

joy its rays—compared England a small insignificant Island in Europe as Catholic, with England the mighty mistress of the world as Protestant—declared his opinion that our Attorney General was either profoundly ignorant or maliciously perverse in his attack on Orangeism in the House of Assembly. And concluded by showing that in Enlightened Protestant Countries the rulers should be but the Exponents of the Public mind and the teachers of religion—the servants of the Church and not Lords over God's heritage—and finally exhorted all the brethren to carry out the objects of the Institution with meekness and patience.

After the lecture the procession was reformed and passed through the lower part of the neighbourhood and back to their Lodge Room, where after giving three cheers for Her Majesty in honour of the day, and three for His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the brethren separated about seven o'clock to repair to their several homes, well pleased with the occurrences of the day. The weather was very fine and gave the ladies an opportunity of displaying their persons and dresses to advantage. I should think that about 200 availed themselves of the privilege, and by their grace and beauty added much to the splendour of the celebration.

AN ORANGEMAN.

Brighton, July 15th, 1850.

[FOR THE CARLETON SENTINEL.]

MR. EDITOR.—There is at present and has been for a length of time past, not only a scarcity, but a total want of school books of the sort that was recommended and introduced by our wise Legislature and Government some time ago, for the purpose of training and bringing up the youth of the Province with true British sentiments and to the exclusion of American books and annexation or liberal sentences, (by some so called.) But if a supply of books is not soon furnished the people will be obliged to apply to their American neighbours for them, whether they import their sentiments or not, as people cannot afford to employ teachers and keep their children idle at school for the want of books much longer. Moreover, some will begin to think that the whole was only a trick or Electioneering puff put forth not to be realized, but somewhat similar to the large and elegant accademical building hastily erected in a city on the borders of the Caspian Sea immediately before the verite of the Emperor, wherever he was told that the Greeks or Christians were to be taught the Scripture, the Turks, the Coran, and how to decline majar (mother) with all other branches of Literature, but which building after the departure of the Emperor was never furnished (or intended to be) with either benches or Scholars, a material obstacle to the advancement of Science. And as now the want of Schoolbooks is a material obstacle in the way of the teacher having a favourable report of the progress of his school made by the Trustees upon Examination, as well as an injury to the parents and children, which must shortly find its remedy, even should that be the importation and rise of the American (objected) school books.

By inserting the above if you deem it worthy of a place in your valuable Journal you will oblige.

Your humble servant.

A PARENT.

We feel ourselves called upon to publish the following letter from John Bedell, Esq., Coroner of Carleton, (but not in reply to the Rev. Mr. Allison's note which appeared in our last issue;) we merely state that as is usual on these melancholy occasions we applied to the Coroner for facts before publishing. He kindly sent them, and in our hurry they appeared as emanating from us. We really hope our friends will see the necessity of dropping a controversy, painful alike to them, the friends of the deceased, and to us.

[FOR THE CARLETON SENTINEL.]

MR. EDITOR.—In the notice I sent to your paper of 2d July announcing the death—by his own hands—of Benjamin Fairweather, and the cause which led to the melancholy event viz—insanity! the effects it is believed of religious excitement—my information was derived from his own immediate connexions and friends, who are neither libertines nor infidels, and who were with him the greater part of the last two or three days of his life, and had ample opportunities, and were quite capable of judging of the state of the unfortunate man's mind. And from their statements made to me, which they also heard from his own lips, and which, perhaps some others of his professing friends would be very unwilling to hear, I felt no hesitation in inserting in my notice of the 2d of July, what was believed to be the cause of his untimely death; and of which no doubt exists in the minds of those best acquainted with the circumstances.

The above remarks, as you will doubtless perceive Mr. Editor, are intended as a reply to a very extraordinary communication I observed in the last Sentinel, over the signature of the Rev. John Allison, in which he characterizes that notice as proceeding from a desire on my part to give circulation to infidel and libertine principles, and to justify a neglect of religion. I hardly consider it necessary, Mr. Editor, to contradict so ill natured and foolish an observation; and I cannot but observe that the Rev. Gentleman's communication seems to have been penned in a spirit evincing but little of those meek and christian principles, inculcated in that Gospel which he preaches, and with which he appears to be earnestly labouring to convince the world he is largely endowed.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN BEDELL, Coroner.

Woodstock, 22nd July, 1850.

The following is the Address delivered to the Brethren of Lodge No. 51, of Richmond, on the presentation of a Flag on the 12th inst., to which we alluded in our last:—

In placing this banner in the hands of the bearer, I beg you to observe these pledges of our steadfast attachment

to the Protestant faith and the Throne of Great Britain.—On the one side we have King William III. of Glorious memory, on the other a likeness of our present beloved Sovereign, Queen Victoria. The former, although a foreigner by birth, was an Englishman by marriage and adoption when he landed upon the British shore to deliver our fathers from Papal bondage; and we cannot but admire the honour of William and Mary, who consented to attack and dethrone their own father, rather than witness the destruction of our Church and religious liberties. The latter no less earnest in her hatred of modern papacy and Puseyists' assumption, has shown to the world her determination that England at least shall not bow down at the feet of the beast. Both are now great in their own way. King William was a man of iron will and dauntless resolution, great as a Statesman and as a Warrior, he either detected the plots of his enemies or crushed them by his military prowess, until opposition sunk before him on the banks of the Boyne. Queen Victoria by her mild, her humble, yet firm demeanour has conquered hosts, and reigns this day as the only Protestant monarch in the world.—As Orangemen and as Protestants we remember both with proud and loyal hearts, and avow our allegiance to their Royal line so long as it is Protestant and anti-popish.—Using such language we have been accused of enmity to Roman Catholics, but the charge we deny. We intensely loathe and hate the system, as a system of darkness and guilt, but we pity the men connected with it and desire to cherish towards them a sprout of charity and good-feeling if they would allow us. But we must not be brow-beaten nor will we suppress our sentiments, and truckle to the insidious spirit which binds alike the intellect and conscience, and would shut the mouths of every free man.—We demand liberty of conscience and freedom to act as we please, so long as our conduct is not injurious to others and we give the same freedom we ask. But we are banded to oppose any attempt to overturn our British feeling or our Protestant faith. We hope it will be long before we are again in the same condition in which we were a few years back, and in which the Protestants of the States now are unable to assemble peaceably without being exposed to Roman Catholic insults and riot, and we hope the folds of this bloodless banner will long wave over a free and enlightened people where hearts and homes are the cherished abode of truth, liberty and happiness.

MM. MCKENZIE, Secretary.

Richmond, July 12th, 1850.

No. 51. Lodge.

GREAT FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA!—TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AND GREAT LOSS OF LIFE!

PHILADELPHIA, July 9.

A fire broke out in the Store No. 78 North Delaware avenue, at 4 1-2 o'clock this afternoon. The building was occupied for storage purposes, and, when discovered, the fire had already made considerable headway, with the flames spreading in every direction. But a short time elapsed before that large building, through to Water-street, was enveloped in flames; and one adjoining on the North, No. 80, was on fire, as well as the one South, No. 76.

Before the devouring element had reached the ground floor of the building in which the fire originated, two terrific explosions of saltpetre rent the walls asunder, throwing the flames of the combustible matter in all directions, by which the fire was communicated to a large number of houses which will be detailed hereafter.—Delaware Avenue was filled by a mass of human beings, amongst whom were several hundreds of firemen.

The first explosion did not seem to cause much excitement of fear among the people who were present, nor did the second, except some slight fears for their safety when they moved towards the eastern edges of the wharves. The third explosion was fatal in many cases, and proved the death of a number of men, women and children, on Delaware Avenue and Water-street.

The scene presented was frightful indeed, appalling in the extreme, and such as we cannot and will not attempt to describe. On the eastern front of the stores, when the third and last explosion of the saltpetre took place, the rush to life was terrific. Men and boys, firemen and bystanders, rushed away from the conflagration; and as they endeavoured to get away from the reach of danger, hundreds of them rolled over each other, while running and jumping on the large collection of cotton and other goods placed on the wharves. Several persons were knocked down, as if dead, and hundreds ran over them, causing legs and arms to be broken, and injuries inflicted of a very serious character.

In the fight, some were thrown into the Delaware, while a large number jumped voluntarily into the river, to shield themselves from the bricks and cinders thrown from the burning stores.

The fire then extended through Front street, from near Race street, to above Callowhill; thence through Vine to Second street, through John, Newmarket, and Second, from New-street up to Callowhill-street, levelling nearly 400 houses, as far as we have been able to learn.

At the present writing, 11 o'clock, the fire encompasses two squares round, extending from Race street to Callowhill, and from the river to Second street. Certainly not less than 250 houses are destroyed on Water street, from Race to Vine,—all old-fashioned dwellings, occupied generally by poor people—20 to 30 families in some of the houses. Their sufferings can only be imagined.—The houses generally were among the oldest in Philadelphia, yet there were many valuable business stands, and some of the finest business stands of our antiquated Quaker mansions.

It is reported, that in one of the houses a woman was found dead, and by her side her infant alive, and another woman and five children burnt to death.

July 10, 3 A. M.—The fire is now got under and within bounds.

Morse's and House's lines of Telegraph were both burned down, and Bain's was in great danger. Telegraphic despatches were sent by the Mayor to New York and Baltimore, for men and engines to come on immediately, on special trains, but was afterwards countermanded.

A great many thieves have been arrested by the police, and have been sent to prison by the Mayor of the City; and in the Northern Liberties this morning, a number of charred trunks and skulls of human beings were recovered from the ruins. Several whole bodies of men, women, and children were also found under the fallen bricks, and were taken to the station house. Numerous half-distracted fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers visited the scene of the fire and station houses to-day, in search of missing friends. Thousands of persons were collected about the burnt district, the blackened and desolate appearance of which, no pen can describe.

The City Council have appropriated \$10,000 for the relief of the poor families who are sufferers.

PHILADELPHIA, July 10.—After the most diligent inquiry, we have been unable to obtain a complete list of the killed, wounded and missing; from all the information in regard to the most melancholy part of the story of yesterday's disaster, we feel safe in stating the numbers as follows: Killed 30; Wounded 100; Drowned 9; Missing 17—total 156.

The following statement, though necessarily inaccurate and of course not official, will, we think, turn out to be nearly correct as to the sums insured:—The Fire Association \$100,000; Franklin 75,000; Reliance 50,000; American 50,000; Mutual 75,000; North American 30,000; Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania 20,000; Delaware Mutual 8,000; Pennsylvania 15,000; Spring Garden 3,000; County Insurance Company 25,000—total \$458,000. The loss of the Fire Association may not go beyond \$25,000; that of the Franklin and Hand-in-Hand 50,000 each; and that of the American 30,000. In no one instance will the loss be likely to exceed our estimate.

Taking it for granted that the same amount of property is uninsured, which is a very reasonable supposition, the entire loss may be stated at from \$800,000 to \$1,000,000. The loss of John Brock, in whose building the fire and explosion occurred, is about \$35,000, which is fully covered by insurance. John Brock, Sons & Co., had in storage in their building, saltpetre, brimstone, sugar, molasses, &c., to the amount of \$12,000. They say the quantity of saltpetre was not very large, and they pledge their word and honour, business and reputation, that there was not a pound of powder in the store. Many persons have been under the impression that the explosion, which was so fatal, was caused by gunpowder. Messrs. Brock & Co. give the most sacred assurance that such was not the case.

Messrs. Rigden & Budd had in store 8000 brls. flour; they estimate their loss at \$10,000. They have policies that will more than cover this. A. Wright & Nephew, had in store an immense quantity of salt, flour, wheat and clover seed, and their loss will reach \$20,000—fully insured. Dr. Jones's drug warehouse, insured for \$15,000. The store and stock were valued at \$30,000. The above firms comprise all the heavy business houses that were burned.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA.

HALIFAX, THURSDAY, 18th July, 1850.

The Steamer America arrived at 10 o'clock this forenoon. She left Liverpool at 3 P. M., on Saturday, 6th July; has encountered heavy westerly winds on the passage, and was detained some time off the Coast by dense fog.

ENGLAND.—The most important, and also the most melancholy event announced by this arrival is the Death of Sir Robert Peel. It appears he was thrown from his horse on the 29th ult., and immediately after the horse fell upon him, which caused such serious injuries, that he died on the following Tuesday. He had all the best Medical talent of the metropolis, but no human power could avail.

Speculation is busy as to the probable effect that Sir Robert's death will have upon the political parties in the Kingdom. Some are of opinion that the position of the present Ministry will be strengthened by the event.

In the House of Lords, ministers suffered another defeat on Monday, a majority of twenty two was obtained against them upon an amendment moved to the Irish franchise Bill.

The only effect this last defeat had, was to cause them to withdraw the Bill as also the Bill for the abolition of the Lord Lieutenantcy of Ireland, and the encumbered Estates Bill; but no intimation or symptom of retiring.

The Revenue for the last quarter shows an increase over the corresponding quarter of last year of over half a million—there is also a large increase in the amount of Exports.

The accounts from the Manufacturing districts continue very satisfactory. So also of the weather and growing crops. Never was there a finer season known so far.

The commercial news from India and China is good; there is no political or other news reported.

PORTUGAL.—Well grounded fears are entertained of a very serious rupture between the United States and Portugal, arising out of claims for indemnity of ancient date, now peremptorily put forward and backed by the presence of an American squadron in the Tagus. The American Minister has given the Portuguese Government 21 days to comply with his demands, and threatens at the expiration of that time, unless satisfaction be given, to demand his passports and let the American forces settle the matter. This affair is not looked upon with indifference by other European nations, and fears are entertained that it may yet disturb the peace of Europe.

The Schleswig difficulty has been settled.

In France all is quiet, the President having obtained his increase of salary, and the small difference with England on Greek affairs having been settled, the French Assembly have nothing before them to quarrel about, and the minister to the British Court has returned to London.

Rumours are afloat that the Emperor of Russia has stated his intention shortly to abdicate in favor of his son—the Hereditary Grand Duke Alexander.