

winter provision; and a pile was soon raised against the chief gate of the castle, as high as could be reached. No light, however, was obtained for some minutes: and when, at length, one of the peasants, with a flint and steel, contrived to kindle a flame, an arrow from a projecting turret struck his shoulder and pierced him to the heart. A loud shout of satisfaction burst from the man who had discharged the shaft, and some signs of terror showed themselves among the insurgents at the first appearance of death among themselves. But Caillet boldly thrust himself forward into the very aim of the archer, and shaking his clenched hand at him, exclaimed: 'In this fire will I burn thy heart! revenge, revenge my friends! The blood of our brother calls out to us for revenge. Let us spread round the castle while the flame burns down the gate; perhaps we may find a speedier way in.'

His wish was but to occupy the peasantry while the fire did its work: for he well knew that men unaccustomed to warfare are with difficulty brought to wait in inactivity while any preliminary operation is carried on, especially when they are exposed to danger during the delay. Part, then, he left to watch the burning of the gate under cover of the barbican, the rest he led round the castle, affecting to seek another point of entrance. In the meanwhile, the Lord of Plessy and his attendants, astounded by what had occurred, confused, terrified, and utterly unprepared to offer vigorous resistance to an attack which had never been anticipated, lost much time in wild and hurried consultations; and it was not till the fire had made considerable progress that they thought of pouring down water upon it through the machicolis. Several minutes more were spent in bringing it up from the well to the tower above the gate, and then it was unfortunately found that the stream fell beyond the spot where the flame was raging, and the water flowed away into the moat.

By this time it was evident that, notwithstanding the plating of iron, the woodwork of the door was beginning to ignite, and another hurried and confused consultation took place in which some one proposed to parley with the assailants, and try to make some terms. The old lord however refused to hear of such a disgraceful act,—and it was resolved to open the gate for a moment, and, rushing out, endeavor to throw the flaming pile into the ditch.

Unhappily for the besieged, at the instant this determination was executed, Caillet himself returned from his progress round the walls. He had passed the drawbridge, with Jacques Morne and another, to see what had been the effect of the fire upon the doors, and, notwithstanding the intense heat, was standing almost in the blaze, when the gate was thrown open, and the old lord, with ten or twelve men rushed out, scattering the fire before them. For a moment Caillet and his companions were driven back some steps, but his quick and daring mind instantly conceived the object of the enemy, and he determined to turn their attempt to his own advantage. Suddenly those who were watching under the barbican lost sight of him and his comrades in the midst of the smoke and flame, but the next moment the bold insurgents and their leader appeared again striking on all sides, and literally surrounded by fire and enemies. At the same time the voice of Caillet was shouting aloud, 'The gate is won! The gate is won! On on my men, the castle is ours!'

With a wild yell of triumph the multitude rushed across the bridge and bearing all before them, entered the castle of Plessy together with its devoted lord and his followers. Resistance was now vain, for the number of the assailants exceeded so terribly those of the defenders of the castle, that the lack of arms and discipline was far more than compensated. One or two of the men of Plessy, struck with panic, threw down their weapons and declared they would surrender, forgetting that the enemy had none of the conventional feelings and principles of action which are to be found among regular soldiery. They had now however a terrible lesson to learn; that those who know no mercy will be shown to them if defeated, show no mercy themselves when successful. The offer to surrender, the cries for quarter, were met by knives in the throat or in the hearts of the defeated garrison. Those who were not killed by the first blow were trodden to death under the feet of the multitude, which—rushing vehemently forward one man behind another, drove all before them, or trampled down without mercy those that fell. On they poured, through the courts and narrow passages of the castle, slaying without remorse all the men they found; and still in the front of the brutal crowd was the tall and powerful form of William Caillet, easting himself upon any who yet dared to resist, and accomplishing in a moment by skill of arms, what his rude followers sometimes failed to do by force. On, on they poured, deluging the pavement with blood, strewing the pavement with corpses, and shouting with savage delight at every head that fell, till at length the lower part of the castle was entirely cleared, and up the narrow staircase in the keep they rushed, led on by Caillet and some of the most fierce and determined of his comrades.

Here however the last desperate opposition was prepared for them. The Lord of Plessy himself, and his few surviving followers, stood side by side at the top of the first flight of steps, determined to keep that narrow passage so long as an arm could wave or a heart could

beat. They ranged themselves in double row, the first armed with swords and battle axes, and the men behind passing their shortened lances between their companions in front. It was an awful moment, but each heart was armed with something more than courage. The women and the children were above; and they who had hitherto fought with resolute valour for their own lives, now struck for what was dearer still, for the best, bright, dear gifts of human existence. 'There is hope,' said the Lord of Plessy as he took his station, 'there is still hope while one man guards the staircase! The news of the attack will soon be known—people will come to our rescue from St. Leu and Clermont, and we shall save the women and children—let some one above hang out a black flag from the top of the tower. Hark! the wretches are coming up.'

As he spoke, a tall athletic man, who had been the blacksmith at St. Leu, rushed past Caillet to be the first in the work of butchery; but while he was still ascending, the old noble took a step forward, raised his battle axe in the air, and struck the broad swarthy brow of the insurgent with the clear sharp edge of the weapon, felling him to the ground like an ox under the blow of the butcher. His brains strewed the stone steps as Caillet and Morne ascended; and the dauntless aspect of the old man and his companions made even the bold leader of the insurgents pause for a moment, to think how he might best attack them.

The means that suggested themselves were like the man who hesitated not to seize them. 'Cover my head, Jacques Morne,' he cried, and bending down raised the yet warm and quivering form of the dead man in his strong arms.

The Lord of Plessy viewed him with a scornful smile, thinking he was going to bear the corpse away,—but heaving it up with his full strength, Caillet cast it at once upon the spears and axes of the men above, and then rushed forward, sword in hand into the midst, before they could strike him from above. The rest of the insurgents sprang after him shouting their triumph, and in three minutes the white hairs of the old baron lay dabbled with gore among the corpses of his late gallant followers.

The insurgents paused not in their work,—there was a door on the other side of the landing toward which they ran at once. They found it strongly fastened on the inside,—but it was instantly dashed open, and a large chamber or upper hall presented itself, at the farther side of which stood seven or eight females, with their eyes fixed in an agony of terror upon the opening door. In the middle was a young lady of noble mien, with her hands clasped, and three children clinging round her knees. The moment she saw the faces of the insurgents she uttered a shrill cry, and looked behind her as if for some means of escape. There was none, and the next impulse brought her to the feet of Caillet, exclaiming 'Have pity! have pity! you have killed my father, my husband has long been dead, slay me too if you will,—but oh spare my children!'

Caillet paused and put his hand to his head, while those who followed him rushed on toward the shrieking group at the other side of the room. He seemed to hesitate for a moment, but the instant after, mattering to himself 'They must be bound by deeds that can never be forgiven,' he spurned the lady from him, exclaiming 'I slay you not, but I will not save you!' and turned toward the door, leaving his infuriated followers, mad with blood and lust, to work their horrid will upon the defenceless beings who were now all that remained alive of the former numerous inhabitants of the castle.

Shriek after shriek rang from the hall as Caillet forced his way out through the multitude who were thronging into it: and as soon as he was in the open air he passed and listened till the cries of agony ceased,—and then while a loud, hoarse laugh, from some human demon succeeded, he muttered, 'there is no retreat for them now! They are mine for ever!'

COLONIAL.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Charlottetown Herald, June 25.
We are happy to notice, that Mr Gurney, one of the passengers per the *Ann* from England, has brought with him the necessary machinery, Dye wares, and apparatus for fulling, shearing, drilling, and finishing homespun cloth. We understand the Establishment will be erected on one of the streams near Charlottetown. We have long felt the want of such an undertaking, which in our opinion, merits, and we trust will receive the support and patronage of all parties interested in the prosperity of this Island. It is Mr Gurney's intention to add the cleaning and re-dyeing of Silks, Crapes, Merinoes, and o'her Goods, which no doubt, will be duly appreciated by the fair sex, both in town and country.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

St. John Morning News, June 29.
Great Mortality among the 52nd troops at Fredericton.—We learn from our Fredericton agent, that the Troops are dying off very fast. On Thursday the bass-drummer died; on Friday the Quarter Master; and on Saturday, two privates. We had no idea that the climate of Fredericton was so fatal to the Troops in Garrison—but perhaps they contracted some disease, before their arrival in the Province, and it is only now that is beginning to manifest itself.

St. John Observer, June 28.

The Children of the Episcopal Sunday School were examined at the National School rooms, on Saturday last. There were present 625 children, and about 50 Teachers, together with a number of the parents and other spectators. The examination lasted from ten o'clock in the morning till three in the afternoon, when the children as customary, partook of a moderate repast of fruit and cakes, provided for them by the kindness of their Teachers. The scene was a truly interesting one; and we doubt not, from the readiness with which the children answered, in the various portions of Scripture they were examined in, and from the pleasing manner in which they repeated their numerous proofs upon typical, doctrinal and moral subjects, that all who witnessed it, must have been deeply impressed with the utility of such Institutions. On Sunday evening, the children were all assembled at Trinity Church, and sung very sweetly the several hymns selected for the occasion. Though the weather was unfavorable, a very large congregation was present. An appropriate sermon was preached, and a collection made in aid of the funds of the Institution.

From the Fredericton Sentinel.

Last Wednesday's Gazette contains a notice relative to Treasury Warrants which in future will be issued as formerly, and without any undue preference. These debentures which were issued by the Executive will also be received back, and warrants given in exchange.

We regret to find that this plan which was recently adopted, and was calculated to relieve the community had the banks received them, has not met with the desired success; and the province will yet have to resort to a loan, or the issue of treasury notes.

In issuing such notes—and the rule ought to have been applied to the debentures,—the Provincial Treasurer and other public officers should be directed to receive no other paper in payment of duties or other services.—This has always been the case in Nova Scotia, and Bank notes were never received there at the Treasury. In this manner, persons having to make payments of public money, instead of obtaining specie, would pay the debentures and Province notes for that purpose;—these would be issued again by those officers; and in this way would circulate freely, without abatement or discount.

NOVA-SCOTIA.

Halifax Herald, June 29.

The Directors of the Halifax Gas Company met yesterday afternoon at the place chosen for the erection of the gas house, and 'broke ground.' In the evening they dined together at the Masonic Hall, where they passed a pleasant evening.

Halifax Gazette, June 29.

The Right Rev. and Honorable the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, consecrated the new Church of St. Stephen, at Chester, on the 4th inst. His Lordship was assisted in the performance of the service by the Rev. J. C. Cochran, the Rev. J. Stevenson, the Rev. A. Weinbeer, and the Rev. the Rector of the Parish. After the consecration, the Bishop administered the Rite of Confirmation to fifty seven persons.

His Lordship arrived at Lunenburg on Monday the 6th, and on the following day delivered an impressive Discourse to a large Congregation in St. John's Church, and afterwards administered Confirmation to thirty six persons. In the afternoon His Lordship visited Upper La Have, and consecrated a new chapel recently erected at that place. From thence his Lordship, accompanied by the Rev. John Weeks, proceeded to New Dublin. On Wednesday he delivered a Sermon to the Congregation of St. Peter's Church, confirmed twenty five persons, and subsequently proceeded to Liverpool.

Masonic Procession.—A grand Procession of the different Lodges of this city, preceded by the Band of the 64th regiment, took place to day, under the Banner of the Grand Lodge. It proceeded from the Masonic Hall to St. Paul's Church, where an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Twining, after which it marched from the Church through Barrington Street, returning Granville, Hollis, and Morris streets, to the Hall. There was a large assemblage of Brethren. The day was fine, and the splendid decorations and banners of the different Lodges had a most brilliant appearance.

From the Halifax Journal.

Trade direct with China.—In our shipping list, we observe, with much pleasure, the clearance of the ship *Prince George*, Foster, for Canton. She is the first vessel we believe, that has sailed from any part of the British North American Colonies to China direct, and we wish her every success. Besides a valuable cargo, we understand she carries with her upwards of £20,000.

Pictou Observer, June 28.

We have just learned that the Barque *Clift*, Jerraway, master, of and from Cork, bound to St. John, New Brunswick, with 310 passengers, put into Arichat on the 23rd inst., short of water. The *Clift* had been out nine weeks, three of which the crew and passengers were on an allowance of a pint of water each per day, and during the last four days were entirely destitute of that indispensable article! It is stated that some of them had recourse to the most revolting expedients to allay the pangs of thirst. The inhabitants of Arichat had generously proffered assistance to enable them to procure provisions for the rest of the voyage, but many of the passengers appeared reluctant to proceed.

SCHEDIASMA.

MIRAMICHI:
TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 5, 1842.

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

The Courier with the Southern mail, arrived on Saturday morning at 7 o'clock.

MERCANTILE STATE OF THE PROVINCE.

The following excellent article upon the present Mercantile position of this Province, predicting a balance in its favor at the end of the year, of £271,234, we copy from the *St. John Observer* of Tuesday last:

The pressure which for months has existed in the mercantile concerns of the Province, and that still prevails, has induced us to turn our attention not only to the causes of the evil, but to its extent, and also to the probable period of its termination.

The principal causes of the difficulty seem to us to have arisen from a re-action on New Brunswick of the highly disordered state of mercantile and manufacturing affairs in the Mother Country, combined at same time, with an over supply of Colonial Vessels and Timber thrown into her Ports, even had there existed no disturbance in the home markets—and increased by our vast losses from Fires, and the importation of excessive quantities of costly and useless articles.

The extent of pressure on a mercantile community must be measured, not entirely by the amount of balance due to other countries, but in part by the capability of the indebted to furnish some article of export wherewith to liquidate the balance, and a remunerating market to which such article can be carried, without fear of the freight so far reducing the value of the export, as, combined, to bring it below the cost of production—so long as a country has no article to export, or none which cannot be freighted from her shores without severe loss, so long must business languish. Such a state of things however we believe to be totally inapplicable to this Province.

On looking at the lists of Imports and Exports for the Year ending 5th January, 1841, furnished by the Custom House, and printed, together with the extent of the Provincial freights, &c., by the Chamber of Commerce, we find that, exclusive of Charlotte County, New Brunswick imported £1,257,300 sterling, and exported £639,349—leaving a balance of £617,951 sterling, to be accounted for from the various freights there stated, sale of ships, disbursements, &c.

Let us suppose that the Exports of various articles during this year, shall not be to the extent above quoted, (£639,349,) but shall equal *Wood goods* alone exported during the year above given, and which were Stg. £469,618. That the freights, from all parts, in New Brunswick owned Vessels, in place of amounting to £433,866 shall this year be only equal to pay off the various Port expenses here and elsewhere, and that the prudent management now exercised may reduce the same to 1-4th of the former freights, stated in the schedule, we shall have

That the Vessels sold, in place of amounting to 24,229 Tons,

100,716