

Meantime, one of the crew of the brig who had managed to secret himself from the pirates, and had thus escaped the massacre which befell indiscriminately his mesmates, had come forth from his hiding place, and related the story of their capture. I will give it, adding other matters in their place, as I learnt them subsequently from the inmates of the cabin. The brig was a coaster and had left the Havana a few days before, having for passengers an English gentleman of large fortune with his daughter and her personal slaves. They had been becalmed the preceding evening under the lee of the neighboring island, and, as the night was a fine one, their passengers had remained on deck until a late hour, the daughter of Mr. Neville amusing herself with singing on her own guitar, or listening to the ruder but yet dulcet music of her slaves. At length they had descended to the cabin, but, within a few minutes of their retirement, a large crank boat, pulled by some twenty armed piratical ruffians had been seen coming towards the brig. Escape was impossible, and defence was useless. The feeble though desperate resistance made by the crew of half dozen men, was soon overcome. Mr. Neville had headed the combat, and, when the ruffians gained possession of the deck, had retreated to the cabin, barricading the entrance on the inside. But the pirates, headed by their leader, although baffled for a while, had eventually broke through this defence and poured into the cabin; but not until several of their number had been wounded by the desperate parent, who, fighting like a lion at bay, had even fired through the door on his assailants after they had shattered it and before it was finally broken in. At length the ruffians had gained an entrance; and a dozen swords were levelled at Mr. Neville, who still endeavored to shield his daughter. He fell—and God knows what would have been the fate of that innocent girl, if we had not at the instant reached the brig. The ruffian leader was forced to leave his prey and hasten on deck. The reader knows the rest.

When morning dawned we were still abreast of the island. By this time, however, a light breeze had sprung up and the schooner had been brought too under the quarter of The Arrow. My superior heard with emotion of the death of his lieutenant, and expressed his determination of carrying the pirates into the neighboring port at once, and delivering them up for trial. He gave up his own cabin temporarily to the afflicted daughter, and sympathized with her sorrow as if she had been his own child. The remains of her parent were not consigned to the deep, but allotted, on the following day, a place in consecrated ground. But I pass over the events immediately succeeding the capture of the pirates. Suffice it to say that, after a delay of three or four days in port, we found it would be impossible to have the pirates brought to trial by the tardy authorities under a month. As my presence was deemed necessary on that event, and as my superior was unwilling to delay his cruise for so long a period, it was determined then that The Arrow should pursue her voyage, calling again at the port to take me up in the course of a month or six weeks. The next day, after this arrangement, she sailed.

#### CHINA.

Seizure of the Supercargo and Boats Crew of an American vessel.—The ship Delhi, which arrived at New York, on Thursday morning, brings Macoa dates to Nov. 26—seven days later.

There had been no more fighting of consequence, but several vessels had been sent in pursuit of certain Chinese junks.

The Chinese had insulted the American flag by seizing and loading with chains Alfred P. Edwards, supercargo, and a boat's crew belonging to the ship Hannibal, of New York.

There had been no change in the prices of teas, but lead had risen in price.

Alfred P. Edwards, Esq.—On the morning of the 17th November, Alfred P. Edwards, Esq. supercargo of the American ship Hannibal, of New York, left Whampoa in one of the ship's boats for Canton, and when off the east side of the island of Honam near round fort, the boat was stopped by a party of Chinese soldiers and ordered to the shore; immediately on reaching the shore the military rushed upon the boat, secured Mr Edwards and boat's crew, bound their hands behind them, and put chains around their necks, taking from Mr Edwards his watch, papers &c., with the summary process of emptying his pockets by cutting them off;

they were then conducted to prison surrounded by a military force of several hundred men, with drawn swords, spears, &c.

While thus detained in prison bound and chained, they placed over Mr Edwards a guard of three men with spears and drawn swords; after remaining in this situation three hours they were then taken across the island by an escort of forty soldiers to each individual, and were then put in separate boats and taken across the river to the city of Canton to the residence of the Mayor, being led through the streets by chains which were placed around the neck, followed and shouted at by the populace as they passed, receiving the treatment of the vilest condemned criminals; after remaining in close confinement for several hours they were taken separately before the mandarin and examined, still bound and chained; on Mr Edwards representing his true character as an American, he was released from his chains and on unbinding his hands, they fell perfectly paralyzed to his side, owing to the cruel manner of binding; it was some time before the circulation of the blood was restored.

The mandarins then expressed their sorrow at the detention, saying it was a mistake, as they supposed them to be Englishmen; after suffering every insult and degradation they were set at liberty because they were not Englishmen. From this Her Britannic Majesty's subjects will learn what they have to expect under similar circumstances.

Mr Edwards is now at the factory in Canton suffering severely from the effects of this cruel and unprovoked insult. Mr Edwards is a gentleman advanced in life, and of the highest respectability, and has frequently visited Canton in the situation he now fills.

Chusan, Chinhae, Ningpo.—Some information which we have received since last week, enables us to inform our readers of a few more interesting particulars about the capture of Tinghae, and Chinhae, and of the beautiful English city of Ningpo.

Those who have been at Chusan must recollect joss-house, the 49th's and 18th's hills; the situation of the suburbs and city, and the intervening beach between the joss-house hill to the right and the 49th's hill to the left, looking north. It was opposite this beach that the English squadron anchored in July 1840; but on their return in 1841, those who had long resided in Tinghae did not again know the place, so great had been the efforts of the Chinese to raise new fortifications.

A line of defences had been built along the whole length of the beach, from the joss-house to the 49th's hill—called, we think, by the English on the last attack, the long battery. The principal attack was made by the 55th regt., led by Sir Hugh Gough, the commander in chief, which stormed the 49th's hill, and drove all before them in half an hour; here an officer (ensign Jewell, 56th) was killed and eighteen men were wounded; Sir Hugh Gough was struck by a spent ball on the shoulder.

While the 55th stormed the 49th's hill, Captain Knowles, of the royal artillery, was throwing shells from his howitzers into the joss house hill forts, from a height on Trumbell's Island. When the rest of the troops were landed, the whole force descended into the plain without meeting any resistance, and began throwing shells into the city, which was soon deserted by the Chinese escaladed, and possession taken by the British troops in less than two hours from the commencement of the attack. It is supposed about 3,000 of the inhabitants left the city.

The alacrity of the defences of the Chinese are here again evident; for although they had strongly fortified the joss-house and 49th's hills, their long battery on the beach was utterly useless for it was enfiled from both hills, but they had built it with the notion that the English ships would anchor opposite to it, to be fired at.

It is said the three Chinese generals were killed, leading on their troops.

#### United States.

Boston, March 26.—There is in this market a complete stagnation of all business, and we see by accounts from our sister cities that every thing is dull, goods plenty, and money scarce.

The following paragraph from the Journal of Commerce, shows that the large importations from abroad have affected the market of that city quite as much as this.

Dry Goods have sold worse for a day or two past. Some articles still pay cost and charges, but the great mass of staple goods, such as prints, drillings, &c. will hardly send back to Europe one half the cost. They bring by auction, two thirds to three fourths of the cost and charges.

The Dry Goods auctioneers in Philadelphia, in order to aid as far as possible to strengthen credit, and establish the Bank resumption, have extended their credit from four months to six months.

Baltimore, March 24.—There is very little doing in any kind of business. The pressure on the money market is carrying down a number of our best and strongest houses.

#### Philadelphia Gazette, March 27.

British Steam Ships at Porto Rico.—By Captain Parker, of the brig Henrietta, from St. Johns, we are informed that three or four days before he sailed, a British steam ship of the first class from England, via the Windward Islands and a small, or mail steamer from the Leeward with mails for the Windward Islands, appeared off the Harbour, and were about to enter, when the Captain General ordered them off forthwith, and after lying off and on for several hours, were compelled to pursue their voyages without exchanging their mails at Saint Johns. Orders had been sent to Mayaguez, another stopping place, to prohibit their having intercourse with the shore. This difficulty taken in connexion with a recent occurrence at Havana, would show that the Dons are not very friendly to the Royal Mail Steamers. It is said they are apprehensive of their being made the medium of interference with the slave population of the Island.

New York Commercial Ad. April 1. Destructive Fire in New York. More than One Hundred Buildings Destroyed.

Since the publication of our yesterday's paper, there have occurred the most disastrous fires which have happened since the great conflagration of December 1835. By other fires a greater amount of pecuniary loss has doubtless been sustained, but by none since that period have so many families been turned homeless into the streets—by none so much individual misery been caused.

The first fire was in Washington st. No 151, owned by Mr Donohue, and occupied by Mr Flacke and Mr Mulligan. It was got under with but a small amount of damage to the house. This was about two o'clock.

At half past two the second fire broke out in the rear of the Grocery store, corner of Delacey and Chrystie streets, occupied by Mr Schienberger. It originated so far as we can understand, from throwing a glass of liquor into the stove by means of which the chimney took fire and communicated the flames to an adjoining wood house, and from thence to several other frame tenements in the immediate vicinity. Nearly all the buildings in the immediate neighbourhood were of the most combustible description—old frame houses huddled close together. The wind was blowing a gale from the northwest, and so great was the headway under which the fire had got before any means could be taken to arrest its progress, that one time it appeared as if that whole section of the city must be destroyed.—Large masses of cinders and flaming brands were carried to an almost incredible distance by the force of the wind, setting fire to the roofs of the houses in all directions, and it was only by the most unweary exertions of the fire department and the citizens generally that a stop was at last put to the spread of the conflagration.

The roofs of several houses in Orchard and Essex streets were several times on fire from the burning cinders carried by the violence of the wind. Crowds of people could be seen on the house tops throwing water, and it was with difficulty many of them were saved from destruction.

We visited the ruins about nine o'clock last evening, and the scene presented to our eyes was truly deplorable; some fifty to sixty families were then in the streets, and what little furniture they saved from the fire was piled and strewed along the side walks.

The loss has fallen principally upon a portion of our poor but respectable working class. The flames spread with such rapidity that they had but little time to save what they did.

While the above fire was still burning another broke out in the centre of the block bounded by Pearl, Elm, Anthony, and Centre streets, by which about 20 more buildings were destroyed.

The insurance upon the property, so far as we have been able to ascertain,

amounts to only about \$45,000. The loss may be set down in round numbers to \$250,000.

Still Another.—A fire broke out in the two story building corner of Maiden Lane and Nassau streets, at half past 12, but was got under without much trouble.

And yet another Serious Fire.—A large barn, owned by Mr Stephen Garrison, of Harsimus, near Jersey City, together with a considerable quantity of hay was entirely consumed, yesterday afternoon.

There are rumours of the United States Government having issued an order for fitting out immediately a heavy armament, including a new War Steamer to proceed to Mexico and demand the American prisoners; but evidently to assist the Texians. Santa Anna is too cunning to be taken in by any demonstrations of war, on the part of the United States, and if such should be the case, he will evidently meet with assistance from some of the European Nations. Has not the United States Government as great a right to demand the release of the prisoners taken during the Canadian Rebellion, and now vegetating in New South Wales. Come, send the Armament to England, and demand their release not attack a nation altogether incapable of coping with you.

The Indians of Texas and Mexico, it is believed, will join in war against the Texians. The Caddes, the Comanches and the Choctaws, are all ready to join the Mexicans,—and probably have commenced the war as their allies. The Choctaws alone can bring into the field five thousand warriors. They are much incensed against the Texians.

From the Boston Correspondent of Halifax Morning Herald, March 31.

Boston at this time is remarkably quiet. Commercial affairs are at the lowest possible ebb. The failure of several honest houses in the city, has spread a gloom over the face of affairs, that is melancholy. The suspension of Mr. \* \* \* so totally unexpected, has caused a great deal of speculation among certain cliques of people, who, of course, know nothing about the affair; and the thousand and one rumours afloat respecting the cause the probable result &c., are not to be believed by any body possessing the least discrimination.

The Saint Charles Theatre at New Orleans, the most elegant and extensive building of the kind in the United States, was destroyed by fire on the 13th ult.—Loss of wardrobe, \$70,000; the building was mortgaged for \$200,000. On the night of the 15th, ten buildings in Paydras street were destroyed—loss estimated at £100,000—insured in London for £52,000.

## SCHEDIASMA.

MIRAMICHI:

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 12, 1842.

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

The Courier with the Southern Mail, arrived on Saturday morning at 8 o'clock.

UNITED STATES.

We are sorry to perceive by the American papers that the city of New York has been visited by a series of disastrous fires, by which a large amount of property was destroyed; and a number of the poorer class of inhabitants rendered homeless.

They also state, that several of the most respectable merchants of Boston, have been compelled to close their business, from the unprecedented depression in trade.

A large meeting was held in the Exchange at New York on the 18th ult. of the merchants, at which a series of Resolutions were passed, condemning party feeling, and factious opposition to the government, and requesting Congress to raise money by taxation, to maintain the dignity and honor of the nation in respect to financial matters, and to place the country in a state of self protection and defence, favourable to the fair adjustment of existing difficulties with Foreign Powers.

The President had sent another message to Congress, stating the uneasy and alarming embarrassments of the Treasury and pressing upon that body the great necessity there exists of providing the funds to discharge its Debts, and maintain inviolate the public faith.

The Boston papers state, that Lord Ashburton had arrived at New York in the Warspite.