

surface of the fathomless sea, when his heart failed him, poor little man! and along with his confidence away also went his power of keeping his head above water. So down he sank rapidly to the speechless horror of the other boys, who, of course, could lend the drowning child no help. The Captain of the fore-castle, a tall, fine looking, hard-a-weather fellow, was standing on the shank of the sheet anchor with his arms across, and his well-varnished canvass hat drawn so much over his eyes, that it was difficult to tell whether he was awake, or merely dozing in the sun, as he leaned his back against the fore-topmast backstay. The seaman, however, had been attentively watching the young party all the time, and rather fearing that mischief might ensue from their rashness, he had grunted out a warning to them from time to time, to which they paid no sort of attention. At last he desisted, saying, they might drown themselves, if they had a mind, for never a bit would he help them; but no sooner did the sinking figure of the adventurous little boy catch his eye, than, diver-fashion, he joined the palms of his hands over his head, inverted his position in one instant, and urging himself into swifter motion by a smart push with his feet against the anchor, shot head foremost in the water. The poor lad sank so rapidly, that he was, at least, a couple of fathoms under the surface, before he was arrested by the grip of the sailor, who soon rose again, bearing the bewildered boy in his hand, and calling to the other youngsters to take better care of their companion, chucked him right into the belly of the sail in the midst of the party. The fore-sheet was hanging in the calm, nearly into the water, and by it the dripping seaman scrambled up again to his old birth on the anchor, shook himself like a great Newfoundland dog, and then, jumping on the deck, proceeded across the fore-castle to shift himself.—Captain B. Hall's Fragments.

SPIRIT OF THE PROVINCIAL JOURNALS.

QUEBEC GAZETTE.—**MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE AT MONTREAL.**—The John Molson which arrived this forenoon, and the John Bull this afternoon, having left Montreal yesterday at six o'clock, brought several letters stating that a part of the 15th called out by the Magistrates had fired on the people excited by the late contestation to acts of violence among themselves, and 7 persons had been wounded, 3 of whom has since died.

The following is one of the letters:—
Montreal, 21st May, 1832, six o'clock P. M.—Yesterday, as I am informed, Mr. Tracey harangued the populace in the streets, and used strong and violent language, saying they must come forward and carry his election cost what it would. The language attributed to Mr. Tracey is so violent and sanguinary that I fear I would be guilty of temerity in committing it to paper without stronger authority than hearsay, suffice it to say it was riotous and undictive, some say revolutionary, others positively deny this. Affidavits of the tenor of his language were handed in to the Magistrates, and they considered it to be of such an alarming character that the military were requested to be in readiness. About three o'clock the work of riot began, one of the special constables was attacked, Mr. Delisle the high constable was called on, and he immediately called forward the special constables that were placed in front of the parish church.—The mob however, rushed on them, took possession of their poles, and beat them off the ground. In this emergency the military were called out, and the riot act read by Mr. Robertson one of our Magistrates, the tumult did not however cease. A number of persons fled into the house of Mr. Henderson, Grocer in the Place d'Armes, near the Poll, and the mob attacked the house breaking the windows with stones. In this emergency the soldiers who had been kept inside the inclosure in front of the parish church were marched out, but they too were attacked and beaten with stones. The officer in command, as I hear, was struck with a stone and the party under his command driven off, stones still continuing to be thrown. When no prospect of obtaining peace by a show of intimidation could be hoped for, the word 'halt' was given and the fatal 'fire' was followed by the fall of seven persons, four of whom are either dead or mortally wounded. The man carried past my windows is printer in the *Vindica* or office, he is shot through the head and never moved after receiving the wound. Another named, as I hear, Giroux is shot through the breast. Report says there are three Canadians and one Irishman among the sufferers.

7 1-2 o'clock.—I have visited the scene of death and have seen three dead bodies, I believe there are only three killed; but some others are dangerously wounded. The names of the dead are Languedoc, Chauvin and Billette. Giroux is wounded through the thigh but not dead.

I hear Tracey is three ahead.

P. S.—Recollect all I say except 7 1-2 o'clock paragraph is hearsay information.

Montreal, Tuesday afternoon.—Mr. Tracey has been elected, under a protest from Mr. Bagg's party.

Extract from a letter dated Montreal, Saturday evening, 19th May.

'Last evening, about nine o'clock, Curran, an Irish Catholic, a peaceable and sober man, entering upon St. Joseph-street, was preceded by some boys who were crying 'Huzza for Tracey!' Cooke, who is said to be an Orangeman and opposed to Tracey, fired a gun into the crowd from a broken pane in the window of the house he works in as a shoemaker, and the ball entered Curran's side and mortally wounded him. The person who ran to his assistance afterwards entered Cooke's house to seize him, but he had escaped. Handbills giving a description of his person have been issued. It is understood that proposals have been made by Bagg's party to allow the candidates to remain equal, with a view to annul the election and recommence at some time hence, but Tracey's supporters rejected any compromise of the kind. It is said that Bagg has 12 votes to poll.—Tracey, it is thought, 15 to 18.'

Extract from another letter of the same date:—

A very melancholy accident occurred here last night. A man named Curran, a Blacksmith in the Recollet suburbs, was shot by a man named Cooke. Curran was a Tracey man, and Cook a Bagg's man. Cooke had been attending a prayer meeting, and was chased from the church to his residence. They then threw stones at his house, some of which struck the window shutters, and others broke some pane or panes of glass. Cooke then fired and wounded the before mentioned Curran. This is as I have the story from the Bagg party. The Traceyites say, Cooke threatened some days ago to shoot some of them, and deliberately

came out and fired. It is currently reported that Curran was not participating in the riotous proceedings. He is supposed to be mortally wounded.

His Excellency and suite will attend at three in the afternoon, to witness the foundation stone of the New Marine Hospital laid, near the old Dorchester bridge, St. Rock. For this building the Legislature has granted about £11,000.

SYDNEY COALS.—The Hickman arrived on Wednesday from Sydney, Cape Breton, with a cargo of coals for Messrs. Molson & Co., the steam boat proprietors.—This we believe is the first instance of coals having been imported from that Province. The coal districts of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, are among the most extensive in the world. They are already worked on a large scale. The New York market is in a great measure supplied from this quarter. The coals in several of the mines are stated to be equal if not superior to the best English coal.

Thirty-two deaths—men, women, and children, occurred on board, during the passage of the Hebron, arrived yesterday from Dublin. They are not supposed to have been from cholera. She then no sick on board.

A Montreal letter dated Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock, states 'nothing has been heard of Coombeau, said to be missing; Creed, although mortally wounded, is considered by Dr. Nelson as likely to recover; Giroux, another of the wounded, is not expected to survive, the others are doing well. The funeral of the killed will take place to-morrow, Thursday at 8 o'clock; 1500 invitations have been issued, with a desire to wear crapes. The guard at the New Market and all the centres are still double.—The Coroner's inquest is still sitting; the who evidence is taking in come up.

ST. JOHN OBSERVER.—Since Thursday last, we have had another series of cold N.E. winds, by which we fear vegetation must have been greatly retarded, wherever their chilling influence has extended.—Yesterday was a day closely resembling its predecessor of twenty years ago (the 4th June, 1812) the day which many will remember was fixed upon by Nimrod Hughes, of prophesying celebrity, for the destruction of about three-fourths of the fair world which we inhabit, and which day was accordingly looked to by the credulous, with no ordinary anxiety; such indeed as not even the roar of cannon and the thousand rejoicings which about in those good times, could altogether dispel. Nimrod happily proved a lying prophet, but the day was one of terror and sad omen, to the farmer. It was so cold and wintry that in some parts of the country snow was said to have fallen, and many of the feathery race perished.—Yesterday but too nearly reminded us of that memorable 4th of June.

LANCH.—On Saturday last, was launched from the building yard of Mr. George Thompson, in Portland, the new Steam Boat Woodstock, owned by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Ross. The Woodstock draws at present but about 21 inches of water; and when her three feet—She is about 87 feet in length, 16 feet wide, and of 106 tons. It is said to be the intention of the owners to establish her as a regular Passage Boat on the River St. John. May success attend the enterprise.—The machinery of this Boat is of about 25 horse power, and the boiler manufactured at the foundry of Messrs. Foulis, Ross and Hogg, in this city.—From the Woodstock's peculiar build, light draught, and strong Engine, it is anticipated that she will be propelled with much speed.

Total number of passengers entered at this port up to the 1st June, 1837—children, 158.

ST. ANDREWS HERALD.—**SMALL POX.**—Two Children were landed last evening, with the other passengers, from the brig *Hibernia*, from Kinsale, infected with the Small Pox. Dr. Frye, one of the Visiting Physicians, boarded the vessel and examined all the Passengers, except the two children who had the infection, which were concealed from his notice. We are not aware of what steps the Board of Health intend taking, to prevent the spreading of this noxious disease, but the most energetic measures should be at once adopted.

HALIFAX FREE PRESS.—Letters from Pernambuco dated April 21, state that a serious rising of the Portuguese and the Imperialists against the Government had taken place which had been suppressed after much bloodshed. Trade was paralysed and the greatest alarm was entertained in consequence of similar movements in the country.

On Tuesday evening last a very fine little girl, whose parents are named Kelley, was run over—owing to the improper driving of a truckman through the streets; and soon after expired.

SCHEDIASMA.

MIRAMICHI.

TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 12, 1832.

By the Packet we have obtained our files of English papers to the 4th, and Mr. Joseph Samuel politely favoured us with the London Weekly Dispatch of the 6th May, being the latest date received by this conveyance. We have attentively perused the papers, but they furnish very little of moment. The Cholera, though somewhat abated, still continues to rage with fearful violence at Paris, and has assumed a very virulent aspect at Dublin, where the number of deaths, daily, altho' very great, were increasing. It had almost entirely subsided in England, but the Cockneys were much alarmed at the prophecies of several persons, that the metropolis was to be again visited by that most dreadful of all scourges, in the month of July next, and that it would be more fearful in its effects. We have copied such items as we considered of general interest.

CROWN LANDS.—Our readers well know, that the map of the whole country is compiled with plans of detached lots; and the situation of every place, and the

direction of every river, has been ascertained by the magnetic needle. Before we enter on the subject of surveys, in general, it is our intention to devote a little time to the consideration of an instrument, through which, consequences of such vast importance, daily flow. As our purpose is but to describe facts, it is foreign to our thoughts to enter into any detailed history of the magnet, as that may be found in many valuable works, accessible to most persons, but it will be necessary for the better understanding of the subject, by the generality of our country readers—a class of persons indeed, for whose special instruction we profess to appropriate a considerable portion of our columns—to give a summary account of a discovery so valuable and so interesting. The load-stone, or magnet, is an ore of a ferruginous nature, found commonly in iron mines and in most countries of the eastern hemisphere. Its attractive qualities, or the power with which it is endowed of drawing to itself particles of iron and steel, were well known to the ancients, as well as its ability to impart that property by contact; but the grand discovery of its directive quality—that of pointing, when at perfect freedom, in a constant direction—was reserved for those of modern ages. It is by no means a matter of CERTAINTY, that the ancients did not participate with us in the knowledge of the latter quality, and that the Egyptians—that most extraordinary people—did not even forestal us in its application to astronomical or nautical purposes. It is almost certain that the Chinese navigated their vessels by its aid, long before such a discovery by any European was made; and the whole is involved in so much obscurity, that the real discoverer, and the era in which he lived, are not certainly known. However, Flavio de Gira, a Neapolitan who lived early in the thirteenth century, is generally considered entitled to the honour; but he divides the fame of its application to naval purposes, with Marco Paulo, a Venetian, who is said to have introduced it from the Chinese, about the year 1260. Navigation at these times, was weak in infancy, and the most commercial people, even the Venetians and Portuguese, where wholly unacquainted with science. They were distinguished by a superior genius, and were led to the study of the heavenly motions, were involved in the obscurity of the Arabian philosophy, and irresistibly drawn aside to be lost in the vortex of the occult sciences. Astronomy thus became a vehicle for Astrology; and the study of nature subservient to the discovery of the Philosophers' stone. For a long period of time, in consequence of the universal ignorance of the age, no further discovery or improvement was made in regard to the magnetic needle; and during the whole of which period it was believed that its extraordinary directive property was unchangeably in the TRUE MERIDIAN. To England is due the honor of giving birth to Sebastian Cabot, in the middle of the fifteenth century, who was the first to discover the Variation of the needle, and who published his account at Venice, in a work on Navigation in the year 1500. This, however, is not an undisputed point, for Cavallo has published, attached to his Treatise on Magnetism, a translation of a very curious manuscript, written by one Peter Adsigner, dated the 8th August, 1269, and said to have been found in the library of the University of Leyden, in which, not only those properties of the magnet which were known to the ancients, but the directive power, and even the DECLINATION of the needle, are in the clearest manner pointed out. England is also entitled to claim the glory of having originated the other subsequent discoveries of the INCLINATION of the needle to the earth, when pointed VERTICALLY, which was ascertained by Robert Norman in 1576; the variation of the declination, the observation of Henry Gellibrand, Professor of Astronomy in Gresham College, about the year 1626; if not previously by Muir and Gunter; and the diurnal variation, or that produced by heat, cold, or electricity, the result of the notices of Mr. George Graham in 1722 or 1723. Mr. Canton in 1756, and subsequently Dr. Gowan Knight, have made great advances in the science by careful experiments in needles of great length, and the latter has contributed largely to the service of mankind by his attention to the construction of compasses.

When the declination of the needle was first accurately known in the eastern hemisphere—then the known parts of the globe—its deviation from the true meridian was eastward, and it was universally believed to be stationary; but when that belief came to be shaken, and discoveries of its having actually varied fully ascertained, that variation was found to be decreasing, and a pretty regular inclination manifested gradually to coincide with the true meridian. At this time the variation at London was about six degrees east, and according to the just discovered law, it continued to decrease until 1657, when the magnetic meridian coincided with that of the world. From that period to the present time the declination has continued to INCREASE, but on the western side of the polar meridian. We have now arrived at the great difficulty pro-