to cover the loss sustained. The house was not insured, being in the hands of the Sheriff, as the disputed property of Messrs. C. & T. Stowe.—Montreal Gazette of Thursday.

THE PRISON OF MEXICO.—The principle of this excellent regulated establishment is, that every one in it gains his own bread. Every prisoner is obliged to work at his own trade; so that there is no kind of indolence that is not going on within the prison walls. It is like a general manufactory: carpenters, blacksmiths, saddlers, tailors, shoemakers, hatters, all are seen plying their trades; but no one is freed to work beyond what is necessary for his subsistence. Whatever he gains by his labor more than suffices to maintain him is kept until the term of his imprisonment expires, and is then given to him, deducting a quota for the expenses of the establishment. There is a separate workshop allotted to each trade, the prisoners work in company and are permitted to converse upon allowed topics; overseers being, of course, present. Shortly before I visited the prison, a man whose term of punishment had expired received no less than 300 dollars (about £233 sterling) upon leaving the prison.—Criminals who are admitted so early an age as not to have yet learnt a trade, are permitted to make choice of one, which is taught to them. Women (who are rigorously separated from the male prisoners) follow their trades also; we see embroidery, stocking weaving, straw hat making, and plating, and all other kinds of labor in which women are engaged. Women who have been servants before, are servants still; cooks are cooks; house maids are house maids. In fact the interior service of the prison is performed by criminals; and all their wants are supplied by themselves or their neighbours. I tasted the soup and meat in the kitchen, and the bread in the bakehouse, and found both excellent. The proceeds of the sale of articles made in the prison, (i.e. the surplus remaining after the expenses of the establishment have been paid, and the prisoners maintained) to be kept for the benefit of the prisoners themselves generally amounts to nearly 50,000 dollars (upwards of £20000 per annum); a sum which properly applied, as it doubtless is, cannot fail to produce most important results upon the future lives of the prisoners for whose benefit it is intended. I saw some prisoners confined for crimes which in England would have sent them to the gallows: these are taxed to a certain quantity of work, and maintain themselves and benefit the state at the same time. No one has been executed at Mexico since the year 1821. By a singularly humane enactment, prisoners for life are allowed some indulgences that are denied to those whose punishment is for a limited time; it is thought for example, a fair and proper aggravation of punishment, that the use of tobacco should be prohibited, to those who may hope, by good conduct and industry, to be restored after a time to the world, with the means of subsistence, and even of rational enjoyment; but that is considered an unnecessary cruelty towards a man whose punishment terminates only with his life. The utmost cleanliness and simplicity pervades every department of this excellent establishment, a proper discipline and just restraint are united to those arrangements that insure the health and improvement of the prisoners, and the building itself is one of the most complete I have ever seen set apart for the correction of

criminals. There is one singular part of the establishment; a phalanx of very large and fierce dogs, which, during the night, are turned loose into the open space that surrounds the prison, and are sufficient security against escape. When I visited the prison there were 666 persons confined, 140 of whom were women.—The Tyrol, by Mr. Inglis.

MARRIED.
At Stamford Church, near the Falls of Niagara, on the 26th Decr. Robert Baldwin Ballin, Esquire, of York, U. C., Barrister at Law, to Amelia Lewis, second daughter of Lieut. Col. DeLatre.
At London, U. C. on the 26th ult. Stuart Jones, Esq. Attorney at Law, eldest son of the Hon. Charles Jones, of Brockville, to Maria Surby, eldest daughter of the late Patrick Donnelly, Esq. Surgeon Royal Navy, formerly of St. Roch des Antres, L. C.

DIED.
Found frozen to death, on the 6th instant, George Augustus Elliott, of many years bore keeper to Henry Atkinson, Esq. and afterwards in the employ of Messrs. W. Price & Co. Mr. Elliott had taken up his residence for the winter at St. Augustin, near Lake Ontario, and was proceeding on foot to his quarters on Tuesday, the 21st Jan. last, one of his attendants cold days experienced this winter. When at the River Cap Rouge, it being then dusk, he was advised, from the inclemency of the weather, not to proceed any further that night, but having gone on, it is supposed he missed the road and wandered out of the way, and being overcome by cold and fatigue, perished in a field belonging to Mr. Robt. Laite, at St. Augustin, where his body was found at a short distance from the house.

At Montreal, on Tuesday, Mr. John Wassenhoelder jeweller, a native of Wirtemberg, Germany, and for the last 20 years a resident of that city, aged 48 years.

At St. Roch, near Montreal, on Sunday, in the bloom of life, Christiana, third daughter of the late Mr. Duncan McNaughton, Esq. aged 21 years.

At Caubourg, on the 25th ult. Louisa, daughter of Elias Jones, Esq. aged 30.

At York, on the 26th January, Barbara, wife of Mr. Peter Baxter, formerly, Pittsburgh.

At York, on the 23d ult. Mrs. Mary Collins, wife of Mr. John Collins, and sister-in-law to the Editor of the Canadian Freeman, aged 36.

In Niagara, at an advanced age, Mrs. Hannah Frey, relict of the late Capt. B. Frey, of Butler's Rangers.
Suddenly, at By Town, on the 20th January, Mr. John Tann, schoolmaster, formerly of Piddington, near London.

QUEBEC SAVINGS BANK.
FEBRUARY 4, 1834.
Amount deposited this day £32 8 6
Do. withdrawn, do. 64 11 0
Decrease of the funds by the operations of this day, £19 2 6

For sale, by T. CARY & Co.
REPORT on the survey of the water communication between QUEBEC and the DISTRICT OF ST. FRANCIS, with a map and observations.—Price 1s. Feb'y 1834.

NOTICE.—THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of THE QUEBEC MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, will be held at the Rooms of the Society, Freemasons' Hall, opposite the Post Office, on TUESDAY NEXT, the 11th instant, at SIX o'clock, P. M.
The public are respectfully invited to attend.
JOHN WHEATLY, Secretary.
February 7, 1834.

LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
THE next Lecture, to be on *Mineralogy*, will be delivered at the Society's Rooms, on WEDNESDAY, the 12th FEBRUARY, at Three o'clock, P. M.
The Lectures at the Society's Rooms are open to the Members of the Society with their families, and to non-resident persons introduced by members.
WILLIAM LYONS, Council Secretary.
Quebec, 6th February, 1834.

THE SETTLER.
SUBSCRIBERS to the SETTLER are requested to take notice, that it is now published twice a week, and will be delivered in Quebec on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at a charge of 2s. 6d. per annum, additional, payable in advance.
Mr. Cooper from the "Settler Office," will wait on the Subscribers for the amount of the subscription in a few days.
ALFRED HAWKINS, Agent.
Quebec, 8th February, 1834.

NOTICE.
THOMAS BURNUP, (son to a saddler of the same name, who formerly carried out that business in St. Ann street, of this city, and now of St. Pierre,) about 15 years of age, small stature and effeminate appearance; having lived a few days in my employ but suspecting him to be dishonest, I discharged him,—since which I have reason to believe that he is imposing on the public, under various false pretences. All persons are therefore put on their guard against said impostor.
GEORGE BENDERSON.
February 8, 1834.

UNDERWRITERS' SALE.
Will be sold positively by the subscriber at his Auction Room, on WEDNESDAY next, the 12th instant, for the benefit of the underwriters and others concerned:
THE Hull and standing rigging, sails, chain cables, anchors and other materials of the Brig New FELIX SULLIVAN, of Port Dalhousie, 218 tons per register, coppered and copper fastened.—Alexis Panchard, master, from Liverpool—stranded on Bature Mille Vasches on the 15th November last.

AFTER WHICH—
That part of the Cargo landed in a place of safety consisting of Wine, Brandy, &c. as per bond bills issued. Sale will begin at ONE o'clock.
by MARTIN CHINIC, A & B.
Quebec, 8th February, 1834.

FOR sale or to let—Three acres of ground, on the Plains, forming a square of two acres in front, with one acre, running back to the highest ground, and commanding an extensive prospect, and offers a desirable situation for building upon; only one mile from the Cathedral Church.—Apply to H. GOWEN.
St. Peter street, Lower Town.
5th Feb. 1834. u3

NEW KILMARNOCK.
TO LET the three story stone house on the above property, with Garden and orchards. Also a Cottage with about an acre of land. Enquire at this office.
February 6, 1834. u2

HOUSE TO LET.
THE House No. 32, in St. Lewis street, now occupied by Oskil Simeur, Esquire, with possession on the first of May 1834. Apply to the undersigned or to Mr. Gordon Watts, Military Secretary's Department.
W. SMITH, Advocate.
No. 1, Mountain-street.
Quebec, 7th Feb 1834. u3

LADIES' BAZAAR.
Under the patronage of LADY AYLMER.
THE public are informed, that the SEVENTH ANNUAL BAZAAR, for the support of the FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM in this City, will be held at the NATIONAL SCHOOL HOUSE, on WEDNESDAY the 9th, and THURSDAY the 10th of April next, from ONE till FIVE o'clock.
Admittance, 1s. 3d.—children half price.
Persons who are kindly disposed to assist the Charity by contributing articles prepared for sale, are requested to send them with the price marked, and if possible, not later than a week before the time, to any of the under-mentioned Ladies, who respectively hold tables at the Bazaar:—
Mrs Davidson, Mrs. Monthambert, Mrs E. Sewell,
R. Dunn, G. Mountsin, R. Sewell,
Gr. Grant, W. Mountsin, Miss Taylor,
J. Jones, Godby,
F. GODBY, Secy.

THE QUEBEC MERCURY.
THE persons who have borrowed volumes of the Quebec Mercury from T. CARY & Co., are requested to return them as early as convenient.
Quebec, 31st Jan. 1834.

NOTICE.
THE undersigned, duly elected Curator to Dame MARIK ANGLIQUE DOSTON, his wife, interdicted, requests all to whom she may be indebted to present their accounts, and to those who may be indebted to her to settle the same.
ETIENNE GAUVIN, Curator.
Quebec, 6th Feb. 1834.

