

nearly burying several frame buildings situated at the foot of the hill, and extending quite across Main street.

The verbal accounts vary in particulars, but all concur in representing the loss of life and the scene of distress as terrible beyond description. The following letter from a correspondent furnishes all the particulars as yet within reach:—

Troy, Feb. 17.—Messrs. Crosswell—our city has again been visited with an awful calamity. Another terrible avalanche has swept houses and families away in its course of destruction. It is useless to attempt to particularize when it is utterly impossible to do so on this mournful occasion. Suffice it to say that the earth slide occurred in the immediate vicinity of the terrible avalanche of 1837, about 4 o'clock this afternoon, covering acres of ground at the base of the hill, and crushing to atoms some ten or twelve houses, nearly all occupied. Whole families have perished, and the only warning they received was the death blow that carried them into eternity.

I have just left the ruins to communicate to you these few lines. There, all is panic and confusion. Eight or ten dead bodies have already been taken out from the ruins, and how many alive or partially injured I cannot tell. The crowds are moving in masses from spot to spot, and in the centre of each the mortal remains of some one who has perished, are being carried from the scene of destruction to some more suitable place. The municipal officers are on the spot doing all that is possible to be done to rescue the living, if any are yet to be found, and to take care of the dead. When I left, the smoke was gushing from the smouldering ruins and several hose companies were there. While I am writing, the alarm bell for fire is ringing, but I do not apprehend that the destruction can be augmented by fire.

Let me assure you that the scene presents an awful and melancholy sight. Babies in their cradles—mothers with their children in their arms—and stalwart men, who but two hours ago breathed freely and in health—have been taken from the ruins, mutilated and mangled corpses. The buildings destroyed were nearly all new, and had but recently been erected. They were tenanted principally by poor and industrious mechanics. The details of the calamity you will receive more at large through our city papers of to-morrow.

I will state for the information of your distant readers, that the centre of the avalanche was at the head of Washington street, a little below what has usually been termed the 'five points' of the city.

The names of the families that have perished that I have been able to learn, are, Birdsall, the father, the son of Major Birdsall, who was shot some years ago near the arsenal in Albany, Day, Kelley, some others that I cannot now recollect.

DESTRUCTIVE FRESHET IN ARKANSAS.—The New Orleans Picayune of the 9th inst., contains the distressing intelligence of a rapid and destructive rise and overflow of Red River, by which much property was destroyed, and a number of lives supposed to be lost. Our intelligence, says the Picayune, is from the town of Fulton, bearing date of the 31st ult. where the steamer Hunter had just arrived with twenty families on board, some of whom had been taken from the tops of their dwellings, and others from the trees. The river was still rising, and the wind blowing a hurricane. Lanesport was nearly flooded, and Rowland and Jonesborough are reported to be ten feet under water, while the people were seen upon the hill tops, without shelter and with no means of escape. All the farms and settlements in that section were under water, and the people were getting off the best way they could. The destruction has been immense, and cannot now be estimated. Warehouses, barns and buildings of all kinds have fallen to pieces and floated away. Cattle have been drowned, and, in short, life and property have alike suffered by inundation.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI: MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 13, 1843.

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

The Courier with the Southern mail arrived on Thursday evening, at 5 o'clock.

United States.—We are indebted to the Halifax Morning Post of Tuesday last, for the following piece of belligerent news from our republican neighbours. The speech of Sir Robert Peel alluded to, will be found in another page.

"The Speech of Sir Robert Peel, denying several conclusions in the Message of the President of the United States, with reference to the Right of Visit, has been treated by Congress in a manner insulting to Great Britain, and disgraceful to any body of civilized men. Such expressions as 'God d—n the British—we'll whip them yet!' 'D—m them, we'll have a fight about the treaty after all!'—were used quite freely in debate.

"Judging from the decided ground adopted on both sides on this question—from the indignation British subjects must feel at having been swindled out of the disputed territory—the probable violation of a solemn treaty by the occu-

pation of Oregon; and the belligerent aspect of the two countries in a commercial point of view, we should say that war between Great Britain and the United States was never more threatening than it is now."

Our American neighbors have taken great umbrage at the Law which has passed our Assembly, levying a tax on all timber shipped from our ports. By it, they perceive, that their timber will be subject to a duty. It is a very likely story, that while all timber and lumber manufactured in this Province pays a tax, that the Americans are to have the use of our waters to bring their manufactured stuff to market, and to ship it to Britain as Colonial made timber, *duty free*; thus placing them on a much better footing than our own people. Would they act thus toward us? We guess not.

Proceedings of the Legislature.—The Journals in our possession are to the 4th of the month, from which we have made some extracts.

A bill to amend the Charter of King's College, passed the house unanimously on the 25th ult. The debate on this highly important subject, will be inserted in our next paper.

From the Sentinel of the 3rd inst. we copy the following summary.

On motion of Mr Taylor, an Address was agreed to on Tuesday, requesting the Executive not to collect the amounts due for Licences to cut timber, until after it shall be sent to market in the spring. On Wednesday a bill was passed, providing that the fees received by the Clerk of the Pleas shall be paid into the Treasury, and that the present incumbent receive in lieu thereof while he holds the office, the sum of £900 per annum; and that in future the Clerk of the Pleas shall receive a salary of £300.

The debate on Mr. Brown's Resolution for limiting the expenditure, was taken up again in Committee of the whole house on Wednesday; when the following amendment proposed by His Honor the Speaker, was put and carried—27 to 7.

Resolved, as the opinion of this committee, that nothing should induce the House to surrender its undoubted and inherent right to initiate all Grants of Money for the public service.

Mr. Brown then moved the following Resolution, which was lost: 22—9.

Whereas it is expedient that the annual expenditure of the Province shall not exceed its annual income.—Therefore Resolved, That an estimate of the probable revenue for the current or ensuing year, shall be made out by the Treasurer of the Province, under the direction of the person administering the government for the time being, and laid before the House at the commencement of every annual session of the Legislature, at as early a day as practicable; and that the amount granted in supply during each session, together with other sums payable by existing laws, shall not exceed the estimated available revenue set forth in such estimate.

The following Resolution was then proposed by Mr. Partelow, and carried.

Resolved unanimously, as the opinion of this committee, that the House should not resolve itself into a committee of the whole, for granting supplies, until a statement of the finances of the Province should first be made up, exhibiting the amount at its disposal. And further,

Resolved, as the opinion of this committee, that it should be a standing order of the house, that the appropriations for the public service, should always be strictly confined to the sum so at its disposal, and the probable estimated amount of the revenue for the coming year.

Among other papers transmitted by His Excellency during the present week, there is an account of the Provincial liabilities, under the permanent Acts; by which it appears that to provide payment for the warrants due for 1841—2, and the various ordinary services of the present year, including education, £148,582 will be required. To meet which, there are probable available assets to the extent of £35,128, and the probable available portion of the revenue for the present year, [estimated at £72,475] amounting to £36,242, making in all £71,370. It will thus be seen, that £77,212 remains to be provided for, exclusive of the road and other services. To meet this, a bill has been brought in to effect a Loan of £80,000, pledging certain portions of the revenue for the payment of interest, and gradual liquidation of the principal.

Yesterday the House went into committee on the bill for levying an Export Duty on Timber, instead of the sum at present paid for stampage; and made considerable progress. The duty to be paid at the time of shipment, is for every forty cubic feet of Pine, one shilling, and of Spruce, Juniper, or Hardwood timber, Masts, or Spars, nupence; also for every thousand superficial feet of Sawed Lumber or Scantling, one shilling.

From the supplement of the same

paper, of Tuesday last, we extract the following summary.

On Friday the House went into Committee of Supply, when various items of the ordinary expenses of the revenue were passed. A reduction of 25 per cent was made on all salaries, and that of the Treasurer of the Province was altered from £750 to £600; that of his Clerk from £300 to £225; and after the present year to £200. Yesterday Supply was again taken up, and the ordinary services finished, with the exception of sums for Light Houses.

Mr. Hill obtained leave yesterday, to bring in a Bill to alter the Grammar School Act. The object is to have four for the Province instead of as present one for each county.

Saturday the Bill regulating the duty on Stumpage, was again taken up, and again reported upon. The object of this was to give time to prepare a clause, exempting Timber shipped in American vessels to the United States from its operation; if cut on American territory.

Yesterday the House was informed by Message, that the Governor in Council had agreed to allow payments due on timber licences, to lie over to July.

We have been kindly favored with a copy of the Bill to amend the Election Law, but it is not expected that it will pass in its present form. By it we perceive, that the Polls are to be opened simultaneously in various sections of each County, and to be closed in one day. This will be a great improvement.

A private letter which we have obtained, dated on the 8th says.

"The Bill to restrain the 5th section of the Civil List Bill, has been divided, and the first, for levying the Duties at the Shipping Ports, has passed. The other, to regulate the mode of Granting Licences and Mill Reserves, has been introduced into the House, and is expected to be carried.

"A Bill was committed to day, to enable the Executive Government to sell Crown Lands in small quantities, to actual settlers, at a low rate, and progress reported."

Bill Johnson, of Canadian notoriety.—It appears by the following extract, which is taken from the New York Plebian, that this worthy has been lynched. There is no doubt but his neighbours had ample provocation for serving the scoundrel as they did.

Bill Johnson, of Patriot memory, the Buccaneer of the Lakes, and the Hero of the Thousand Islands, was lately lynched in Buchanan County, Iowa, in an inhuman manner. His house was attacked on one of the coldest nights of the season, by an armed party of a dozen men, headed by a fellow named Bennett. They dragged him from his bed, and tied him to a tree for the purpose of flogging him. His heroic daughter flew to his rescue, and while the guss were levelled to shoot her, she cut the cords with which he was tied. They then tied him a second time, and threatened her life if she approached, but she cut the cords a second time, though every trigger was pulled to fire, declaring that she was prepared to die, rather than see her father suffer, and all the time demanding the cause without avail. They tied him a third time, and having secured her, they laid fifty lashes on his bare back, with a cowhide. Then gearing up his own horses, they put him and her on a sled, and drove them off, with a positive charge, never to come back, for it would be at the risk of his life. Bennett being the only settler near, they had to go 20 miles that night to the nearest home, a night, if we mistake not, was one of the coldest this winter.

Post Office.—Copies of the Frederickton Sentinel, sent to us in exchange for our paper, lies at the Post Office, charged 1s. 6d. in accordance with instructions recently received from the Acting Deputy Postmaster General at Halifax. Of course they are not taken out. On this high-handed and arbitrary decision of the above-named functionary, the editor of the Sentinel remarks:—

In consequence of directions received from Halifax, we understand that in future the exchange papers that are transmitted by the Printers of these Colonies to each other, are to be taxed in the same manner as those sent to subscribers. The effect of which will be, to put a stop to the circulation of colonial information. We hope the Printers in both these Provinces, will have the subject brought under the notice of the Colonial Government, in order that this additional tax on knowledge may be suspended till the decision of the Home Government is known. We shall lose no time in addressing the Lieutenant Governor here upon the subject, that if he does not think proper to act himself, the affair may be brought under the notice of the Governor in Chief.

Arrangement of Circuit for 1843.

—We take the following from the Frederickton Gazette of Wednesday last:—

Mr. Justice Botsford—Restigouche, Tuesday, 29th August. Gloucester, Tuesday, 5th September. Northumberland, Tuesday, 12th September.

Mr. Justice Carter—Kent, Tuesday, 29th August. Westmorland, Tuesday, 5th September.

The New World Office.—The last No. of this admirable literary paper thus recounts the prodigious quantity of labour performed in that office, during a fortnight.

"By way of giving to the public and particularly to our friends in the country some idea of the amount of business, which is transacted at the New World establishment, we will set forth what has been accomplished within the past fortnight. Since Monday, the 13th day of February, instant, we have published SEVEN new Works, besides two regular numbers of 'The New World.' On Tuesday, the 14th, was issued Francis of Valois, a novel by Edward Flagg, in a single Extra—12,000 copies; on Thursday, the 16th, Lights and Shadows of Factory Life, in a single Extra—12,000 copies; on Friday, the 17th, The Bible in Spain, in a Quadruple Extra—7500 copies; on Saturday, the 18th, The Last of the Barons, by Sir E. L. Bulwer, in a Quadruple Extra—17,500 copies; on Wednesday, the 22nd, Forest Days, by G. P. R. James, in a Treble Extra—20,000 copies; on Thursday, the 23rd, a Supplement containing the February parts of Martin Chuzzlewit, by Boz, Tom Burke and Arthur O'Leary, by the author of Charles O'Malley, Windsor Castle, by W. H. Ainsworth, and L. S. D. by Samuel Lover—20,000 copies; on Friday, the 24th, Blackwood's Magazine for February, 10,000 copies—besides two numbers of the New World on Saturday, the 18th and to-day, exceeding 30,000 copies.

"The paper on which these various issues have been printed cost over 2,600 dollars; and printers will be able to know the quantity of labor performed, when told that there were more than Three Millions and one Hundred Thousand Ems of composition.

"The copy of the last of the Barons—equal to four complete numbers of the New World in its ordinary type—was commenced on Friday morning at 8 o'clock, and completed and for sale on Saturday at 9 o'clock; twelve thousand copies were disposed of in one day. The copy of Forest Days—the London edition of which came to us on Tuesday morning by 9 o'clock—was commenced at that hour, and finished and for sale the following morning, at seven o'clock."

The Governor General.—Canada papers state, that the health of Sir Charles Bagot, has greatly improved, and hopes are entertained of his ultimate recovery.

French Packet Steamers.—A line of French Steamers, to run between Cherbourg and various parts of America and the West Indies, is expected to commence in June next. There will be 14 of these packets, armed, and belonging to the Government.

Dismissal.—The Novascotian says—"The Hon. H. H. Cogswell, late Councillor, (under the old regime) has been dismissed by His Excellency, from the office of Commissioner of the Revenue, for addressing an impudent and highly disrespectful letter to the Executive."

Halifax Morning Post, March 4. It is remarkable that the two Chief Justices of Nova-Scotia, whose full length portraits adorn the Council Chamber, have both departed this life within the last year—viz: Sir Thomas Strange, and the late Chief Justice Blowers.

Marriages.

On Tuesday last, by Donald Mackay, Esq., Mr. GEORGE STEWART, of Prince Edward Island, to Miss JANE McDUGALD, of Northesk.

STRAY OX.

The Subscriber has had in his possession for some time past, a STRAY OX. The owner can have the same by proving Property, and paying expenses.

SAMUEL McKNIGHT.

Napan, March 8, 1843

Wanted.

An active, intelligent PERSON as a DEPUTY SHERIFF for Northumberland. One acquainted with the localities of the county would be preferred. Security will be required,—and residence at or in the vicinity of the Court House. Apply to

J. M. JOHNSON, Sheriff.

6th June, 1842.