

Colonial News.

New Brunswick.

St. John New Brunswicker, Jan. 11.

Melancholy Accident.—Drowned, on the morning of the 9th inst. in the Upper Falls, River St. John, James Dunlap and Patrick Dowling, jr. The deceased, who were in the employment of Mr James D. Emery, *Union Point Mills*, were lost in the following manner:—They were about returning to the Mills in a small scow, which accidentally getting into the current, was carried through into the upper falls, it being high water. The scow instantly upset, and the two unfortunate men perished. Dunlap, in the capacity which he filled, was highly respected by his employer, and justly esteemed by all who knew him, for honesty, industry and sobriety. He has left a wife to lament her loss. Dowling was also a young man of good moral character.

January 9.

New Police—We understand that a petition is now in course of signature, to be laid before the Common Council, setting forth, that violence and outrage have prevailed for some time past in sections of this City, and praying that immediate steps be taken to have a Bill prepared and laid before the Legislature at the approaching Session, to empower them to establish a suitable Police for the safety and protection of the City, and the lives of its inhabitants.—It is proposed to have the said Police Force under the direction and control of three permanent Commissioners.

We are glad that the subject has been taken up by the people, and have no doubt that the Common Council will at once comply with the prayer of the petition. If properly managed, the expense attending the establishment of a suitable Police would not be very great, and it would be the means of giving protection and security to all.

Pork.—The Woodstock Telegraph states that 17 hogs were raised on the farm of C. Perley, Esq. at that place during the past year, which averaged 329 lbs., and making together 25 barrels of pork, which, at £5 per barrel, would amount to £125 for this article alone. Here is an example for our farmer's which, if followed up, would soon supersede the necessity of any importation of this kind; for which large sums of money have been yearly sent out of the Province.

St. John Morning News.

Fire.—We regret to learn, by letters received yesterday morning, that the Post Office in Amherst, together with all the letters, books, newspapers, &c, were consumed by fire a few nights since. The office was kept by J. W. Smith, Esquire, —a very worthy and excellent man—and his losses in money, and other property of various kinds, are, by this calamity, very considerable. The fire broke out at a late hour in the night, and not long after Mr. S. closed the establishment, when all appeared perfectly safe. The fire, it is supposed, originated from the stove pipe.

Nova-Scotia.

Halifax Morning Post, Jan. 9.

£75,000 sterling has been voted by the British Parliament towards the erection of Military works at the Grand Falls in New Brunswick, that sum being one half the estimated amount for completing the works in question, which are to be on a very large and substantial scale.

Brig Hypolite Abandoned at Sea.—The Brig. Sceptre at Ragged Islands, reports that on the 23rd of Dec. in Lat. 35, Long 64, 30, fell in with the Brig. Hypolite, of Halifax, lying too under a storm stay-sail, with foremast gone by the deck, and Mainmast, Bowsprit and Jib Boom standing, but Boat and part of Bulwarks gone. The vessel appeared to have been boarded, and the hands taken off; there were two Seamen's chests on the deck. The Sceptre passed close to her, and hailed without receiving any answer, but owing to its blowing very hard at the time, it was not possible to board her.

Fire in Dartmouth.—At Two o'clock this morning a Fire was raging in Dartmouth, south of the Steamboat Wharf. The destruction, we think did not extend beyond one building.

From a late Halifax Paper.

On Sabbath last a new Presbyterian Meeting House in Poplar Grave was opened with appropriate services. The Rev. Mr. McGregor, pastor of the congregation, and the Rev. Mr. Campbell of St. Mary's in the county of Guysborough,

were present, and conducted the services. The latter gave out the CXXXII Psalm, read Solomon's dedicatory prayer in the VI Chapter of II Chronicles, and extemporaneously, in appropriate language, called upon the name of the Lord,—after which, the former, delivered an interesting discourse suited to the occasion. In the afternoon and evening Mr. Cambell preached to large and attentive audiences.

It will be remembered that the erection of this sacred edifice was commenced under rather discouraging circumstances. The numbers of the congregation were not either numerous or wealthy; but a perseverance has been pursued which has been crowned with the most satisfactory success. Owing to the enterprise of the ladies, about £225 were realized at the Bazaar, to swell the funds, and a considerable amount was obtained from various parts of the rural districts.

The building is now finished in a neat and plain style, free from all showy ornament. The pulpit is tastefully constructed, and is unlike any thing of the kind we had previously seen. From the door to the pulpit there is a gradual descent of the floor, declining perhaps about an inch in every three feet. The pews are amphitheatrically curved, giving a more airy aspect to the congregation. The gas-light pendant, with its Gothic ornaments, is admirably fitted for the use to which it is applied. As a whole, it is a neat little edifice.

Halifax Nova Scotian, January 6.

Our streets are now covered with ice; and how much soever pedestrians may complain of the slippery condition of the side walks, the boys are in ecstasy at the opportunity thus afforded of enjoying themselves upon their skates; and from sunrise till late at night, they are passing through the streets with a fearful velocity. The gliding evolutions and merry laugh of these happy urchins within the last few days, have given quite a cheerful aspect to the city; and while gazing upon their mirth and pastime, one almost wishes himself a boy again.

Halifax Herald, January 8.

Beware of Counterfeit Half Dollars dated 1838, face of Liberty well done, reverse not so well. Lighter in weight than the genuine coin.

True Charity.—Blair and Rives, Editors of the Washington Globe, it is said, will distribute the \$30,000 won by them at the late election, among charitable institutions.

Fears of an Avalanche.—Avalanches are known to be excessively dangerous in the valleys of Switzerland. The Swabian Mercury describes a frightfully impending danger which hovers over the Swiss village of Felberg, which we think should lead to its speedy evacuation. Many large rocks have already fallen from the mountain, at the foot of which it lies; but the great fear is occasioned by the gradual splitting off an immense mass of the mountain, lying more than two thousand feet above the village. The fissure is already of great depth, and from measurements made several times each week, it appears that it is slowly but steadily increasing. A fall of a portion of the mountain is considered inevitable, but it is impossible to ascertain how far it may extend, and there are also no means of judging when it will take place. Under these circumstances, although the fate of Golden may at any day, overtake Felburg, the village is still inhabited, these houses only being abandoned, which are considered most exposed to the threatened calamity. It may easily be imagined with what anxious feelings the inhabitants retire to rest each night. Startled by unusual noises, they have already more than once fled at midnight undressed from their houses; but nothing yet has been done for their relief, and the "sword of Damocles" is still felt thus suspended over their heads.

"The Cry is still they Come!"—We learn from undoubted authority, that the wolves in vast packs are roaming uncontrolled and committing extensive depredations on the flocks of the settlers in and about Masquash, where in many instances not a solitary lamb has been left to bleat out the mournful tale of her companions' murders.

Canada:

Dreadful Fire and Loss of Life.—Montreal, Dec. 28th.—About six o'clock, last evening, the alarm of fire was given in William Street, Griffinton. It was discovered that one of a range of four dwelling houses, the property of Mr. Pion, inhabited by a number of Irish families was in flames. The different Fire Companies hurried to the spot,

with promptitude, but, owing to the difficulty of procuring water, were compelled to remain inactive spectators of the progress of the flames, at the most critical moment. Such was the rapidity with which the destructive element performed its work, that the occupants of the adjoining houses were unable to save more than a part of their furniture, and several horses, pigs, &c., in the adjoining out-houses were saved with the greatest difficulty. The house in which the fire originated was the scene of an awful catastrophe; it appears that the immediate cause of the fire was the accidental breaking of one of the stove plates in the upper part of the house, and, instead of giving the alarm and receiving the assistance of the neighbours, those in the room fruitlessly endeavoured to extinguish the fire themselves; the consequence was, that the flames overpowered them, and they were compelled to fly for safety. A sick man, named Timmons, a pensioner, who was confined to his bed in the same room, was in the hurry of the flight left behind, and, dreadful to relate, perished in the flames; when the house was levelled to the ground his blackened corpse was discovered amongst the ruins, burned to a cinder.

His son made an ineffectual effort to save him, and was himself much burned in the attempt. The shrieks of the unfortunate man's wife were truly heart-rending, and she was led from the scene in a state of mind bordering on distraction. The exertions of the fire companies to save adjoining houses were soon found to be ineffectual; three members of the Union company, who had courageously penetrated into the interior of one of the burning dwellings, were severely injured by the flames in their meritorious discharge of duty. It was pitiful to see the adjoining yards strewn with the fragments of the furniture of the inmates of the burning houses, and themselves driven to seek shelter elsewhere. The entire range of houses was destroyed, and we believe that no insurance had been effected on the premises.

It was announced by his honor the Mayor, at the sitting of the Town Council on Friday evening last, that Government was about to cede to the Corporation, on very advantageous terms, the late Parliament Buildings and the old Chateau.

Quebec Gazette, Dec. 27.

Sundry painful rumours having of late been put in circulating through the medium of the press, relating to the state of the Governor General's health, we have much pleasure in quoting from the Kingston Chronicle of Saturday last, the following contradiction, emanating from a quarter from whence correct information on the subject is likely to be obtained:

"We have great satisfaction in stating that we yesterday saw a private letter dated two days before, from a medical gentleman of the highest standing, who is in attendance upon his Excellency, which says—"The general state of his Excellency's health was never better—he dines at two public dinners a week and enjoys them excessively—his spirits are remarkably good—and there is not the slightest reason for believing that the affection of his face will be prejudicial to his general health—and much less to shorten his life—he has not, he adds, the smallest reason to fear but that he may enjoy life and health for many years to come."

Quebec Freeman's Journal.

A private soldier of the 86th Regiment, named Gumm, committed suicide, whilst on sentry, behind the Commissariat Stores, near the Quebec Gate Barracks, at about two o'clock on Saturday morning last. The unhappy man tied his handkerchief to the trigger of his musket, and the wheel of a cart, near his post, and placing the muzzle to his breast, discharged the contents into his body.

United States News.

From the New York Sun.

Mortality among the Fish.—We should be glad if the scientific could discover any cause for the extraordinary mortality among the Fish in our vicinity. The United States Gazette says, that a friend who had just returned from the sea-shore of New Jersey, informs the Editor that the whole shore for thirty or forty miles, is covered with dead fish, cast up by the sea. They are of all kinds, from the smallest perch, to the largest sturgeon, some rock fish, weighing forty or fifty pounds, and rich sea-bass. Many of the fish are washed up before they are dead.

So great is the number, that a gentleman computed that on Leaming's Beach alone there must be ten thousand bushes. What has happened among the fish we cannot tell, as we do not know to what unwholesome influences they are liable in the deeps below; but something extraordinary must have been in operation to produce an evil so extensive—perhaps a volcanic eruption.

All the Inhabitants of a Village Mangled by the Indians.—A correspondent at Matamoras, gives an account most painful to peruse, in the language which follows:—

Matamoras, Nov. 18.

There has been during the past month an irruption of about 400 Indians of the Camonche, Tahuacano and Coddoo tribes that spread affright and desolation along the banks of the Rio St. Juan, which joins the Rio Bravo about fifty leagues from Matamoras. The savages massacred every soul in the villages situated on the frontier of this department, with the exception of some few who managed to escape in time, and a handful of women and children who they carried off according to custom. While this horrible butchery was going on, the troops stationed on the Rio Bravo, who were fully aware of the incursions of the savages, remained tranquilly and stoically in the barracks, while the poor inhabitants, were crushed with impôts for the maintenance of these scamps, assembled together and marched in pursuit of the maulers.—The latter was overtaken on the 15th at Saluda, and routed, leaving the field of battle 20 killed, and more than 50 captives, whom they had not been able to carry away. The Mexicans lost 9 men and had some 40 wounded.

From the New York Sun.

Conspiracy among the Blacks.—A coloured man named George D. Morse, No. 241 Houston-street, who lives working in stores in the lower part of that city, having received information, as he states, that an insurrection of the coloured population was to be carried to effect about Christmas and New Year to murder indiscriminately the white men, women and children of Prince Anne County, Virginia, including New-folk; and also all the coloured people who would not join them—and having near relations there, wrote on to a Justice of the Peace in that country, informing him of what he had heard. He also informed him that a coloured man named Willis Hodge, who had been the correspondent in New York of the coloured conspirators of Princess Ann, and had encouraged the proceeding, had gone to Virginia, to aid in maturing the plot and to carry it into execution, who was thereupon arrested and lodged in prison, where he will remain, and until the matter can be fully investigated, will continue in custody. Others had been arrested but had been discharged.

The colored people here, who were neighbours and acquaintances of Morse, having heard of his having given information to the authorities of the South, that had led to the arrest of Willis Hodge, swore to be revenged upon him and threatened to put him to death. They also swore that he should not come down town to his work, and if he did, that he should not be suffered to work there any more. Under these threats, Morse, who is an intelligent colored man, went to the Upper Police office and preferred his complaint against Jeremiah Simmons, Samuel Finney, Jeffrey Overloo and Wales, all colored, who were arrested, and three-day held to unexceptionable bail in three hundred dollars each, by Justice Taylor, to keep the peace towards G. D. Morse, and be of good behavior hereafter.

Hayti.—Amicable Division into two Republics.—By the arrival of the *Marian Goge* at this port from St. Domingo, we learn that the Spanish part of the Island, has been organized into a republic separate from the other, as "the Republic of Dominica." Its independence has been recognized by the Haytien government. Among the passengers in the *Marian*, are Joseph Billin, and Dr. Carronaro, commissioners from Dominica to the United States. They seek a recognition by our government of their independence, and wish to negotiate a commercial treaty with the U. S. The division we suppose a final separation between the Spanish and French negroes of Hayti.

Rumours of Mr. Polk's Plans.—The *Wheeling* (Va.) Times says:—A correspondent at Nashville, and in whom we have the most implicit confidence, writes under the date of December, that Mr. Polk on the day previous, he said to a promi-