

triumph distorted the features of Mentz, who shouted, with a hoarse and drunken laugh— "Drink deep—down with it to the dregs!" Arnold, however, only raised the rim to his lips, and waited a moment's silence, with an expression so scornful and composed, that the hisses and exclamations were again quelled: when every sound had ceased to a dead silence.

"Never, he said, shall I refuse to drink to the glory of a name I once loved and honored—Gertrude, fairest of the fair! But, he added, suddenly rising, and drawing up his figure, with a dignity that silenced every breath—"for thee, thou drunken, bragging, foolish beast, I scorn, I spit upon, I defy thee—and thus he punished thy base, brutal insolence, and thy stupid presumption.

As he thus spoke, he dashed the contents of the ample goblet full into the face of Mentz: and then, with all his strength, hurled the massy goblet itself at the same mark. The giant reeled and staggered a few paces back; and, amid the shining liquor on his drenched clothes and dripping features, a stream of blood was observed to trickle down his forehead.

Never before was popular feeling more suddenly and violently reversed. The object of their vilest execrations flashed upon them with the immediate brightness of a superior being. A loud and irresponsible burst of applause broke from every lip, till the broad and heavy rafters above their heads, and the very foundations of the floor shook and trembled. But the peal of joy and approbation soon ceased; for although this inspiring drama had so nobly commenced, it was uncertain how it might terminate. Before the tyrant recovered from the stunned and bewildered trace into which the blow, combined with shame, grief, astonishment and drunkenness, had thrown over him, several voices, after the obstreperous calls for silence usual on such occasions, addressed the youth, who stood cool and erect, with folded arms, waiting the course of events.

"Brave Arnold! Noble Arnold! A gallant deed! The blood of a true gentleman in his veins!"

"But, canst thou fight, cried one.

"I am only a simple student, and an artist by profession. I have devoted myself to the pencil—not the sword.

"But thou canst use it a little—canst thou?" asked another.

"But indifferently, answered the youth.

"And how art thou with a pistol?" demanded a third.

"My hand is unpractised, replied Arnold, I have no skill in shedding human blood.

"For Heaven, then, rash boy, what has tempted thee to this fatal enterprise?"

"Hatred of oppression, replied the youth, in all its forms; and a willingness to die rather than submit to insult.

"Dost thou shalt, and that ere to-morrow's sun shall set," thundered Mentz, starting up in a phrensy, and with a hoarse and broken voice that made the hearts of the hearers shudder as if at the howl of a dog, or a demon. "I challenge thee to mortal combat.

"And I accept the challenge.

"It is for thee to name time, place, and weapon; but, as thou lovest me, let it not be longer than to-morrow night, or I shall burst with rage and impatience.

"I love thee not, base dog, replied Arnold, but thou shalt not die so inglorious a death. I will fight with thee, therefore to-night.

"By Heaven boy, cried Mentz, more and more surprised, thou art in haste to sup in hell! and the ruffian lowered his voice. "Art thou mad?"

"Be that my chance, answered Arnold; I shall not be likely to meet, even in hell, a competitor so unworthy as thou, who, when I mean, shall be the case, thou bear me company.

"To-night then be it, said Mentz, though to-night my hand is not steady; for wine and anger are no friends to the nerves.

"Dost thou refuse me then? demanded the youth, with a sneer.

"By the mass, no! but to-night is dark; the moon is down; the stars are clouded, and the wind goes by in heavy puffs. Hear it even now.

"Therefore, said the youth, apparently more coldly composed as his fierce rival grew more perceptibly agitated, therefore we will lay down our lives here, in this hall, on this spot, in this instant, even as thou staidest now.

"There is no one here who will be my friend, said Mentz, so evidently sobered and subdued by the singular composure and self-possession of his antagonist, that all present held him in contempt, and no one stirred.

"No matter, cried Arnold; I will myself forego the privilege.

"And your weapons? said Mentz.

"Are here, cried Arnold, drawing them from his bosom; and a surer pair never drew blood. The choice is yours.

"The company began now to fancy that Arnold equivocated in disclaiming skill as a duellist; and from his invincible composure, thought him a more fatal master of the weapon than the bully himself. The latter also partook of his opinion.

"Young man," he cried, in a voice clouded and low; but stopped, and said no farther.

"Mentz seized one desperately, and said, now name your distance.

"Blood-thirsty wolf, said Arnold, there shall be no distance. He then turned and addressed the company.

"Gentlemen, said he, deem me not either savage or insane, that I sacrifice myself and this brutal wretch thus before your eyes, and to certain and instant destruction. For me, I confess I have no value in life. Her whom I loved I have sworn to forget, and if I existed a thousand years, should probably never see again. This ruffian is a coward, and fears to die, though he does not fear daily to merit his death. I have long heard of his baseness, and regard him as an assassin—the enemy of the human race and of God—a dangerous beast, whom it will be a mercy and a virtue to destroy. My own life I would well be rid of, but would not fling it away idly, when its

loss may be made subservient to the destruction of vice and the relief of humanity. Here then, I yield my breath, and here too, this trembling and sinking cavern shall close his course of debauchery and murder. My companions, farewell! should any one of you hereafter chance to meet Gertrude de Saale, tell her I nobly flung away a life that her falsehood made me despise. And now, recollect, he said, in a fierce tone, turning suddenly to Mentz, plant thy pistol to my bosom, as I will plant mine to thine. Let one of the company cry three, and the third number be the signal to fire.

"With an increased paleness in his countenance, but with even more ferocity and firmness, Arnold threw off his cap, displayed his high brow and glossy ringlets. His lips were closed and firm, and his eyes, which glistened with a deadly glare, were fixed on Mentz. He then placed himself in an attitude of firing broadened his exposed chest full before his foe, and with a stamp of fury and impatience, raised his weapon. The brow beneath heavily attempted to do the same; but the pistol, held loosely in his grasp, whether by accident or intent, went off before the signal. Its contents passed through the garments of Arnold, who, levelling the muzzle of his own, cried calmly, "On your knees, base slave! Down or you die!"

"Unable any longer to support his frame, the unmasked coward sunk on both knees and prayed for life in right earnest vehemence. Again wild shouts of applause and delight, and peals of riotous laughter stunned his ears. As he rose from his humiliating posture, Arnold touched him contemptuously with his foot. Groans and hisses now began to be mingled with several missiles. Mentz covered his face with his hands and rushed from the room. He was never subsequently seen among us."

CHRONICLE & GAZETTE.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1835.

TWO DAYS LATER FROM LONDON.

By the packet ship Ontario, Capt. Huttleson, from London, which arrived at New-York on the 14th inst. London papers to the 31st October, have been received. The following extracts furnish the only news of interest they contain. It will be seen that the affairs of the Queen's Government in Spain, are assuming a more prosperous character.

The accounts from Spain continue to be highly favorable to the administration of M. Mendizabal. The directive junta of Cadiz have made a report to the queen regent, in which, after expressing their entire satisfaction with the measures adopted and promised by the government, they offer their frank, decided and unanimous co-operation in its efforts to restore peace and establish the throne of queen Isabella. The whole of the juntas have now submitted.

The government has issued a decree appointing a commission to restore harmony between the kingdom of Spain and the South American States which were formerly integral parts of the Spanish empire.

Various other measures of a highly popular character have been adopted. Forces were concentrating upon the north, from all parts of the kingdom, and it was believed that within a short time the royalist troops opposed to Don Carlos, would amount to one hundred thousand. The report of General Iturbide having joined the queen's party with sixteen of his friends, is repeated, and believed.

Advices from Egypt still announce a speedy resumption of hostilities against the pacha, by sultan Maimoud.

The king of Prussia has pardoned 1880 out of 1400 inhabitants of the Duchy of Posen, condemned to lose their property for assisting the Poles against the Russians. The fines imposed on the remainder, have been reduced.

The papers still speak of a large reduction of the standing armies by all the five great powers of Europe.

The whole appears to have disappeared from Genoa and Leghorn, and to have much abated throughout the Roman and Neapolitan states generally.

A slight difficulty of etiquette has arisen between lord Durlam and the Russian commandant of Odessa, the latter having neglected to salute the British admiralty flag, displayed on board the transport ship in which his lordship had arrived at that port. The Russian excused himself on the plea that he did not know the flag, it having never before been seen in the Black Sea. The excuse is said not to have been satisfactory.

The marquis of Waterford arrived at Waterford from New York, on board his yacht Gem, on the 27th of October.

The following was the latest report of the stock market.

London, Oct. 31, 12 o'clock.—Business in the consol market is still very limited, and the price for account has been 91½, without variation during the morning, and omnium is 4½ premium.

In the foreign market the approach of the time fixed for the last conversion of Spanish stock, the 16th of November the settling day of the present account, precludes the necessity of quoting any longer the price of the old Cortes bonds, and the other stocks as, unless for actual money business, no transactions are opened in them.

2 o'clock.—The consol market is still at 91½ for the account, and omnium at 4½ premium. Exchequer bills are 10 to 11, premium, and India bonds at par.

In the foreign market Dutch five per cent stock is 100½, and the two and a half per cent 55 to 5½; Belgian is 102½ to 103; Russian, 19½ to 104; Spanish 42½ to 43½; deferred, 19 to 2, and passive 10½ to 11; Portuguese, 87½ to 88, the three per cent, 56½ to 57.

From the N. Y. Courier & Enquirer, Dec. 17.

SIX O'CLOCK, A. M. GREAT NATIONAL CALAMITY.

We write with the evidences of a calamity around us so extensive that history hardly furnishes a parallel to it. For nine hours past the lower part of the city—that part in which the most valuable stores are situated—has been the prey of a dreadful conflagration. It broke out in the immediate vicinity of this office, at No. 25 Merchant street, occupied by Crawford & Andrews. The intense cold prevented a quick muster of the fire department, and it in consequence soon gained such a head that all attempts to extinguish it, appeared utterly useless. We can but give the outline of its ravages.

South street, from Wall street to Old Slip. Front street, from Wall street to Old Slip, and from thence half way to Coenties slip and the fire still raging at the latter place.

Water street, from Wall street to Old Slip, and half way to Coenties slip and fire still raging.

Pearl street, from Wall street to William street, thence half way to Coenties slip, and fire still raging.

Stone street, extending beyond Mill street and toward Broad street, fire still raging.

Beaver street from Wall street about half way to Broad street, and fire still raging.

Exchange place, from Hanover street half way to Broad street and fire still raging, the Dutch church burnt down.

William street from Wall street to Pearl street and the intermediate space including Moreland street and Hanover street.

Wall street, on the south side, from Wall street to No. 51, or two houses east of the Exchange, including that edifice. The Post Office and other establishments in it. It is but at this moment, the building in which our offices are situated, is out of danger. Hence it is our account is thus imperfect. To estimate the amount of property lost is impracticable, but it must be millions on millions, its disastrous consequences must extend throughout the whole Union, throughout the whole commercial world.

From five to seven hundred of the largest stores in the city, filled with the most valuable merchandise, are destroyed, and we presume there is not a Fire Insurance Company, at least in the lower part of the city, that is not ruined.

The Journal of Commerce, Times, Daily Advertiser, Gazette and American will not appear to-day. The two first removed their printing materials. The Journal of Commerce requests us to say that they hope to appear again to-morrow. The Daily, Gazette and American are burned down.

The situation in which we have been during the whole night, will be sufficient excuse for the inaccurate and imperfect state of our columns.

Many lives have been lost. The exhaustion of the firemen from fatigue and cold is such that we venture to call upon the Citizens to repair to the scene of conflagration to man the engines and relieve each other.

SECOND EDITION.

Two O'Clock, P. M.

The destruction still continues, but we think will shortly cease.

South street is burned down from Wall street to Coenties Slip. The vessels having hauled out of Coenties Slip, it will probably stop here.

Front street is burned down from Wall street to Coenties slip and has there stopped.

Water street is burned down from Wall street to Coenties slip and has there stopped.

Pearl street is burned down from Wall street to Coenties slip and was there stopped by blowing up a building.

Stone street is burned down from William street to No. 32 on the one side and No. 39 on the other, where it will probably stop.

Beaver street is burned down half way to Broad street. The fire has stopped here.

Exchange place is burned down from Hanover street to within three doors of Broad street—here the flames were stopped by blowing up a house.

William street is burned down from Wall street to South street, both sides of the way. Market House down.

Wall street is burned down on the south side, from Wall street to South street, with the exception of 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, opposite this office.

All the streets and allies within the above limits are destroyed.

The following will be found a tolerable accurate statement of the number of Houses and Stores now levelled with the ground.

- 26 on Water-street.
- 29 on Pearl-street.
- 37 on South-street.
- 76 on Water-street.
- 80 on Front-street.
- 16 on Hanover-street.
- 62 on Exchange Place.
- 31 on Exchange street.
- 44 on William street.
- 33 on Old slip.
- 16 on Coenties slip.
- 30 on Stone street.
- 23 on Hanover square.
- 20 on Governor's lane.
- 80 on Jones' Lane.
- 20 on Cuyler's Alley.
- 38 on Mill Street.

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Six hundred and seventy four Tenements. By far the greater part in the occupancy of our largest shipping and wholesale dry goods Merchants and filled with the richest products of every portion of the Globe. Such resources the immense loss sustained! or the fearful consequences to the general prosperity!

Of the Merchant's Exchange nothing but its marble walls remain standing.

We believe the progress of the destructive element is now nearly stayed.

A detachment of Marines from the Navy under Captain Reynolds, and of Sailors under Captain Mix of the Navy, arrived on the spot at two o'clock in the morning. They rendered most valuable service. The gunpowder brought from the Magazine at Red Hook was partly used in their charge.

As we cannot state the loss of life with precision, we abstain from giving surmises. The cold during the whole time was excessive, the Thermometer at Zero. How much this paralyzed the exertions of the firemen may be easily conceived. We saw one who sank under its effects and who was with difficulty resuscitated.

The citizens are called together at 4 o'clock this afternoon, at the City Hall, to organize into patrols for the protection of property, on which it is disgraceful to human nature to add, the greatest deprivations were committed in the midst of the awful calamity.

The first division of New-York State Artillery is ordered out for the same purpose.

Three or four vessels laying at the wharves on South street were slightly injured in their yards and rigging. They were all hauled into the River as soon as practicable.

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

FLORIDA INDIANS.

Hostile indications have been manifested by the Florida Indians. Captain Penoyer, of the steam boat Dolphin, arrived at Charleston on the 9th, from St. Augustine, states, that the Indians had reached St. Augustine, that the Indians had sent their women and children into the interior, and have with only four or five exceptions, embodied themselves within eight miles of Camp King—five or six hundred warriors are assembled, and the United States troops are altogether insufficient to protect the inhabitants. Great consternation prevailed throughout the territory—several families have been compelled to leave their dwellings. St. Augustine is said to be left entirely defenceless.

The Florida Herald of December 5th, received at the office of the Charleston Courier, contains the following information upon the subject:—

Indian Affairs.—On Sunday last an express arrived from Camp King, bringing information that one of the principal chiefs of the Seminoles had been waylaid and shot by a party of the Micasuky tribe, headed by their chief Powell, under the following circumstances: Charles Omathia had been out with a number of his friends collecting his cattle, for sale which was to have taken place on the 1st inst. and was returning home to have a dance at his house. Charles being a little in advance of his party, was fired at and killed; nine balls were found in his body. His friends immediately retreated towards the agency, and a detachment of United States troops were sent to protect the family and tribe of Charles Omathia.

Another express arrived on Tuesday last, bringing the information that it had been ascertained that Powell fired the first gun at Charles, and that there was a general disposition among his tribe to create as much difficulty as they could.

Charles Omathia was one of the most intelligent and enterprising of the emigrant party, and in fact of the whole nation. We have received the following notice from the agent, General Thompson, for insertion:—

To the Public.—The Seminoles Indians, hostile to emigration have, for the purpose of embarrassing the execution of the treaty of Payne's Landing, concluded in 1832, murdered Charles Omathia, the most intelligent and enterprising chief in the nation. They threaten to shoot any one who shall attempt to surrender cattle according to the treaty.

The Indians in the northern part of the nation, friendly to emancipation, are panic struck, and will not attempt to attend the contemplated sales. Under these circumstances, an indefinite postponement of the sales is unavoidable.

The citizens are warned to consult their safety by guarding against Indian depredations.

WHEAT THOMPSON,

Agent, No. 30, 1835.

Capt. Crane's company of U. S. artillery, left this city, this morning, for Wetumpka, about twenty miles south of the Seminoles Agency. They were ordered to take up their station at Spring Garden, but in consequence of recent occurrences among the Seminoles, their destination has been changed, and they have been stationed at the former place.—We are authorized to say, that it is very doubtful that the Indians will go off without a skirmish. Considerable excitement, we understand, prevails among the inhabitants in the neighborhood of the Indian reservation—they are moving away from their settlements, and embodying themselves for their protection.

Unfortunate Affair.—Lynch Law.—On Tuesday last, a man by the name of Krenshaw, who had broken jail at Natchez, and who was strongly suspected of being one of that horrid class denominated Murelites, was arrested at Fort Adams, and their by a justice of the peace, was ordered to be committed to the jail at Woodville, before the commitment had been executed, Krenshaw, it seems, was wrested from the officer into whose custody he had been committed, and by a number of citizens conveyed to the suburbs of the village, where the prisoner would soon have fallen a victim to our modern mode of punishing Murelites, but for the intervention of the circuit court then in session. Krenshaw was then by the court ordered under a guard to the Woodville jail. Having been informed that Krenshaw had visited Woodville for the express purpose of taking the life of Dr. Webb, of that county, who was an important witness on the part of the state against Hunter, (another supposed Murelite) the Doctor on Wednesday, found access to the jail, and shot Krenshaw through the body, the ball entering the left breast, and making its lodgment in the region of the back bone. The last accounts state that Krenshaw was still alive, but his recovery was thought doubtful.—[Liberty (Miss) Advocate.

The poor blacks are about beginning the beatitude provided for them by their excellent friends, the Abolitionists. The Southern Legislatures are in session, or soon to be so, and in every instance where the Executive has communicated with the Legislature, rigorous regulations are recommended in relation to the Negro population, whether free or in slavery.

The Legislatures will, without the least doubt, respond to these recommendations, in their full spirit and letter. The South Carolina Legislature has already passed an act of great rigor toward the free black population, containing among other severe provisions, a prohibition of business on his own account. And white persons are forbidden to trade with them, under such penalties as may be inflicted at the discretion of the court before whom they are tried. Free Negroes are forbidden to hold Slaves under heavy penalties, and it is made highly penal in any person to teach a Negro to read or write. Truly, Northern piety lays out its money to good advantage, when it contributes funds for Arthur Tappan's operations. Every cent of which adds something to the misery of the slave. If the Abolitionists could succeed in raising the amount which their last year's efforts in this respect, they would be very little left to them but Algerine destiny. The Abolitionists found the Slaves of the South happy and contented with their destiny—their lot growing less and less hard, and a spirit of emigration advancing steadily in their favor. The more and more disposed to soften the irksomeness of their condition, and all classes of Southern Citizens cultivating the best feelings of good will and affection for their servants.

In an evil hour philanthropy! undertook their cause, and baleful has been its blessing. They have drawn the whole white population into the necessity of curtailing the privileges of the Slaves, and of establishing a four-fold rigour and vigilance in its surveillance over that portion of the community. Jealousy, distrust and fear, have taken the place of the confidence and affection which once marked the character of the intercourse between Master and Slave, and where peace, quiet and happiness once reigned, discontent on one side and constant disquiet on the other, have taken up their abode. Long will the colored inhabitants of the South have cause to curse the false-hearted fanaticism of the North!—[New York Enquirer.

NEW-YORK THE SEA-PORT TOWN OF U. CANADA.

It will be seen by the following Resolutions, that this important question is about to be taken into immediate consideration by our neighbors of Toronto.

From the well-known intelligence and enterprise of many of the gentlemen who compose the Board of Trade of that city, we feel satisfied that the question will be ably and fairly brought before the public.

We hope soon to see this measure attracting the attention of the commercial community of Kingston, and other places throughout the Province.

Independent of other important considerations in favor of the proposed channel of communication to the Atlantic, the present political condition of the sister Province renders it extremely advisable for the Upper Province to secure the advantages of some other sea-port than Quebec; especially while that renowned city remains under the tyrannical yoke of a ruthless French faction.

At a Meeting of the principal Merchants of the City of Toronto, held in the News-Room, on Thursday Evening the 17th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of promoting the importation of British Goods through the United States,—which meeting was called at the suggestion of the Committee of the Board of Trade.

The Honorable William Allan was called to the Chair, when it was

Resolved,—That this meeting has much satisfaction in returning its best thanks to the Honorable Chairman, and the Members of the Committee of the Board of Trade, for the attention they have evinced for the interest of the Commerce of Upper Canada, on the subject of the importation of Goods through the United States, from Europe, and agree with them in the opinion that the subject which has induced them to convene this meeting is one of the greatest importance, and

which they would recommend to the favorable attention of others throughout the Province.

Resolved,—That considering the subject as one inviting very general and extensive consideration, as applying to all classes of the community—the chairman of this Meeting be requested to call a General Meeting of the Inhabitants of the District, on Tuesday the 29th inst., next, at the City Hall, at 12 o'clock, for the purpose of a full expression of public sentiment on this important subject.

Resolved,—That the Committee of the Board of Trade are requested, with such assistance as they may think necessary, to prepare the draft of a Memorial to be presented to the several branches of the Legislature, for approval and signature, with the view of bringing the subject under the notice of the Colonial authorities, and for reference to the Imperial Government.

Resolved.—That the Editors of the several Papers in this City be requested to insert the proceedings of this Meeting.

Resolved,—that the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Chairman.

Our last publication was about going to press when the New York papers containing the particulars of the dreadful calamity which has just befallen that City, came to hand, we had therefore only time to give a very brief notice of the event. In the present number will be found the entire details, as far as they have reached us up to the Monday subsequent to the fire. An exact estimate of the loss occasioned by the conflagration has not yet been obtained, and various conjectures are hazarded relative to the subject, all however agree that the utmost extent of the amount cannot be more than fourteen millions of dollars. The Insurance Companies will be the greatest sufferers, and many of the shareholders of these establishments having been tempted by the prosperous state of their affairs, have their all embarked in them, therefore many cases of extreme distress have been caused by this calamity. Measures, however, calculated to soften the evils arising from this disaster, have already been begun to be taken into consideration. A general meeting of the Committees of all the Banks have taken place in order to consider the best means of throwing facilities in the way of the mercantile interests of the city, which have received a shock which must necessarily require both time and aid to recover from.

In Philadelphia a general meeting of the inhabitants was held for the purpose of petitioning Congress for the appropriation of Ten Millions for the use of New York under the present distressing dispensation, and also to memorialize their domestic Legislature for a similar remedy.—The New York papers speak with confidence on the prospect of a speedy recovery from the depression which this public calamity was calculated to produce.

In Congress, on the 19th inst. a petition was presented by Mr. Jackson, of Massachusetts, praying for the total abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia—a most animated debate was the consequence. The Southern Representatives, unanimously, insisted on the petition being rejected, declaring their intention of leaving the House and returning to their constituents, if any motions were entertained which might interfere in the system of Domestic Slavery, now existing in the South.

The terms Fanatic, Incendiary, &c., were frequently in use. On the motion that the petition be placed on the Table, a division took place, when the motion was negatived by a majority of 26. The debate on the motion, that the petition be rejected, was occupying the House when the accounts came away.

LOWER CANADA.

The extraordinary severity of the weather, experienced since the middle of November, brings to our recollection a remark which we saw in one of the many notices of the Comet which appeared last summer, and is distinguished as Halley's Comet; it was, that the winter season would be very severe, and that the winter would be very long and continued cold. The Comet, on its late appearance, does not appear to have lost any of its influence in this respect, as the inhabitants of this part of the globe can feelingly attest.

Tuesday night and yesterday the weather again became severely cold, the roads have been much impaired by the heavy snow and drift of Monday, and little is brought to market from the neighbouring parishes.

Three men were, we learn, unfortunately frozen to death last night, on the ice, between Beauport and St. Roch. They were carpenters who had been at work at the Mill, and it is supposed lost their way on returning; the bodies were found this morning. We have not been able to learn further particulars of this melancholy occurrence.—[Quebec Mercury.

On Monday night last, about 12 o'clock, the governor of the Jail of this city, detected the prisoners in Ward B. 4, cutting the bars with a spring saw, two of which they had nearly cut through. There were twelve prisoners in the ward amongst whom were Dunbar and Johnson who were sentenced to death for highway robbery at the last Criminal Term; also, four of the twelve Military Convicts lately sent down from the Upper Province, where their desperate attempt to break out of the Jail was noticed in the public prints. We learn that on conveying the latter prisoners to this place, their conduct was very daring and violent, and was reported by the officer commanding the escort. This is the fourth attempt that has been made to break Jail within the space of two months.

By the Calendar of this month, it appears there are 132 prisoners in the Jail, viz:—

- Convicted and under sentences, 54
- Idle and disorderly persons, 38
- Military convicts, 17
- Prisoners not tried, 16
- Debtors, 7

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[lb.]

His Excellency Lord Gosford went down yesterday at half past 3 p. m. to the Council Chamber, and sanctioned the three Bills whose titles are given below. The last of these will set at liberty, on bail, a number of individuals detained in our Prisons for some time, who are considered as justly entitled to this treatment.—

"An Act to authorise the sale and disposal of certain goods unclaimed in the possession of the Clerks of the Peace, in this Province."

"An Act to afford relief, during a limited time, to Insolvent Debtors."

"An Act for the more speedy relief of Insolvent Debtors in certain cases, and for a limited time."—[lb.]

The British Rifle Corps in Montreal are still proceeding in their preparations. We copy from the Gazette the account of their Meeting on Wednesday evening last. It appeared that the cold could not damp their martial ardour, for though the thermometer was 22 degrees below zero, the corps mustered in strength. We do not, however, think that their application to His Excellency Sir John Colborne, even as Commander in Chief in this Province, will meet with any attention, and are afraid that there is more valour than discretion in the doings of our Montreal friends.—[lb.]

On the morning of the 16th inst., the extensive Tannery of Mr. G. Bridgman, at St. Pie, was consumed by fire, and about 800 sides of leather destroyed. We understand the premises and stock were only insured for £2100, a sum far short of the amount of Mr. Bridgman's loss. Leather to the value of £2500 was saved by flooding the lower part of the premises.—[Montreal Courier.

John Wilson and James Rait, Esqrs., a deputation from the St. Andrew's and Quebec Railroad Association, arrived in town yesterday, accompanied by Andrew Paterson, Esq., on behalf of the Quebec Committee of Trade. The object which these gentlemen have in view in visiting Montreal, is to secure the countenance of the community, and especially of the mercantile portion of it, to the formation of a Railroad which is projected to connect Quebec with St. Andrews, New Brunswick; and thus obtain for Canada a direct communication, through a friendly port, with the ocean, during winter. The completion of this plan, taken in connection with the proposed steam communication between a port in Ireland and another in British North America, would inconceivably advance the commercial prosperity of this and the neighboring Provinces.

The St. Andrew's Association have resolved upon petitioning His Majesty for a grant of money to aid in this magnificent undertaking; and are desirous that their petition should receive the signatures of as great a number as possible of the influential classes in these Colonies, should its prayer be concurred in.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly have all readily and distinctly approved of the projected Railroad; which being entirely free from the stain of party, is to be hailed as a great national object, and worthy of universal encouragement. To men, therefore, of all parties we say, sign the petition, and that immediately.—[lb.]

Our fellow citizens must have learned with satisfaction, that the Montreal Gas-light Bill has passed the House of Assembly, and that there is little chance of the measure meeting with opposition from the other branches of the Legislature. Gas is particularly adapted to lighting our streets, as it will be unaffected by the severity of the weather in winter. We understand that subscription books will be opened in a few days for the stock of this new company. We have no doubt the amount required will be very soon taken up.—[lb.]

We understand that among thirty-three unfortunate females confined in the jail, there is not a single bed. They have within the last few days, been supplied with some blankets.—