

The settlement in the rear of this district was commenced about 25 years ago—has made but slow progress, and is poor. Our River farmers have the most of them improved in their circumstances until the last three or four years, but most of them do something in the lumber way. The potato rot has been a great drawback to both rich and poor.

NATHANIEL HUBBARD, *Sunbury.*

In concluding this Report, allow me again to express to Your Excellency my strong sense of the numerous imperfections it contains—arising at once from the rapidity with which my services of the Province were necessarily made, and the equal rapidity with which the Report itself has been drawn up. Besides errors in judgement, which I cannot fail to have made, and mistakes in substance, arising from imperfect information, numerous repetitions and verbal faults must, I fear, have crept into a manuscript, the copy of which I have not had leisure to re-read, much less to revise. For the last five Chapters I must ask an especial share of indulgence. Written in the United States since my departure from New Brunswick, sometimes amid the hurry of travel, and always while more or less occupied with other subjects of thought, they cannot fail to be both hasty in style and defective in matter.

I only regret that I have been unable to do more for the Province in the time I have devoted to the study of its agricultural condition and capabilities. What I have accomplished in so far as it is set forth in the present Report, I trust Your Excellency and the Houses of the Legislature will regard with that uncritical and forbearing eye which its many defects demand.

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency's most obedient
and most obliged servant,

JAMES F. W. JOHNSTON.

Boston, Massachusetts, 22nd February, 1850.

IRELAND.

APPALLING MURDER AND SUICIDE.

CAVAN, Sept. 10.—This town and neighbourhood were thrown into the highest state of excitement yesterday by the frightful intelligence that Dr. Creighton, lately come to reside near Ballinagh, had just murdered one of the ladies of his house, and immediately after put an end to his own existence. The information was but too true.—Dr. Creighton was a native of this County; he resided near Cavan up to the period of his entering Trinity College, where he graduated and took out the degree of Bachelor of Medicine. He commenced his professional career in Townsend-street, Dublin, where he practiced with considerable success.

Some short time ago his manner became very eccentric. His deranged state of intellect became so palpable that his friends were advised to withdraw him from practice altogether, and remove him to the country. Accordingly, he and his family returned to this locality about two months ago, where, it was hoped, that by agricultural pursuits, his mind might be diverted from those miserable hallucinations by which it had been preyed on, and he was settled on a farm of some extent, Heath Lodge, on which an excellent house and suitable offices have lately been erected.

Dr. Creighton's monomania was a conviction that his friends were endeavouring to poison him in his food, and accordingly he refused food for several days. He would frequently lay down on the lawn, or in the fields, and eat grass, in order, as he said, to prevent the execution of the plans of those around him. On all other subjects he was perfectly clear and collected, and conversed in the most rational manner. He was not placed under restraint, and walked about the grounds and roads at pleasure. His family consisted of an aunt, Miss Creighton, advanced in life and infirm, a young lady named Paris, a near relative of his own, and a servant man. On the morning of Tuesday, at about nine o'clock, Dr. Creighton went to his aunt's room, and told her that the servant was waiting to shave him, and begged of her to give him his razors for that purpose—they had been purposely kept out of his reach; but seeing how calm and collected he was, and hearing from him that the servant was in attendance, she did not hesitate to give them to him. Miss Creighton, it appears, was still in bed, for he said, on leaving the room "Aunt, you need not get up; I'll send your breakfast up when it is ready." He then went down stairs, and nothing further was seen or heard of him until about a quarter of an hour after, when Miss Creighton, on going down to the parlour, and finding it empty, proceeded to the kitchen. Her horror may be imagined, on reaching this spot, to find Miss Paris lying dead on the floor, a pool of blood around her, and her head nearly severed from her body. A broad mark of blood, commencing near the dead body, next attracted her attention. She tracked this second stream of blood to the closed door of a pantry adjoining the kitchen. On pushing open this door, she found him bathed in blood, and just expiring.—He never spoke, and died in a few minutes.

An inquest was held on the bodies of these unfortunates, and a verdict returned in accordance with the too-well-known state of mind of this unhappy gentleman.

Dr. Creighton was not much over thirty years of age. His victim was several years younger. She was an agreeable, well educated person, and had just arrived on a visit to his aunt, as she was preparing to emigrate to America, where her friends are now residing. Nothing is known of the proceedings of Dr. Creighton after leaving his aunt's room, beyond what the position of the bodies indicated. There was no witness to it, the servant man having gone for milk for breakfast. From the position and situation of Miss Paris's body, it is supposed that when the murderer entered the kitchen, she was in the act of stooping to take up the teapot that stood before the fire; that he seized her by the hair, and dragged her forcibly backward, and then inflicted the wound that all but separated the head from the trunk. The second stream of blood indicates that he inflicted the fatal wound on his own throat whilst standing beside her body, and

then walked out of the kitchen and into the pantry, where his body was found.

They were both buried in the one grave at an early hour on Wednesday morning.

SETTLEMENT OF THE INDIAN DISPUTE.—We copy from the *Montreal Gazette* the following account of the adjustment of the dispute between the Government and the Indians. The Hon. Mr. Robinson acted on behalf of the Government. The meeting took place at Sault St. Marie:—

We learn that there were about twenty Chiefs present, and about eighty of the principal men of their respective tribes. The Council was held in a large building, belonging to the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company. The attendance was large, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. Mr. Robinson addressed the Indians, and was aided by Mr. George Johnson, an interpreter. He told them that the terms he was prepared to offer them were,—either to give them the money, about £8000, received by the Government, and no annuity; or £4000 down, with an annuity for ever of £1000. They accepted the latter, and the choice, in our opinion, was very prudent. All the Chiefs present expressed their willingness to sign a treaty, based on these terms, with only two exceptions, Shingaukous and Nebinagochin. These were implicated in the Mica Bay affair, and were, we learn, incited by their white and half-breed brethren, to resist the offer made to them. But it appears that their opposition produced no effect, for all the Chiefs and the principal men signed the treaty, after Mr. Robinson had signed it on behalf of Her Majesty.

We understand that the territory surrendered extends from Penetangishene, at the East end of Lake Huron, including French River, and Lake Nipissing, to Pigeon River, beyond Fort William, or Lake Superior. And inland as far as the limits of Canada extend:—which is, we suppose, to the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company's possessions, including all the islands.

We learn that some important reservations were made by the Indians, in places where they have been in the habit of sowing their corn, &c.

There is now nothing to prevent our enterprising people from exploring and searching for minerals or other productions, and we hope that they will avail themselves of the opportunity afforded without delay.

MEETING OF FUGITIVE SLAVES.—A meeting was held at the church of the Rev. Mr. Snowden, last evening, composed of the fugitive slaves residing in Boston. The object was to take measures for their protection against the operation of the infamous fugitive slave law. A committee of seven was chosen to draft resolutions and mature a plan of protection and report at a future meeting. There are now between three and four hundred fugitive slaves residing in Boston. Some of them have resided here many years, have acquired property, and are respectable and useful people; yet they are liable to be apprehended and sold into slavery.—*Boston Traveller.*

PITTSBURG, September 28.—The excitement increases among our coloured population in relation to the fugitive slave law. Nearly all the waiters in the hotels have fled to Canada. Sunday thirty fled; on Monday, forty; on Tuesday, fifty; on Wednesday, thirty; and up to this time the number that has left will not fall short of three hundred. They went in large bodies, armed with pistols and bowie knives, determined to die rather than be captured.

OSWEGO, Oct. 1st.—The Fugitive Slave Law is exciting some movements amongst the coloured population here, as it is imagined that some slave catchers are on the look-out. The blacks have organized and armed themselves, and are determined to resist to the last any attempt on their liberty.

BEDFORD, PA., Oct. 1st.—Ten Virginian runaway slaves lost their way on a ridge of the Alleghany. They were discovered and attacked by Pennsylvanians. One slave was mortally and another dangerously wounded. Six of them escaped to a mountain hut, and while they remained there, the owners of the hut obtained assistance and captured them. It is said they received \$250 reward for the capture. Two yet remained concealed. Pennsylvanians are on the alert, eager for the reward of those captured. They expect to reap a harvest.

SPRINGFIELD, Oct. 1.—There is a great excitement in Springfield on account of the supposed presence of slave catchers. The coloured people are arming themselves. The Town Hall is thronged by thousands of excited people who are determined that not a slave shall be carried from Springfield, law or no law. There will be hard fighting if it is attempted. There are about fifty fugitive slaves resident here.

WHERE IS LIBERTY?—A gentleman, to all appearances, whose skin is not as dark as some "white" free men, called upon a legal friend of ours, and stated that a short time since he fled from the slavery of South Carolina to the free hills of Massachusetts, where he was told he would find protection, and enjoy liberty; but recent events caused him to fear his liberty; he learned that persons claiming him as their property, were in search of him; he wanted to know of our friend what he should do to retain and enjoy the liberty he loved so well.

"Flee from Massachusetts, nor stop until your feet are upon the monarchial ground of Queen Victoria, where you can enjoy freedom," was the reply, "for Massachusetts furnishes no legal safety for you."—*Boston Bee.*

FELONS ESCAPED.—Yesterday afternoon, four of the convicts confined in the Provincial Penitentiary, contrived to effect their escape from that institution. We understand that they, by some means, obtained possession of a ladder, by means of which they ascended the high wooden fence in broad day light; and then jumped from the top of the fence and made off. The criminals thus escaped from justice, are Ishmael Reed, convicted at the last August St. John Circuit Court, of forgery, and sentenced to eight years imprisonment with hard labour; Thomas Crawford, sentenced at the same time to five years im-

prisonment and hard labour, for a murderous assault upon his wife; Robert Purden, recently committed at Miramichi, of forgery, and sentenced to five years imprisonment and hard labour; and a Deserter from the Garrison.

St. John Observer, Oct. 8.

The Right Reverend Dr. Mountain, who has for so many years administered the anglican Diocese of Quebec, under the title of Bishop of Montreal, and who is respected and esteemed by all—episcopalians, and non-episcopalians—for his piety, learning, urbanity, and attention to his pastoral duties, was on Saturday forenoon last installed as Bishop of Quebec. After the ceremony, His Lordship ascended the pulpit and preached from the 22nd chapter of Matthew, 2d and 3d verses, an excellent and appropriate *ex tempore* sermon.—*Quebec Chronicle.*

MARRIED IN FUN.—The Meredith Bridge (N. H.) Democrat states that a young gentleman and young lady at Centre Harbour, not many days since, requested Squire Thomson, of that place, to unite them in marriage, with which desire he forthwith complied—one of them, it is said, agreeing to pay him five dollars for the service, and the other promising an additional compensation of a bushel of beans. The parties now say that they preferred their request for marriage merely in fun. But the Squire informs them that they are tied fast, and can't back out—the marriage having been legally recorded on the town books, as a veritable contract.

We understand that the resignation of the Chief Justice has been forced upon him by the Government, in consequence of his increasing infirmities; in fact he has been quite incompetent to discharge the important duties of his office for many years past. We are happy to find that certain members of the Government are well satisfied that "coming events are casting their shadows before," and that in order to meet the inevitable changes which must soon take place, they are making the most and the best of their official existence.

The Attorney General, like a wise and prudent man, is determined to take care of himself, by obtaining a position where he will be altogether beyond popular influence; but alas! what is to become of his Hon. colleague—Mr. Partelow;—he is to be left to the tender mercies of the new House, and we think he will find in due time that, like Ichabod, the glory hath departed from him; and that he will have no power to call to his aid any of the large majority who have been returned by the different constituencies, for the express purpose of upsetting the present rotten Coalition. We are well satisfied, on what we consider the very best authority, that when the House meets there will not be found among the whole number more than from ten to twelve members who will dare to support the Government. A bold attempt is being made at this very moment to subsidize certain members, but we are satisfied that they are all too independent, both in principle and in their present political position, to listen to the projects of a selfish and falling faction. The whole inhabitants of this Province, with the single exception of the old *swarm* of New Brunswick—Victoria—have spoken out against the Government—and if it were possible for any man to be weak enough to incline his ear to the enchanter of the *do-nothing* Cabinet, he must bear in mind that ere he can enjoy the spoils of office, he must go back to his constituents, and ask their permission first. Such a contingency as this, we feel well satisfied cannot arise at this time.

As retrenchment is, and ought to be, the order of the day, why not allow the three Judges to continue doing all the business as they have done for a number of years past, and thereby save the salary of one Judge, which would be at least £600 to the Province? The Judges are certainly quite competent to do all the work, and, even then, not suffer much from hard labour.—*New Brunswicker.*

THE SLAVERY QUESTION IN THE UNITED STATES.—More than ordinary excitement is now manifested throughout the Northern States in consequence of the operation of the new Slave Bill passed by Congress, under the provisions of which every fugitive slave is liable to be arrested in any part of the Union, no matter how long since he may have escaped from slavery. The agents of the slave-holders have recently arrested in New York and other northern cities men who escaped from slavery years ago, and they have been carried back to perpetual bondage. These arrests have created intense excitement, and large numbers of fugitive slaves have made their escape to Canada. The abolitionists have taken up the matter warmly, and large meetings have been held in different sections of the country. At Albany the blacks are armed, and assert their determination to resist the law. This is also the case elsewhere, and the feeling is described as intense.

On the other hand, the people of the South appear to be greatly exasperated at the conduct of the abolitionists, in trying to deprive them of what they consider their property. At St. Helens, South Carolina, the inhabitants have resolved not to employ Northern vessels, nor use any articles manufactured in the free States.

The crisis is fast approaching, and unless one party or the other make concessions, the long-threatened explosion will soon take place. We shall watch with great interest the development of this important subject.—*New Bruns.*

ONE BRIGHT SPOT.—The St. John (N. B.) papers state that the potatoes in that Province are not affected by the rot, and that the yield is very large. The St. John Morning News says:—This season we have sent Salmon to the United States, amounting in value, it is said, to £13,000. We shall now have to send them potatoes to eat with the fish—and if they want coal to warm their fingers—copper to make cents—black-lead to polish their stoves—or iron to make railroads; we shall in a year or two be able to accommodate them to any extent. Send along your orders. So we will, if you will take flour, cotton goods, mouse traps, and wooden nutmegs, in the way of dicker. We Yankees are bound to hold our own at a bargain.—*Boston Mail.*