

BECKAGUIMIC BAR.—Survey No. 8.

The boat channel then follows the left bank of the River, with deep water, past Presqu'île Island and Beckaguimic Island, where it cuts a passage for itself through a bar, which extends nearly across the River, the depth of water varying from 2 ft. to 2 ft. 6 in.; this bar is the sunken portion of the foot of Beckaguimic Island, and of the flat land or interval seen along the left bank, over the remains of which the water now flows, the action of the current having gradually washed away the upper strata of the soil, with the vegetation that grew thereon. The main body of the water now flows between Beckaguimic Island and the left bank, and can be conducted in sufficient volume over the bar if its spread is stopped by the construction of an embankment, AB, on the sunken portion of the Island, and extending about 400 yards down the River; care must be taken that the dam terminates precisely at the spot where the strength of the current disperses down the main body of the stream. The bed of the River at the obstruction is composed of hard coarse gravel, over which the current runs too strong for any accumulation to take place of the moving gravel and sand. Should this work prove insufficient, a dam, CD, should be constructed between Beckaguimic and the Island above it, to stop the flow of water in the passage between them. The probable cost will be £370 for the dam AB.

CAMPBELL'S ISLAND.

There is shoal water at the head of Campbell's Island, called "Potts' Rapid," but no difficulty is experienced to the passage of boats during ordinary seasons of low water; the extent and position of the accumulation of gravel and stones should be watched, and if any obstruction to the navigation be experienced hereafter, a wing dam should probably be constructed at the bend, in order that the body of the stream which is now drawn among the rocks in the cove in the right, may be directed to throw a greater volume into the left channel, and to cause the current to set against the head of the shoal, and excavate for itself a deeper water-way through the loose soil. There is deep water the entire length of the Island, and without any obstructions to the free navigation until after passing round its foot, when the channel takes so sudden a turn it is difficult for the boats to avoid striking on some rocks near the left bank; five or six of these can be easily removed and dragged on shore, at a cost not exceeding £20.

(To be Continued.)

CANADA, June 13.

A CANADIAN HOLIDAY.—OUR ESTABLISHED CHURCH.—Yesterday was a holiday. The House did not meet at all. Only a tax of \$600 on the country! The Banks did no business so far as notes were concerned; all notes falling due yesterday had to be met on Wednesday or protested. We have no objections to our fellow-subjects of Lower Canada observing such days, in their own section of the country, if they desire to do so; with their views on such matters we do not intend to interfere or make any reflections whatever. But we do protest in the strongest manner possible against compelling the people of Upper Canada, who hold entirely different views, to submit to such usage. It is an outrage upon our consciences; the Bible imposes nothing of the kind. A law passed last session requires all the people of Canada to submit to the holidays of the Catholic Church of the Lower Province, that Church is therefore, to all intents and purposes, the established Church of this country. We are compelled by law to observe her religious ceremonies and institutions.

Upper Canadians! is this right? Is it not an insufferable encroachment on the rights of conscience—an encroachment that will become a Reform Ministry and Parliament? Was that question "discussed before the last election?" We urge upon the Government and the House to reconsider this compulsory—this slavish, monstrous Act.

The above is from the *North American*, and relates to the *Fete Dieu*, the most idolatrous festival in the Romish calendar.

The Protestant population here may be trodden down to any extent by the Roman Catholic majority for aught that Western politicians or papers care. Nay, the latter will help the Roman Catholic majority to tread them down if the Roman Catholics will only return favour by voting for some favourite measures.

So long as the Provinces continue legislatively united it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to keep the Church of Rome from reigning paramount in both sections, and just doing, or hindering to be done, whatever she chooses. And why? Because Protestants are divided while Roman Catholics are united upon all questions affecting their Church or Priests.

Now, we cannot say that we are without hope from this state of things. The yoke of Rome can never be thrown off unless the Protestants in both sections unite their efforts; and they will never do so unless they suffer in common.

Bow your necks, therefore, freemen of Canada West, until you learn that it is true policy to stand up for the rights of your Protestant brethren here, as well as your own.—*Montreal Witness*.

The *Montreal Gazette* says—"We understand that people are now parting with the Spanish quarter dollars at a shilling instead of 1s 3d., and the pieces of eight at 6d., instead of 7 1/2d. The brokers are said to be buying up all they can. And so they may. The same pieces are still current in the United States at 25 cents and 12 1/2 cents respectively, and will be redeemed at that rate by the general government so soon as the new coinage is issued. The pieces referred to are well worth the money, they have always passed for in the country, and are of greater intrinsic value than the sterling shilling and six pence."

UNITED STATES SUMMARY.

A disgraceful quarrel recently took place in the American Senate, between Mr. Clay and Mr. Burton, the former aged 74, and the latter 69.

Mr. Clayton, the American Secretary of State, has

written to the Spanish authorities at Cuba, that unless the American citizens captured at sea (supposed to have been on their way to invade the Island) are given up, unharmed, the United States will declare war against Spain. It is also said that Sir Henry Bulwer has notified the American Government that Great Britain is bound, by a secret treaty, to protect Cuba. This looks rather squally.

HORRID CASE OF POISONING.—A correspondent of the *Albany (Ga.) Patriot*, writing from Thomasville, Ga., under date of June 1st, gives the particulars of a case of poisoning which recently occurred in that vicinity. It appears that Robert A. Pearce, Esq., a respectable citizen of that country, was taken suddenly ill, and died on the 10th of March last. On the 30th of May, his widow came before the Grand Jury and testified that a Mr. C. P. Henton had confessed to her that he had poisoned Mr. Pearce, and threatened to kill her if she did not consent to marry him. She made some promise or other to pacify him, and immediately came before the Grand Jury to testify as above. Henton has been arrested, as the Grand Jury brought in a true bill against him. He was brought into Court but by desire his trial is postponed until the next term.

THE STEAMER GRIFFITH.—The following account of the burning of the *Griffith* is copied from the *British Whig*, and appears to have been extracted from some American paper:—

When the first alarm was given the passengers were cool and collected—it was thought that the boat could reach the land—it struck upon a sand bar half a mile from shore—and then panic reigned. The passengers became wild with despair and plunged into the water as if life was safe there. Of the cause of the fire we know nothing, and those who were saved can explain nothing—they were asleep—all they know is that about 3 o'clock or day break, the alarm of fire was given—the shore was in sight and they hoped it could be reached, and all were still, but when the bar was struck hope was converted into despair, and wildly death by fire was shunned; to meet death they took to the water. The passengers plunged into the lake and but few were saved. The number of passengers on board is thus stated, steerage, 256—cabin, 45—crew, 25. Total 326. Men in the cabin and in the lower deck jumped overboard in crowds, some 20 at a time. The captain remained on the upper deck near his state room immediately forward of the steamer's wheel house. After all the passengers had jumped overboard the captain threw the barber's wife, his own mother-in-law, wife and child into the lake, and plunged in himself. He remained a moment on the surface, when with his wife in his arms, they both sank together. There were at least 256 emigrants, chiefly from England and Germany, 45 or 50 cabin passengers beside the crew, numbering about 25. The number of those saved on the beach was only 40.

The fire was discovered about half-past three yesterday morning, abreast of the smoke pipe. The crew endeavoured to extinguish it without alarming the passengers, but the flames spread so rapidly that the cry was soon raised, "save yourselves." The hurricane deck was literally packed with emigrants sleeping, and when the fire was announced beyond control, the utmost confusion and terror reigned. The boat was immediately headed towards the land and grounded some six hundred yards from shore, but the heat had become so intense, that most of the passengers had jumped overboard, preferring a watery grave to death by fire. The poor emigrants were crowded forward, and literally pushed overboard by those retreating from the flames. Some had presence of mind enough to throw overboard their chests and swim for them, but nearly all were lost. Both yawl boats were so badly burnt as to be rendered entirely useless. The beach was already strewn with the bodies for several rods; they lay so thick upon the bottom and in such shallow water that they were finding them by the boat-load. A coroner and his jury were in attendance to ascertain names, residence, &c. One man was found with an infant child clasped in his arms. A group of five or six emigrants, men, women and children, were found with their arms closely locked together, evidently having left the boat and sunk in that position. It is said that only three females were saved.

The *Diamond* has been chartered by the city of Cleveland and has gone down to bring the bodies. The citizens in the vicinity of the disaster are doing all in their power to make the sufferers comfortable. A large trench is being dug in Cleveland to bury those unfortunate persons. A number of bodies have been brought to Buffalo. It was supposed that most of the passengers jumped overboard, but it appears that the boat is literally covered with the bones of the burnt.

ARRIVAL OF THE EUROPA.

The Royal Mail Steamer *Europa*, Capt. Lott, arrived at Halifax on the 1st inst., at six o'clock, after a passage of nine and a half days from Liverpool. The news department in the British Islands is beginning to look up. The markets remained unchanged, but steady, and the weather continued favourable to the growing crops.

The Earl of Cottenham has resigned the Great Seal. The *Times* is down upon Lord Palmerston for his management of the Greek question.—Lord Stanley's speech has been described as a master piece of eloquence.—The General Post Office has issued an order to the effect that after last Sunday week no letters will be delivered on Sunday. The order concludes with a promise on the part of the Government that any Postmaster infringing the regulation will be severely punished. The best informed upon the subject declare that the present order so far from securing the Sabbath from desecration, will positively add to and extend the evil.

Poor Louis Philippe the ex-King's fortune is said to amount to £160,000 sterling.—The Greek question is still a complicated affair. The Jesuits have been re-established at Madagu, and all their property restored.—The news

from Cuba causes great excitement in Madrid.—It was currently reported in London, that one of the French President's household had been arrested for an attempt to assassinate Louis Napoleon. Mr. Hume was to have submitted an amendment yesterday week, expressive of entire confidence in the present Ministry.

Fourteen vessels have been lost in the ice in the Atlantic—involving a loss of one hundred lives, and £100,000 in property.

LOSS OF THE "ORION" STEAMER.—Great consternation was created in consequence of news arriving of the total loss of the *Orion*, on her voyage from Liverpool to Glasgow. It appears from the statement of one of the survivors, who has arrived in Glasgow, that between one and two this morning (Tuesday), she struck on a rock off Port Patrick, and almost immediately sunk in five or six fathoms water. Passengers and crew rushed to the boats, two of which capsized, owing to the numbers crowding into them, and almost all perished. The number lost is unknown at present, as the accounts vary from fifty to one hundred; but it is believed that the smaller number is nearer the actual loss. The weather was fine, but the mate said a slight fog prevailed at the time, whilst some of the surviving passengers state that it was quite clear. The only names mentioned among the drowned are Dr. Burns (brother of Messrs. Burns, the owners,) and the steward. It is feared that a number of those who met watery graves belong to this place: consequently the excitement has been intense. The number of passengers are calculated to be about 150. Every cabin berth was taken.

Later accounts state that the vessel did not strike stern on, but rather towards the bilge. Before any of the passengers had time to dress, the water was up to their knees. The first boat launched was so crowded that she instantly sank, and almost all on board perished. The second, containing a number of ladies, reached the shore in safety. The ship gradually sunk, leaving every one floating on the surface. Boats from the shore picked up all that could be seen floating or swimming. The ship was wrecked 150 yards from the shore, and quite close to Port Patrick Light-house. Amongst the drowned were a father, mother and two daughters,—the two sons were saved, and one of the daughters reached the shore, but died soon after. Almost all the survivors were in a state of all but nudity, and could not procure clothing to proceed to Glasgow. It has been ascertained that about one hundred persons were saved, and, although no correct list could be obtained, upwards of 50 had perished. Twenty-five bodies had been recovered.

IRELAND.—The affairs of Ireland are once again assuming a lively aspect. Tenant right is now admitted to be a great fact. Meetings continued to be held all over the country to agitate the question. The fate of the exiles is beginning to rouse the sympathies of the people of Ireland, and several respectable gatherings have taken place.

By far the most respectable and numerous meeting of the citizens of Limerick held for many years in the Court House of the city, took place on yesterday, at two o'clock, to denounce the cruelty practised towards Mr. Smith O'Brien in the penal settlement of Maria Island, and to devise the best means for causing a cessation of his sufferings. Every class of the citizens, and some of the most distinguished gentry from the surrounding rural districts were present on the occasion, all evidently filled with the sincerest sympathy for the unmerited penalties imposed on the noble and generous-hearted exile.

At one o'clock, the Mayor, who was appointed Chairman, attended by the civic staff, proceeded to the Court-house, where some of the citizens were already assembled. In a few minutes the number augmented to a great degree, and when his worship ascended the bench, shortly before two, the cheering was deafening. The galleries and every available space was crowded.

FRANCE.—The news of the defeat of the British Ministry has been received in Paris with great satisfaction.—The papers of the 20th think the vote ensures the continuance of peace between England and France:—"It is a vote," says the *Debat*, "which does honour to the House of Lords, and which must accept as a certain pledge of the sentiments which animate the greater portion of English Statesmen with regard to her." The *Debat*, "thinks that after such a blow in the House of Lords, and the little checks in detail which Lord John Russell's cabinet has met from time to time in the House of Commons, a change of Ministry must take place."

PORTUGAL.—The Peninsular mail steam-packet *Iberia*, arrived at Southampton on Friday. Her dates are—Cadiz, 5; Lisbon, 9. From Oporto we learn by this arrival that the royal decree of the Queen interdicting the shipment of wines of the second quality to America, unless upon a security which amounts to an actual prohibition, had caused the greatest excitement among all parties who had an interest in the continuance of the shipment of wines of this denomination. It was openly asserted by many who held large stocks of these wines that, should this arbitrary measure be carried into execution, they would spare no means in endeavouring to thwart the government. At Cadiz the British Consul had taken up the affair.

GREECE.—The *Times* says the report of the Russian protest against the settlement of the Greek affair is confirmed. M. de Bunow spontaneously protested against the forced solution effected at Athens the moment it was known in London, and that protest has been approved and ratified in a formal manner by the Emperor Nicholas. Intelligence from Athens, to the 28th May, announces that a *Te deum* had been sung in that city and at Patras, to celebrate the return of the Pope to Rome. The King and Queen of Greece had returned from a visit to the Greek Islands in a French steamer; they had been received with enthusiasm.