

We are informed that some parties in this City are thinking of purchasing the Pilot Schooner *Reclab* to proceed to California. The R. is a safe vessel and sails fast and we have no doubt will answer well for a trader in that region.—N. Bruns.

SLAVERY IN VIRGINIA.—A friend in Grayson county, Western Va., has written us a long account of the primary examination of Rev. J. C. Bacon, a preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under a presentment by the grand jury, for having feloniously circulated abolition documents, calculated to excite the slaves to rebellion, and against the law "in such case made and provided." It appears that in Virginia the grand jury presentments for felony do not pass directly to the trial court, but go before the county court, a bench consisting of three or five magistrates and justices of peace, who merely examine the case, and decide whether persons indicted by the grand jury shall be held for trial before the supreme court. The examination of Mr. Bacon excited a deep interest, not merely on account of the strong prejudices existing in Virginia against the abolitionists, but from the fact that some of the ablest counsel in the State were employed on the case. An attempt was made to browbeat the counsel for the prisoner, and to frighten them with the idea that it was not safe for them personally to appear in defence of persons charged with that most horrible of all crimes—abolitionism? A thing taught, it is true, by the great "expounder of Virginian politics," Jefferson; but with singular consistency denied by those who profess to follow his political teachings. But Hon. Mr. Fulton, late a whig member of Congress, and another distinguished lawyer, promptly braved the obloquy of defending a man charged with a very unpopular crime, and they performed their work, it would seem, with much more ability than success. Mr. Bacon was charged with circulating an abolition address delivered at Cincinnati, and also the Life of Frederick Douglass, but all the evidence elicited only proved that he merely loaned the books to two persons at their request; and one of them to a young lady, whose brother clandestinely conveyed it to the enemies of the accused. The counsel for the Government appealed very strongly to the prejudice of the Court (four of the five magistrates being members of the Methodist Church) and slaveholders, entered into an elaborate argument to show the enormity of the crime charged, and that the Bible not only justified, but commanded slavery! The counsel for the defence did not undertake to make scriptural argument, but showed very clearly that the prisoner was not guilty under the laws of Virginia, by which laws they insisted, and certainly with some show of reason, he ought to be tried. They proved very plainly that the books, though they may have been of the class intended by the laws to be proscribed for the colored people, were not circulated among them, or with any criminal intent to excite them to insurrection. The criminal act being unsubstantiated, they held that Mr. Bacon must be discharged. But the magistrates do not appear to have entertained this reasonable view of the matter, and they held the prisoner to bail in the sum of one thousand dollars, to take his trial before the superior court. Should the judges and jurors comprising the court be equally discriminating, no doubt the prisoner will be severely punished. But it seems to us that such specimens as this of the power of slavery to misdirect the course of justice, will prove in the end a mill-stone about its neck, to hold it down in that "lower deep" to which its own desperate acts are evidently hastening it.

CURIOUS APPLICATION OF GUTTA PERCHA TUBING.—A correspondent of the *Patriot*, writing from Tonbridge, says:—"I have applied gutta percha tubing in my chapel with the greatest advantage to the deaf portion of the congregation; and others have adopted my plan with equal success. I have a large oval funnel of sheet gutta percha inserted in the book-board in front of the Bible; attached to this is a piece of inch tubing, passing down on the inside of the pulpit and under the floor, like a main gas-pipe; attached to this are branches of smaller tubing, leading to any pew where a deaf person may sit, and at the end of each is an ear-piece. You may thus supply a whole congregation, and enable all to hear without the least difficulty on the part of the preacher."

THE COPPER REGION.—We see that Capt. Anderson, of the Indian Department, has been named to conclude a treaty with the Indians of Lakes Superior and Huron, for an indemnity which they demand for the territory occupied by the mining companies. This is perfectly fair and just; we are glad to see the Government acting upon so rigid a principle of honesty. At the same time it must be recollected that the Indians have suffered no actual loss through the Mining Establishments; their lands were valueless and almost uninhabited by them. The indemnity awarded must of course in consequence be small, and should, we think, be in the shape of educational or religious establishments.—*Quebec Gazette*.

ROME.—Nothing can more strongly remind us of the wholesale banishments and persecutions which invariably followed the triumph of either of the rival parties of Guelphs and Ghibellines, or Bianchi and Neri, in the populous and flourishing Italian cities of the middle ages than the despotism and vindictive measures now adopted by the priests and enforced by their despicable and forsworn instruments, the French. The Austrians have only excepted about seventy individuals from the general amnesty in Lombardy, and in Tuscany a second and ample amnesty has just been granted, and exiles have been furnished with pecuniary aid; but here no mercy of any kind is shown; the list of proscribed persons (concerning whom another edict is shortly expected to make its appearance) is said to amount to some thousands. The press, comparatively unshackled under Austrian rule in Florence, is here allowed only to serve the ends of the party actually in power, and jesuitical pamphlets inundate the city, showing forth, with true clericalunction, the divine right of the Pope to temporal power. The priestly

editor takes good care that no rejoinder from the liberals shall receive his approving imprimatur; so that "The last days of the Republic," "Democracy and the Pope-King," "The black congregation of the capitol," and similar productions, have the good fortune to be unanswered, if they have not the merit of being unanswerable. This restrictive system is, moreover, carried so far as to prevent the introduction of the French journals, and we have now been four days without receiving a single Paris paper, whilst the post is very irregularly conducted, even with respect to letters. The *Gazette of Genoa*, which contained some very severe strictures on the course of events in Rome, was seized yesterday in all the cafes, as soon as the obnoxious article was reported by the Government spies.—*Correspondent of Daily News*.

QUEBEC AND HALIFAX RAILWAY.—We have much pleasure in being enabled to state, from the best authority, that this grand undertaking, in a fair way of being commenced early next summer, the amount of share stock taken and proposed applications, including princely investments by the ladies of the nunneries, and an ecclesiastical establishment, being now nearly £200,000, and it is expected that £500,000 will be taken in this Province alone; for which the country at large are mainly indebted to the energy, and zealous co-operation of the venerable prelate, who presides, with anxious benevolence, and vigilance, over the welfare of the Catholic population of the Province; and whose offer to pay the whole of his subscription at once, for the sake of good example, will entitle him to the lasting gratitude of the company, as well as every loyal subject in America. The company, incorporated for carrying out the measure, are making arrangements for appointing the Directors; and when that is done the sterling aid of the Imperial Government may be relied upon. We would therefore strongly recommend all who have the means to make some investment with the company, and thereby promote their own, as well as the general benefit of British America.—*Transcript*. [How do religious bodies come to have such princely sums to invest in railways, over and above all their enormous investments in real estate?—Ed. Writ.]

CANADA.

From the *Montreal Gazette*.

The *Statesman*, of Wednesday, the 19th, gives us a full account of the great meeting of the members of the British League, from the Counties of Leeds and Greenville, on Saturday last. The day was very unpropitious, as it poured with rain from four in the morning till six, a thing which effectually prevented an immense number of farmers from the back Townships from attending, as if they had waited for two hours till the rain cleared up, they would have been too late. We extract that portion of the account which is of interest:—

In the early part of the day, team after team kept pouring into town, their owners being anxious to secure yard or stable room, before the throng would get into town. A little after eleven o'clock, thirty-five waggons, well loaded with the Britons of Augusta, drove up the Prescott Road, and, with banners floating, passed through the town and Toll Gate, to meet their friends coming in by the Perth Road. Shortly after the carriages of the chief gentlemen of the Town followed in the same direction. During their absence, fifteen waggons, well loaded with the men of the Front of Yonge and Escott, came down the Kingston Road and secured places, as best they could, in Town. At about twelve o'clock the main body of the people were seen approaching the Town, at Davidson's Hill, on the Great Northern Road. And when we state that, independent of those which passed out in the first instance, toll was paid upon 205 waggons, our readers may have some idea of the length and numbers of the Procession. Of which, as near as we could collect, the following was the order:—

- Two Marshals mounted (Dr. Smythe and William Parkins, Esq.)
- A large waggon, with the brass band, bearing a Union Jack.
- Two other large waggons, containing a field band of fife and drums, &c.
- A large waggon with the Irish and Highland Pipers.
- Next came two Marshals mounted (John Bacon and Henry Jones Jr., Esq's.)
- Then followed the horsemen (126) in double files (two abreast).
- Two Marshals mounted (Mr. P. J. Cosgrove and Mr. E. H. Barniston).
- Next came the carriages of the principal Conservative gentlemen of Brockville, Prescott, &c. &c.
- After the carriages followed waggons of all sizes and descriptions heavily loaded with the "honest hearts and true," from the country.
- Independent of the numerous Union Jacks which floated in different parts of the Procession, we observed upwards of thirty flags bearing various devices, inscribed upon silk and cotton. Some white, some blue, some pink, some sky blue, some scarlet, and two black.

The people of Kitley turned out in strong force; they were mostly on horseback, and were particularly distinguished by wearing Blue Sashes, having the word "Reform" conspicuously painted upon them. Mr. Ford in the course of his speech, made some happy allusions to the spirit evinced by the men of Kitley, and recommended them to add the word "real" to their present motto, so as to distinguish themselves from the sham "Reformers," of the Country.

At the Toll Gate, the Procession reached close on two miles in length, but several persons dropped off as they entered the Town to procure places for their horses.

The Procession entered over North Bridge, and passed along Perth Street to King Street, thence along the latter street to Dr. Daisham's Corner, where it wheeled to the right, and proceeded down Court House Street to Water Street; thence along Water Street to the Ship Yard of Mr. Parkin; here it wheeled to the left up Campbell street, and from thence turning to the left it proceeded along the Main Street till it reached the Court House Avenue, up which noble street it passed into the Square directly in front of the Court House.

The view at this moment was truly imposing. The splendid Court House of the District, (one of the finest buildings in the Province) had all its windows and doors thrown open, the projecting cut-stone balconies, and every available spot, in each story, being crowded with ladies, while the large steps and railings below, and the beautiful green in front, was densely crowded with hundreds, yea, thousands of the hardy Yeomanry and the industrious mechanics of the District.

To attempt to get a tithe of such a body of people into the Court House, (large and spacious as it is,) was of course impossible, and recourse was therefore had to the open air, to organize the meeting. While a few of the more active of the youth of the place were engaged in lashing some waggons together, and placing upon them a quantity of plank boards, as a temporary stand for the Chairman, Secretary and Speakers, the band played "God save the Queen," the whole crowd standing uncovered. Three hearty cheers were next given for the Queen, and the meeting was then called to order by R. Howison, Esq., of Maitland, who proposed, seconded by Edward Greene, Esq., of Leeds.—That Paul Glasford, Esq., one of the oldest inhabitants of the District, should be requested to take the Chair, and preside over the meeting. The mo-

tion being put and carried unanimously, Mr. Glasford stepped the temporary platform, returned thanks for the honour conferred on him, stated that he had spent over half a century of his life in the District, but that he had never seen such a meeting before.—He hoped that good order would be preserved, and peace and unanimity distinguish all their proceedings. (Loud cheers.)

We must confine ourselves to a mere Report of the different Resolutions proposed and carried:—

Moved by George Sherwood, Esq., M. P. P., seconded by James Sabine, Esq., of Highbury:—

1. Resolved.—That this Province is in a state, both political and commercial, unparalleled in its history.—That the depression in every branch of trade and commerce, has paralyzed the energies of its industrial pursuits, which have hitherto given employment to hundreds, and has been the means of driving from our shores large numbers of the industrious classes, who have hitherto largely contributed to the wealth and prosperity of the country.

Moved by George C. Crawford, Esq., of Brockville, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Newson, J. P., of Beverley:—

2. Resolved.—That the prosperity to which Great Britain and the United States have arrived, under a Protective Tariff, when compared with the state of depression in which the Province is now placed, without the aid of such a Tariff, ought, in the opinion of this meeting, to have been a sufficient inducement to our Statesmen, to have followed the examples which have produced such vast wealth, greatness and prosperity to those countries, and the want of which has brought poverty and ruin upon our own.

Moved by Norman Macdonald, of Elferslie, Esq.:—

3. Resolved.—That in the opinion of this meeting, stringent measures of economy and reform should be adopted in the expenditure of the Civil Government, so as to place it upon a footing corresponding with the resources of the Province, and with the amount paid for like services, when honestly and efficiently performed, in other countries, on this Continent.

Moved by D. B. D. Ford, Esq., of Brockville, seconded by Henry Bradford Esq., J. P., of Elizabethtown:—

4. Resolved.—That instead of reducing the expenditure of the Government of this Province, the present Parliament has largely and extravagantly added thereto by the various laws passed at its last Session, and which created amongst other things in this section of the Province, two new Courts of Superior Jurisdiction, with three new Judges, at salaries of four thousand dollars a year each, exclusive of the expensive and numerous staff, which such Courts and Judges must necessarily saddle upon the country.

Moved by Ormond Jones, Esq., of Brockville, seconded by Nicholas Horton, Esq., J. P., of New Dublin:—

5. Resolved.—That if the present Provincial Administration had been actuated by a due regard for the interests of the country, or by a proper respect for those professions of economy, in which they have hitherto so largely indulged, they would have yielded to the proposition made to parliament to increase the Jurisdiction of our District Courts, which would have brought justice home to every man's door, instead of driving him to a more expensive and dilatory course of proceeding in the Superior Courts established at Toronto.

Moved by Justice S. Merwin, Esq., of Prescott, seconded by Alfred Parsons, Esq., J. P., of Maitland:—

6. Resolved.—That the Rebellion Losses Bill, by which the loyal inhabitants are taxed for losses sustained in Lower Canada, is an act for which the history of Nations furnishes no precedent—is an outrage and insult to the people of this Province—unparalleled for its enormity—and one under which they are determined not to suffer, without the strongest resistance, that the fidelity that brave and loyal men can offer—and the people of this District, now assembled, here publicly pledge themselves before their country, never to rest contented, until that disgraceful enactment is wiped from the Statute Book of Canada.

Moved by Robert Hervey, Esq., of Maitland Mills, seconded by Mr. William B. Landrick, of Elizabethtown:—

7. Resolved.—That like most measures of hideous enormity, the said Act was conceived in secrecy—that, although, upon the authority of the President of the Council, it was agreed to in that Body, before that Honourable Gentleman joined the Administration, yet it was not alluded to in the opening Speech of His Excellency to Parliament—that when first known, time was refused for the expression of the opinion of the country upon it—and that all intercourse, which passed between the Governor-General and the Colonial Minister, upon the subject, during its progress to maturity, was confined to the secret and irresponsible medium of "private letters"—that the independence of this second Branch of the Legislature was overthrown to effect its passage—and that the stealthy and unusual mode in which it finally received the Royal Assent was only equalled in enormity by the guilt which conceived it—the corruption which carried it—the inherent wickedness of the measure itself—and the unparalleled acts of crime and violence, which marked the era of its passage, and which still continues to disorganize society.

Moved by Alfred Hooker, Esq., J. P., of Prescott, seconded by James Graham, Esq., D. C. for Kitley:—

8. Resolved.—That the "Instructions" since issued by the Governor General, to the Commissioners appointed to carry out the said Act, are a full illustration of the fears of the safety and justice of the measure itself, entertained even by its own special patrons—"Instructions" which were issued to the Commissioners, not to explain an error in the Act, or any difficulty that had arisen under it, but to "inform them of the views in which it had originated!"—that a portion of the Act itself, called the "proviso," had not been "acceded to" by the Government from an impression of its necessity!—and following up an announcement so extraordinary, by further informing the Commissioners what the "design" of the Government was in introducing the Bill, and their "objects" in relation thereto!—that if the interpretation of Acts of Parliament is to be taken from the ordinary and proper judicial tribunals of the country, and to be expounded by the "instructions" of a political Cabinet, to suit their "designs" and "objects," the public liberties are no longer secure, and even law itself is made to rest upon the will of commissioners, appointed and directed by the worst species of faction.

Moved by John Crawford, Esq., President of the town of Brockville, seconded by James Thomson, Esq., J. P. and D. C. for Escott:—

9. Resolved.—That it is the solemn and deliberate opinion of the people of these Counties here assembled, that the Earl of Elgin has, by assenting to the said Rewarding Bill, prostituted the high office confided to his care by our most gracious Sovereign, deeply insulted the feelings of her attached Subjects, and so far as in his power, weakened the bond of connection between the colony and the Parent state.

Moved by Dr. Reynolds of Brockville, seconded by Joseph Wright, Esq., J. P. of Augusta:—

10. Resolved.—That the insulting manner in which the Petitions against this nefarious measure were received by his lordship—the perversion and concealment of facts which distinguish his Despatches on this subject, and the ridiculous and partial answers to the Addresses presented to him by the adherents of the party at whose head he has placed himself, have established to the world his utter unfitness for the office he now holds, and that he can,