

might have tended to much good throughout the Province.

It has long been admitted that the Judiciary system of Lower Canada was imperfect and inadequate to the wants of the people—expensive in its effects upon the suitors, and not sufficiently distributed to be of much use to the distant settlements. To remedy this, Bills have been before both branches of the Legislature for nearly the last twenty years, the offspring of various minds, and framed on very opposite principles, but hitherto no fixed determination has been the result. The printing of these various plans, all of them of extreme length, during the period to which we have alluded, would have defrayed the salaries of two additional Judges.

Mr. De Bleury, acting upon a proposal which has frequently been made, to refer the matter to a Board of Commissioners, for due enquiry into the most effective remedy to be applied to the existing defects, moved an instruction to the standing Committee on Courts of Justice, to enquire whether it would not be expedient to pass a Bill, advising His Excellency the Governor in Chief to appoint five Commissioners to draft a project for regulating the administration of justice in this Province—the said Commissioners to be appointed from among the practitioners at the Bars of Quebec, Montreal, and Three Rivers, viz. two from Quebec, two from Montreal, and one from Three Rivers. In support of his proposition, he stated the great variety of opinions which had hitherto prevailed in the Legislature, and noticed the advantages which had accrued from similar commissions in England, for enquiry into the most efficient mode of improving the pre-existing code. His desire was to have the whole Judiciary system amended, instead of proceeding by parts, as had already been proposed by Mr. Vanfelson for the Court of Appeals, and Mr. Power for the Superior Terms of the King's Bench. In this view, Mr. Vanfelson joined Mr. De Bleury, and supported the instruction to the Committee. The only opposition verbally offered to the motion, was by Mr. L. M. Viger, who thought that such an instruction was paying a poor compliment to the Committee, who might yet bring forward a measure on this point, and be ready to proceed to its discussion during the present session; and by Mr. Berthelot, who said he could have no confidence whatever in the report which might be drawn up by Commissioners, to be named by His Excellency. The latter gentleman wished to have a Bill drawn up within and not from without the House, which, we presume, is deemed to contain all the collective wisdom of the Province. Mr. Lafontaine and Mr. De la Rivière thought the motion ought to be made towards the close of a session, after all hopes of perfecting a Bill during the session were lost. A division being called for, Mr. De Bleury's motion was lost by a majority of 35 to 22.

Mr. O'Callaghan has introduced the subject of Mr. Gale's nomination to the Bench of this District, by moving an address to the Governor in Chief, praying His Excellency to inform them of the intentions of His Government on the subject of the complaints preferred against Judge Gale, and that he would give the House copies of all the documents he might have in his possession relating to this case. Notwithstanding the opposition of some honorable members, on the propriety of waiting till after the answer of the Speech had been presented, the motion was ultimately adopted by a majority of 49 to 8. (Messrs. Baker, Blackburn, Bowman, Guay, Moore, Power, Wells and Wool.)

We do not see in the Quebec papers, any other matters of general interest. The question of privilege in the Legislative Council, seems to have been settled with closed doors, but in what manner it is not stated. The Council were to discuss yesterday the report of the Committee appointed to draft an answer to the Governor's Speech, and, in the meantime, the draft is to be printed.—*Mon. Gazette.*

MISCELLANY.

CRUELTY OF A FATHER.—A crime of the most horrid nature has just been discovered in a little village near Landau, in Rhenish Bavaria. The ages of barbarism can hardly offer an example of a case of such atrocious cruelty. In that village resided a respectable family, consisting of a father, mother, and daughter. Until the year 1828 they had always lived in the greatest harmony. At that period the daughter, then very young, formed an attachment to a man of low birth and connections, which circumstance gave the greatest offence to her family, and more especially to her father. Neither cautions, nor menaces were of avail to shake the young lady's affections for her lover; and the father, seeing that all was in vain, resolved to employ the most horrid means to be revenged upon her. He made her go down into one of the cellars of the house, when he walled up a space in the corner so as to form a narrow dungeon, the entrance of which he afterwards closed up with stones and mortar, leaving only a small aperture, through which the hand could be introduced for the purpose of supplying her with food. He then, to allay the suspicions of his neighbors gave out that he had sent her to a boarding school. Shortly afterwards he spread abroad a rumour that she was dead and went into mourning for her. During seven years the unfortunate girl remained enclosed in this dungeon. Every week her father took her down fresh straw to lie upon, and a measure of boiled potatoes, which was to serve for her whole nourishment until the next visit. About three weeks ago a happy accident delivered her from this dreadful duration. One of the maid servants whose curiosity had been excited by the father's conduct, and by the circumstance of its being strictly forbidden to all the family to enter the cellar, resolved to approach the interdicted cave.—When at the door she began to sing, and soon after she heard a faint cry in the corner. Approaching the spot from whence the sound proceeded, she was soon informed of all the circumstances of this horrid affair. The maid immediately gave information to the police, who on arriving released the wretched being from her long and painful captivity. The unfortunate girl on being restored to the light of day presented the most hideous appearance. She was unable to stand, her legs having been so long bent under her as to have deprived her of the use of them. Her body was covered with hair, and it was hardly possible to recognize a human being in the miserable and deformed object.

A SURRENDER AT DISCRETION.—At the storming of the heights of Ber, on the 8th of October, 1813, Colonel, now Sir John Colborne, who commanded the second brigade, addressed his men before leading them up to the enemy's redoubt with, "Now my lads, we'll just charge up to the edge of the ditch and if we can't get in, we'll stand there and fire in their faces." They charged accordingly, the enemy fled from the works, and in following them up the mountain, Sir John, in rounding a hill, accompanied only by his brigade major and a few attendants, found that he had headed a retreating body of about 300 of the French, and whispering to his brigade major to get as many men together as he could, he without hesitation, rode boldly up to the enemy's commander, and demanded his sword. The Frenchman surrendered it with the usual grace of his countrymen, requesting that the other would bear witness that he had conducted himself like a good and valiant soldier! Sir John answered the appeal with an approving nod; for it was no time to refuse bearing witness to the valour of 300 men, while they were in the act of surrendering to half a dozen.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE ERIE CANAL.—The Canal Board having caused surveys and estimates to be made for the improvement of the Erie Canal, and the engineers having submitted their reports, the Board on Friday last proceeded to a final decision on the extent of the enlargement. By their resolutions which are annexed, it will be seen that the enlarged canal is to be seven feet deep and seventy feet wide at the surface; and that the locks are to be 110 feet long between the quoin posts, and 16 feet wide in the clear. The present canal is four feet deep and forty feet wide at the surface, and the present locks are 93 feet long between the quoin posts, and 15 feet wide in the clear.

Thus, this great question has been definitely settled, after mature deliberation and a full expression of the public sentiment in relation to it. As the work will be prosecuted chiefly during the winter months and while the navigation is suspended, its completion cannot be expected in a less period than ten or twelve years. Then with its increased width and depth, its walled sides, its extent, and its vast commerce, it will rank among the wonders of the age. The improvement, we understand, is estimated to cost about twelve millions of dollars. The Canal Board will proceed with all practicable rapidity, during the next winter.—*Albany Argus.*

The "Mysterious Lady," as she is termed, appears before a Montreal audience for the first time to-night, and repeats her performances also to-morrow and Saturday evenings. We refer to the advertisement for further particulars, and unable to speak of our own knowledge in relation to her magical power, we transcribe from the bills, two notices on the subject from London and New York papers. Although limited for room, we cannot refrain from devoting a few lines to her Mysterious Ladyship, who, like the Delphic Oracle of old, clouded in mystery, nightly surprises and delights her visitors at Saville Palace. Among the host of public exhibitions in London, at the present time, for extreme interest and novelty, this should in no certain way take the precedence. We were ushered into the splendid saloon, in the midst of which sat this singularly talented lady; there is nothing remarkable in her appearance, save that she is young and interesting.—At a considerable distance from the company, and completely out of hearing, sitting with her back towards us, she told the color of the dresses of the spectators, name the various articles produced by them, repeated the lowest whispers with unerring precision, and in fact performed so many extraordinary feats, that we feel ourselves incapable of doing her justice in the description. The exhibition is very fashionably attended. At a private performance before their Majesties last week, the utmost satisfaction was given.—*London Times.*

We invariably associate the idea of witches, warlocks, seers, bogles and fortune tellers, with something horribly ugly and terrific; we always think of the witches in Macbeth—

"What are these—so withered and so wild
In their attire—that look not like
The inhabitants of earth, and yet are on it?"
So we expected to see the "thing" with wrinkled brow and "skinny fingers," but was most agreeably disappointed, when a pretty little English woman, with rosy cheeks, a soft blue sleepy eye, entered the arena, curtsying gracefully to the audience, and seating herself on a chair in the middle of the room.—*New York Star.*

It was a drizzling, half snowy day, just such a day as puts nervous people in a bad humor with themselves and every one else. Job Dodge sat brooding over the fire immediately after breakfast. His wife addressed him as follows:—"Mr. Dodge, can't you mend that front door latch to-day?" "No" was the answer. "Well, can't you mend the water-pail?" "No." "Well, can't you fix the handle of the mop?" "No." "Well, can't you put up some pins for the clothes in our chamber?" "No." "Well, can't you fix that north window, so that the rain and snow won't drive in?" "No—no—no no!" answered Dodge sharply.

He then took his hat, and was on the point of leaving the house, when his wife, knowing that he was going to the tavern, where he would meet some of his red day companions, asked him to stop a moment. She then got her bonnet and cloak, and said to her husband, "You are going to the tavern; with your leave I'll go with you." The husband started. "Yes," said the wife, "I may as well go as you; if you go and waste the day, and tittle at the tavern, why shall I not go and do the same?" Job felt the reproach—he shut the door, hung up his hat, got the ham and omelette, and did all his wife had requested, and sat down by his fire at night—a better and a happier man.

HENRY BARLOW, the fugitive Cashier, is supposed to have embarked in a Schooner at Washington, for Havana. He is hotly pursued, and will no doubt be overtaken. Rogues, in their attempts to escape detection, are generally fools, and for the simple reason, probably, that a man is a fool to be a rascal. Barlow's race will soon be run.

TEXAS.—is in a complete uproar, and the next news will, in all probability, tell us of a battle.—General Cos, on the part of the Continental Government, has landed a force, at the mouth of the river Brasos of four hundred men, with whom he is to penetrate to San Antonio de Bexar, to effect a junction with a body of seven hundred soldiers. The force is intended to compel the Texans to submit to the arbitrary requisitions of Santa Anna. The Central Government is making a great parade and we have rumors of reinforcements, and the sailing of armed vessels to blockade the coast, and establish depots, and magazines. In the meantime the Texans, under Austin, Ex-Governor Houston, and Zavala, formerly Vice President, are busily engaged in preparing for the struggle. The settlers are hastening, arms in hand, to the designated rallying points. One body is about marching on San Antonio to destroy the garrison there, while the rest will deal with General Cos in the true backwoods fashion. If he leaves the coast, his force will be in no little danger of prompt annihilation. The settlers in Texas are precisely the men for such a contest, and can easily manage double their number of Mexicans. They however, call loudly upon their brethren of the United States to come as volunteers, and the most flattering inducements are held out. The immense and fertile lands of Texas, yet but partially settled, will be the reward of volunteers should this revolutionary movement be successful, as we have every reason to believe it will. The province is remote from the seat of the Central government, and Santa Anna is in such an insecure condition that he fears to withdraw his forces from their present posts, and march them into Texas.—Under such circumstances there will be no lack of volunteering from these republics, and we observe already that meetings have been held at New Orleans and Natchitoches, of the friends of Texas.—*Philadelphia Gentleman's Vade Mecum.*

GEORGE THOMPSON.—The abolition missionary, sent out by Great Britain to aid in sowing the seeds of dissension in this happy republic, has at length left our shores. He embarked in the packet ship Helah, on Friday last, from New York, for Liverpool, and managed matters so snugly that no one knew of his intention, or that he had been in New York, until he was "far away on the billow." It was high time for beating a retreat. Danger was becoming imminent; Lynchism was approaching in huge waves, and the British emissary proved his

discretion by showing a clear pair of heels, and escaping with whole bones, a thing which might not have been possible a few weeks hence.

This retreating hero, it is presumed, will write a book upon matters and things in the United States, as soon as he is fairly at home, in which we may look to see ourselves used up with a little less remorse, and with more rancor than has yet been displayed in such a production. He has had a trying time of it, particularly of late, and has been skipping from place to place with an alacrity, which nothing but fear could inspire, and he will of course take his revenge in the only way in his power—by Lynchism with his pen. But there is balm in Gilead. We have become tolerably case hardened, and there is little doubt but that we shall survive the infliction. For our own parts, we shall await the coming of the "Rambles of an Abolitionist" with great impatience, and promise ourselves an infinity of amusement from its perusal.—*Jb.*

PROVINCIAL.

FIRE.—A few nights since, a house belonging to Mr. John Oliphant, situated at Baitter's Bay, near Kingston, was consumed by fire. The house was at the time unoccupied. The fire originated on the outside, and was, without any doubt, the work of an incendiary.—*Chronicle.*

Within these few nights several ruffianly outrages have been committed upon our peaceable and unoffending fellow-townsmen. Mr. Lane, Tailor, on his way home, was attacked near Mrs. Thomson's new building, and severely beaten.—Mr. McMullen, Mason, who was passing near the same place on his way home, received a severe blow from a stone; alarmed for the safety of his child he called for assistance, when Mr. Corbier, Butcher, ran to his relief, at whom the scoundrel who had attacked Mr. McMullen, struck with a stone in his hand; he, however, did not escape without a well deserved and sound beating from Mr. McMullen, who preferred summary justice to the law's delay. A respectable master carpenter when entering his own house was struck down. Another respectable house-keeper whilst filling a bucket with water, near the Ottawa Company's wharf, was saluted with a volley of stones, but by a precipitate retreat he fortunately escaped without injury, and on Thursday night as Mr. John McGuire was standing on the side of his wharf, a fellow rushed suddenly upon him, seized him by his neckcloth and threw him into the water, and but for timely assistance he would have been drowned.

The frequent recurrence of these wanton or malicious outrages, loudly call for a more efficient system of police than at present established. We are not advocates for Lord Mayors and state coaches, and aldermen fattened, at the public expense, on turtle and turbot, venison and marrow puddings. They are now even getting out of fashion in England, on which happy soil they are or were indigenous; but we do think that we ought at least to be protected by some constabulary force, so that we might venture our heads outside of our doors at night without danger of having our brains, if we have any, knocked out.—*Jb.*

On Saturday night, about 12 o'clock, a fire broke out in the dwelling house of a farmer named McDonnell, who resides on a farm belonging to John S. Cartwright, Esq., in the seventh concession of the Western addition of the township of Kingston. The flames spread with such rapidity that the family were able to save only a small part of the furniture.—*Jb.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On the 21st instant, John Burres, one of the laborers attending the locks at Smith's Falls, whilst in the act of filling one of the locks with water, in order that the steamer *Thos. McKay* might be enabled to get through, the crab which he had hold of, unfortunately slipped out of his hand, and struck him on the head, which caused a fracture of the skull—and at the same time knocked him into the lock-pit, which was partly filled with water. He immediately expired. A Coroner's inquest was held, by J. L. Schofield, Esq. Coroner for the Johstown District. The verdict of the Jury was, "that he came by his death on the 21st October, 1835, by receiving a blow upon his head, with the crab of one of the crabs attached to the locks of the Rideau Canal, Smith's Falls, when in the act of filling the lock-pit."—*Perth Courier.*

It is gratifying to witness the great improvement that has taken place in this city within the last few months. About forty new stone houses have either been built or are building. Numerous handsome structures are being built of brick, manufactured in the West end of the city. In Wellington street a range has just been completed. A magnificent block of houses is building upon the Place d'Armes. In St. Paul street and the Main street, Quebec suburbs, a number of splendid cast iron buildings have just been finished.—*Montreal Herald.*

We are happy to inform our readers that they can now be supplied with coffins, in which their bodies can be preserved forever and a day, without the expense of embalming. No more need they shudder at the thought of mingling with the dust. Those coffins are manufactured by a Mr. White, of New York, of a mineral paste, which can be moulded into any shape whilst soft, and after a few days will become as hard as marble, and impervious to air and water. The lid may be cemented on and the air excluded from the body. Mr. White will be happy to accommodate all who may choose to forward him their measures.—*Jb.*

Dr. King, of the Arctic Land Expedition, passed Norway House, in his boat, on the 10th August, on his way to York Factory, to embark in the Hudson Bay ship which would sail for England in September. He and the other members of the expedition were in good health and spirits.—*Mon. Gazette.*

We have been informed that a letter has been received from the District of Gaspé, complaining of the heavy injury done to those engaged in the fisheries, on that coast, by the encroachments of the American Fishermen, who not only fish beyond the limits allowed to them by the existing treaty, but come on shore to take bait & other ways greatly interfere in the most unwarrantable manner, with the Bay Fisheries, and act in the most objectionable manner towards the local authorities, as they interfere to check their proceedings. Under these circumstances the inhabitants of the shores of the Bay of Chaleurs, and the adjacent coast, intend, we understand, to petition His Majesty's Government, that a vessel of war may be sent to cruise in their neighborhood to protect them from these aggressions, to which it is added they were not exposed when, as was formerly the case, the Admiral on the Halifax station used to send some of the squadron to visit those parts at different periods during the fishing season.—*Quebec Mercury.*

BURNING OF THE LONGUE PILE MILLS.—The mills discontinued work at about nine o'clock on Thursday morning. The men, who lived at some distance from the premises, went home at about nine o'clock on the night of the same day, leaving a fire burning in the oil kiln. At about half-past four o'clock, next morning, the building was discovered to be completely enveloped in flames, and if even fire engines were at, this time, upon the spot, they could have rendered but very little service, except, perhaps, in saving coals and firewood, of which an immense quantity was consumed, together with 200 barrels of barley, 39 bushels of wheat and about 20

quintals of flour. The Hon. C. W. Grant, the proprietor is uninsured. The whole of this fine building and the adjoining stables were reduced to ruins, and the steam engine would have been destroyed were it not that it was situated beneath a stone arch. It was imported into this country about the year 1820. The loss is estimated at £8000.—*Montreal Herald.*

Halley's comet, during its present revolution, is undergoing a most vigilant examination by astronomers. Professor Joslin, of Union College, has asserted that it has two tails. We may shortly expect a particular account of the discovery.—*Jb.*

THE BRITISH WHIG.

KINGSTON, TUESDAY EVENING, NOV. 10, 1835.

VERY LATE FROM ENGLAND.

Since our last publication two more packets have arrived—the President, capt. Ripley, from London, and the Virginian, capt. Harris, from Liverpool—the former sailed from Port-mouth on the 3rd of Oct. and the latter, the 8th from Liverpool. Our London papers are to the 7th of October, and Liverpool to the 8th inclusive.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The London Times announces that measures for the establishment of steam communication with India, are in progress with renewed activity. Agencies of depots are about to be formed at Alexandria, Cairo, and Suez, and the operations on this part of the route are expected to be complete by the end of the present year. It is anticipated that when all the arrangements are complete, the whole journey from England to Bombay will be effected in sixty days during eight or nine months of the year, and in eighty-five during the monsoons. Shipments of machinery, &c. for the rail-road across the desert, are going on with great activity. This portion of the route, eighty miles, is to be traversed in eight hours.

Mr. O'Connell arrived at Dublin on the 30th of September, having been detained by adverse winds. The procession got up in his honor, was much shorn of its splendor in consequence of the delay.

The duke of Sussex has written a letter to Mr. Salomon, an Israelite, congratulating him on his election as one of the sheriffs of London, which the duke pronounces a great triumph of civil and religious liberty over silly prejudice.

N. P. Willis, esq. of the United States, was married on the 1st of October, to Mary, daughter of Wm. Stace, esq. of the royal arsenal, Woolwich, Mr. and Mrs. Willis, immediately after this ceremony, set off for Paris.

The London Standard says that Earl Spencer (lord Althorp) has been solicited by lord Melbourne to take office, but refused, alleging that he would have no connexion with Mr. O'Connell.

The Morning Herald says that the four important offices of lord lieutenant, chief secretary, attorney general and privy councillor in Ireland, are filled by nominees of Mr. O'Connell.

The Vestal steamer was at Limerick on the 31 of October, having on board five commissioners appointed to survey the western coast of Ireland, and select a harbor suitable for a packet station to communicate with America.

The following is from the Morning Herald of the 5th.

It has been reported that one of the largest houses in the general warehousing trade, of which a former celebrated free trade member of parliament was or was the head, is about to establish banks at Calcutta, Canton, New York, &c. and that at the present moment arrangements are making in New York for that purpose. We believe the plan was originally suggested by the great increase of trade with New York in manufactured goods, particularly silks, diverted to this country by the celebrated disturbances at Lyons. The object of the plan is to turn all the money transactions of the exporting parties into the same channel, and thus add to the "slughter-house system" of profits by a new kind of monopoly in the money trade.

Capt. Back has been specially promoted to the rank of post captain, by an order in council, in consideration of his extraordinary services.

Great alarm appears to exist in the agricultural districts of England on account of incendiary fires, which are said to be even more frequent and extensive than in former years.

Col. Fairman, the grand secretary of the Orange lodges, has commenced actions for false imprisonment against the speaker of the house of commons, the sergeant-at-arms, and the select committee.

Measures are in progress for the establishment of a telegraphic communication between London and Paris, by which tidings are to be conveyed in an hour and a half. There are to be nine stations between London and the English coast, and fourteen between the French coast, and Paris.—The undertaking is got up by those concerned in stocks.

The king and queen of Belgium after visiting the king of England at Windsor, the duke of Wellington at Walmer Castle, and the estate of king Leopold at Chateaufort, had returned to Brussels where they were expected to arrive on the 7th October.

On proving the will of the late Wm. Cobbett, his effects were sworn to be under the value of 1500 pounds. There are no specific legacies, but the copy right of all his works is bequeathed to the eldest son.

The surveys have been completed for a rail road from Aldgate in London to the West India docks, with a branch to the East India docks. The railway is to be constructed on arches the whole distance. The distance is to be accomplished in ten minutes.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE RIDEAU CANAL, ITS VILLAGES, TRADE AND PROSPECTS.

A week or two ago, with a flourish of trumpets, we acquainted the gentle reader with our intention of making a second trip to Bytown, along the line of the Rideau Canal; and an equally pompous flourish announced our return. The observations we have made upon this interesting section of the country are necessarily brief, to be suited to the columns of a newspaper, but such as they are, we offer them with all due humility.

THE PRESENT STATE OF THE CANAL.—Having in former numbers devoted so much of our time and space to the description of this Canal, it would be a task of supererogation to attempt that now. We shall therefore presume the reader to be acquainted with its topography, and speak of it, as it now is.—With respect to the durability of the work, on the whole we feel inclined to report favorably. With no single exception, all the dams have withstood the spring and fall floods, and are in excellent preservation. Some of the locks leak a little, as do several of the embankments, but the generality of them are sound and perfectly water-tight. No interruption, beyond that of a few hours, has occurred in the navigation this season, and there has always been an abundance of water. Above Long Island Rapids, during a short portion of the summer, the Rideau, stemboat, drawing 5 feet water, could not pass, owing to some defect in the water-weirs at this station. The sum of three thousand pounds is to be laid out previous to the opening of the next season, in the construction of such works as shall effectually counteract the evil. The locks throughout the

route are in fair preservation, and kept extremely clean; the wood of the gates has shrunk in the per parts, but not more than might be naturally expected. The stone work, or rather the upper part of the stone work of the locks does not appear substantially built—we were shown at the Rideau more than half a dozen large stones, several square each, that had been dislodged by the headway of a towed barge, that had not been off in time. At other places, we took notice of several small fractures, perhaps occasioned through the same means. We object to the use of crabs and chains in opening the gates, and are of opinion heavy beams attached to the gates, would be preferable. It is without doubt the most simple and expeditious way of doing the business, and certainly the least expensive. It is more than probable should the Canal fall into the hands of the Provincial Government, and be managed by Civilian that as these crabs and chains successively become out of repair, they will be superseded by the primitive bars and levers. At Brewer's Upper Mills where one of these chains has given way, the gate has been temporarily fitted in this manner, and labor of opening and shutting it, thereby much diminished. Col. By sometimes carried his ideas magnificence beyond the *utile*.

In many parts of the Canal, the quantity of wood threatens to become a serious drawback upon the usefulness and even safety of the navigation, especially during the night time. Instead of wondering why the *Thos. McKay* should run upon snag, the wonder should be, how she or any other vessel could escape. The waters having been raised so much beyond their original level, have done much good and destroyed an immensity of timber. This timber as it decays falls into the water and is carried down stream, where in the narrow parts it accumulates in such quantities, as to be exceedingly troublesome as well as dangerous to pass. It is highly difficult to propose a remedy, since cutting down all the dead trees would be a work of immense expense, and not likely to be encountered by the British Government—a Government that has done so much for the Colony, and been ungratefully treated in return. Were the Canal once in the hands of the province, as sooner or later it must be, laws might be passed, making it imperative on the owners of the soil on the entire route, to remove the decayed trees, and then such portions as still belong to the Crown, might be cleared at the public charge. This is the only way we know to prevent the evil, which every year will become greater and greater, as the fallen trees accumulate.

Several blockhouses have been built or finished since last we passed this way. At Kingston Mills a very substantial building has been put up; another at the Narrows, and a third has been finished at Merricksville. We cannot imagine the utility of these block-houses, since they are no surety for the Canal, and even should they be deemed strong enough to be of any service, there should be one at every station. They indeed form comfortable residences for the lock-masters, but a sum what too expensive. They afford another instance of such extravagance.

What must strike with astonishment every person who travels the Rideau Navigation, is the immense quantity of water, absolutely running waste, at almost every six miles between Kingston and Bytown. While a cry stream that can turn a saw mill is seized hold of and occupied in other places—while towns and villages are erected, which will privilege are abundant—along this splendid canal, the finest waters—waters that in the United States will speedily make the fortunes of individuals, or even companies, are here apparently neglected or overlooked. To what is this attributable? To the persons having charge of the Canal, or to the public at large? In a great measure we fear blame may be laid upon the shoulders of both. The British Government, that is to say the officers in authority, hold out no inducement to individuals to lease these valuable privileges; and individuals who have applied for permission to occupy, have been satisfied with a short or evasive answer from a Canada authority, instead of carrying their applications to the Engineer Office in London, or to the Colonial Secretary.

Before the merits of this question can be entered into, it will be well to particularize a few of the mill privileges, the unoccupied use of which we much deplore. The first site for mills we shall point out is at Kingston Mills. Near where the falls now stand, there yet remains an old saw mill occasionally used and worked by the water from waste weir. The fall in this place is 46 feet, and could be readily divided into three or four smaller falls. During the autumn, winter and spring, much surplus water comes down from the lakes above as could work more than 20 mills, over and above what would be wanted for a four fold increase of Canal business; and even during the driest summer months, there would still be more than sufficient several mills to be kept constantly going. Added to which may be mentioned, the possibility of bringing down to Kingston Mills much more water, by simply damming up the outlet to some of the interior lakes. The clerk of the Works, Mr. T. Barrows, assures us, that he has never known the time in which the milling business could not be carried at Kingston Mills, save at that period in the Spring when the waters are being raised.

At Brewer's Lower Mill, another excellent site for several mills presents itself. At Brewer's Upper Mills a large site still is partially occupied by a grist and saw mills of Mr. James Mathewson, the Lumber merchant, the only person on the line, who has hitherto been permitted to use the waste water except at Smith's Falls and Merricksville, where the mills are seated on the natural bed of the Rideau River. Mr. Mathewson's Mills afford a practical proof that mills do not interfere with the Canal, since it is only the surplus water that is used to work them. At Jones' Falls, a superb waterfall, 60 feet high is at present wasting its immense powers. This situation is perhaps the finest on the whole line. The natural bed of the river is dammed up, and an outlet made for the surplus water, through the solid rock, a very short distance above the falls. The fall is not perpendicular, and is perhaps 100 feet more in length, and the quantity of water is immense part going down the Gananoque River at the White Fish falls, and part coming down to Kingston Mills. In dry seasons the lock master gave us to understand that the water never falls.

At Davis', and at Clafey's mill privileges might be leased out with advantage, both to the lessor and lessee, but they would be of comparatively minor value to those at Jones' Falls.

At almost every station in the Rideau River mills of every kind and power might be built, as at this river is the outlet of many large lakes, and fed by several streams almost as large as itself, the supply of water would be constant.

At Smith's Falls and at Merricksville, several mills are in being, having for the most part been built prior to the formation of the Canal. Below Smith's Falls, at Old Sly's, a splendid waterfall to be seen. The bed of the river is dammed up, and the whole water of the river descends through a cut twenty or thirty feet wide, and regains the original bed a short way below the lock. The fall is 21 feet high, and the bed is so situated, that many mills could be turned by the stream, without interfering at all with the Canal.