

## Colonial News.

## Nova Scotia,

From the Halifax Sun.

**Fire.**—About half past 10 o'clock Sunday night a Fire broke out in a shed attached to the house occupied by William Plover, as a Tavern, opposite the North Barrack Gate. The engines were early on the ground, and through the exertions of the Axe and Fire Companies, aided by a body of the Rifles, the fire was put out before it made much progress. The damage to the building is not material—the breakage inside, however, was considerable. The house was literally flooded with water—No. 1 Engine, to effect this, played her part well. We could not learn how the fire originated, as nobody seemed to know.

From the Halifax Register.

**Fire at Hammond's Plains.**—A letter from a person at Hammond's Plains was handed to us last evening, from which we take the following extracts:

"We are all in a great uproar with the Fire.—It has raged here for two days, and done considerable damage. John and Hugh little have lost all they had; John and his father were out to work, and before they could get to the house it was burnt to the ground. The children were got out with great difficulty. Huge got pretty much all out of his house, but he and his family had to run for their lives, and the fire burnt up what had been removed. I lost about 10,000 hoops and 14 or 15,000 staves and heading, in the barns. With great difficulty about thirty of us saved Mr. Wright's house and mill. Ward's little barn was burnt down, and the house nearly caught. Some of the colored people's houses, I hear have been destroyed. The fire was raging near them last night, and coming in this direction. There is not much wood round our house, and we are pretty well prepared to meet it.

This is really very distressing. We know the Little family well. The old man served through the Peninsular campaign in the gallant 32d, and shared in the perils and glories of the many illustrious days in which his corps was engaged. His sons are two as true-hearted and manly fellows as ever were bred on the barrens. They have both families. What say you, fellow citizens, shall we repair the damage? Shall this old warrior have still a fireside to sit by? and these young men's wives and their little ones be sheltered from the blast? Let us set about it. Who will propose the mode?"

Here is an opportunity for some of our people who look nearer home for subjects in which to bestow their means in a spirit of benevolence.—If our friend of the Chronicle would open a subscription list—he would soon find donors.

**Novascotians at Home.**—The Novascotians were "at home" on Monday, at the Prince's Lodge, in holiday garb—merry-making amid the beautiful groves of that lovely, time honored spot.

The Novascotia Philanthropic Society, composed exclusively of natives of the soil, hold high festival each year on the 8th of June—in commemoration of the landing of Cornwallis, at Halifax, with the first British Settlers. This year, in consequence of the 8th falling on Sunday, Monday was appointed as the day of festivity.

The day was ushered in with a cloudy sky.—About nine o'clock there was a shower of rain, which sufficed to lay the dust. A fine westerly breeze soon after sprang up, and the sky became cloudless. The afternoon was delightful.

At an early hour in the morning, flags were displayed from the windows of various houses and stores in the City, in honor of the day,—but these displays were not so extensive as on other occasions.

At ten o'clock, Gentlemen and Ladies might be seen in numbers, wending their way to the Steamboat Wharf, where the company were to embark on board the "Micmac." About 11 o'clock the boat left the wharf with a large party, accompanied by the Rifle Band, the soul-stirring music of which, made many a young heart leap for joy.—The boat took a turn down the Harbour, and was saluted from the Wharf of the President of the Society, Mr. Caldwell.

The company amused themselves on the passage up, by promenading the deck—noting and admiring the different beauties of the fine scenery of the Basin—and by tripping it "on light fantastic toe" thro' the mazes of the merry dance. We never before saw so large and beautiful a collection of the "Fair Daughters of Acadia." Their bright eyes and ruddy looks were sure that day to lead captive many gay Lotharios.

When the company landed on the beach, at the little nook below the ancient Music House of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, they marched up to the delightful Grove, in pairs, headed by the President. The band soon after struck up some lively airs, and Ladies and Gentlemen having partaken of an excellent lunch, and refreshed themselves with suitable beverages, provided under the superintendance of Mr. Charles Morris, the general festivities of the day fairly commenced. The dance—the swing—the ramble among the bushes o'er hill and dale—to the Hermit's Grave—the Duck Pond—and various other points of interest, scattered over these grounds—occupied the greater portion of those present; while some few Gents, more fond of athletic exercises, amused themselves by pitching quoits, playing ball or ninepins,—and others—stowed themselves away in secluded bowers, to indulge in a round at whist. Thus passed the time until four o'clock, when the company sat down to a most bountiful supply of "fish, flesh and fowl," with various delicacies in season. Just previously, the Steamer arrived with His Worship the Mayor, the Presidents of the North British and Highland Societies, and an additional number of Gentlemen and Ladies.

On the arrival of His Worship, the Band played the National Anthem.

About two or three hundred persons sat down to the excellent repast prepared. The President took his seat in a Bower, at the centre of the principal table, with his Worship the Mayor on his right, the Presidents of the North British and Highland Societies, next, on each side. After the ladies had retired, several volunteer toasts were drunk, among others—"The Queen"—"His Worship the Mayor, and the Corporation"—"Col. Irton, and the Garrison"—"The Presidents of the different Benevolent Societies present"—"The Wooden walls of Old England and the Hearts of Oak that man them"—"Absent friends—Novascotians everywhere"—"The Fair Daughters of Acadia"—Our Worthy President"—&c. &c.

The President made some very happy remarks, on filling to the toast of the Fair Daughters of Acadia. His Worship the Mayor, and the Presidents of the Benevolent Societies present, responded briefly but appropriately, on their healths being given.

About eight o'clock the company left the ground, and re-embarked on board the Steamer. The Band again struck up, dancing was resumed and continued up to the time that the boat touched the slip at the Steamboat wharf, with much spirit, when the company landed, highly gratified with the festivities of the day, which were concluded by the Band playing God save the Queen, and the Company giving three cheers, in which they were joined by a vast assemblage who had repaired to the slip to witness the dis-embarkation.

## Canada.

Quebec Gazette, June 6.

The report of the burning of the Catholic Church at Valcartier is contradicted. There are many reports of fires in the country, which are unfounded, or exaggerated.

An easterly breeze yesterday morning, and thunder and heavy rain in the afternoon, has cooled the air which had been at a high temperature since the 1st instant. To-day the smoke of the fires in the woods has disappeared, and a strong and cool westerly wind prevails. There was brilliant northern lights last evening.

**The late Fire.**—The greatest activity continues to prevail in the town and teh country for the relief of the sufferers by the late conflagration.

We forbear to publish the accounts of collections generally, as we are persuaded they will be published in an authentic shape by the committees. Some subscriptions and donations will be found below. Supplies are daily coming in from the country parts.

The Committee of correspondence have agreed upon an address to our fellow subjects in the United Kingdom and in the Sister Colonies, which will be forwarded by next mail, and it is expected, that the Merchants will write to their connexions in the principal cities.

There are various plans for rebuilding the sixteen hundred dwellings destroyed, in a manner to provide greater security against the recurrence of similar misfortunes. The views of the individual proprietors of the Lots must, however be consulted, as well as their means, out of which the expenses must eventually come, in one shape or other.

We are sorry to hear that extortionate

prices have been asked for lime and building materials. Prices naturally rise from an increase of the demand, but on occasions of this kind it is neither justifiable nor likely to be successful. It is an attempt to prey upon misfortune.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Montreal has addressed a Pastoral Letter to the clergy and the faithful of the diocese, dated the 31st May, on the subject of the late Fire of Quebec. It is to be read in all the churches and religious communities on the first Sunday after its receipt.

It is accompanied by a circular dated the 2nd instant, to the clergy. Both are conceived in an excellent spirit, eloquently expressed. The circular alludes to the comparative poverty resulting from a succession of bad harvests, but recommends a retrenchment of articles of luxury, and to apply the proceeds to the discharge of the obligation of succouring, to the utmost, their brethren in distress. It sanctions any contributions which may be agreed upon from the Funds of the *Fabriques*, and particularly to aid in the rebuilding of the church of St. Roch.

We have no doubt but that the Bishop's recommendations will be acted upon with the same spirit as the circular of the Coadjutor of Quebec.

On Sunday last, a corporal of the 14th Regiment, cockswain of the garrison boat, lost his life in the attempt to save his child, who had fallen overboard, whilst about to cross to St. Helen's Island. The unfortunate fellow attempting to grasp his child, fell overboard, and was not, we believe, seen again. An Artilleryman, with better success than the parent, jumped after the child, and brought him safe to the boat, and wished to dive for the farther, but, from some cause, the man was refused permission. The man has left a wife and a family of five children, and his body has not yet been found.

A terrible storm passed over Three Rivers yesterday afternoon about two o'clock, sufficiently to tear up trees in the gardens. We have heard that it blew down Sheriff Ogden's Farm House; there were no lives lost, although it was inhabited at the time by six persons.

## New Brunswick.

St. Andrew's Standard, June 11.

**Fires.**—In our columns this morning, will be found accounts of the greatest fires which have taken place for some years, on this continent. Almost every mail we receive particulars of fires in the U. States. By the stage last evening we learn that there are one or two bridges on the St. John road destroyed by this destructive element, and that the woods in every direction are on fire. In the neighboring town of Calais, upwards of six houses were burnt to the ground, on Monday night. The inhabitants of this town have been particularly fortunate in not being visited with the destructive element.

## United States News.

New York Sun, June 7.

**Locusts.**—They are come: the seven-teen years' visit of these devouring insects has arrived. The Clinton, Louisiana, Whig, says:

"The locusts are here, and in myriads. From all parts of the parish, we are told, they are swarming in countless millions. Around the town the earth is completely perforated with holes bored by these unwelcome visitors in their exit; its surface presents numberless shells, the deserted tenement of the insects in its chrysalis state; and one may hear, during all hours of the day, the ceaseless and monotonous buzz of the busy host."

They have not, as yet, got into the fields, but in their strength they will destroy every vestige of vegetation.

**Boston, June 3.**—**Great Fire in New York.**—On Saturday night between 12 and 1 o'clock, the extensive stables of Mr F. A. Palmer, proprietor of the empire and Knickerbocker lines of omnibuses, in Eighteenth street were burnt. There were upwards of one hundred horses in the stables, twenty two perished. The immense quantity of hay, grain, &c, and the harnesses were consumed. Seven or eight of the horses which were rescued were so badly burned it became necessary to shoot them. The adjoining buildings, frame houses, up the 6th avenue, except five brick houses, were entirely consumed, and nothing saved from them. The flames then crossed 19th street and half the block, two story brick dwellings with one or two on the north side of 20th street were destroyed—also several on the west side. Nearly all the buildings destroyed were small

wooden tenements, occupied by the poorer class who have lost their all. The number of families thus burnt out cannot be far from 400. The loss by this fire has been estimated at from \$50,000 to 76,000. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

**PHILADELPHIA, May 13.**—**Mutiny—Recapture—Butchery of the English Prize Officer and Crew.**—The following letter dated Sierra Leone, April 16, 1845, brought by the barque Adairo, at New York, contains the particulars of the capture and recapture of a slaver, and the horrible butchery of the English brig's officers and crew:—"On the 11th inst., a slaver with 450 slaves on board, entered this port under the command of Lieut Stupart of H. M. S. Wasp. This vessel, supposed to be a Brazillian and called the Echo, was on her way to the Brazils when captured in the "Wasp" an empty slave schooner.—Lieut. Stupart transferred himself and some of the crew he had with him to the Echo, leaving a young midshipman, Palmer, with ten men, on board the other. Scarcely had the transfer taken place when the schooner bore down on Lieut. Stupart and fired three rounds of grape shot into him. Lieut. S. notwithstanding, got away from her, and his fears respecting a recapture on the part of the slaves has been but too certainly corroborated.

"Lieut Morris, of the Ardent, arrived here on the 15th inst, in the steamer Albert from Ascension, and gives the following intelligence. Three days after the capture above alluded to, H. M. S. Star, fell in with and recaptured the schooner. The Capt. of the schooner and another volunteered (on the discovery of sundry articles which were soon recognized as having belonged to some British man-of-war's men,) to give information of the circumstances that had taken place. They deposed the following:—The deponents with some more did not take part in any of the proceedings, but the whole was planned and carried through by the commander of the Echo, promised the crew ample remuneration if they would join him in murdering the Midshipman and the Englishmen, and that they were certain of recapturing the full slaver as she was a dull sailer, and that he had agreed with the boatswain of his own vessel and those of his crew left on board the Echo, to mutiny the moment they saw the peak of the schooner's mainsail they lowered, which would be the signal of their having recaptured the schooner. The details are too horrible to relate, suffice it to say, that none of the captors twelve in number, had any arms, and that twenty five pirates overcame them and butchered them all without an exception. The instant the cook discovered that information was given jumped overboard and drowned himself. Twelve of his companions are in irons and awaiting at Ascension the arrival of the Rapid, which left this port yesterday afternoon with Lieut Stupart on board, to convey the prisoners to England for trial."

**Boston, June 6.**—**Great Fire at Cambridge, Mass.**—An incendiary fire was set in Cambridge this morning at 2 o'clock, which destroyed the Athenæum building, with Allston's panorama of Athens, three carpenter's shops and several other buildings. The fire was set, says the Mail, between the carpenter's shop of Stickney & Winn and Ebenezer Francis, in the rear of the Charles River Bank, and near the Colleges, which were soon in a blaze.

The fire extended to the carpenter's shop of Mr Cothell, which was also entirely destroyed. From thence the fire caught in the Athenæum building belonging to the College, which was also destroyed with its contents. Among them was the beautiful painting by Alliston, of the Panorama of Athens, on which the great artist was engaged for many years. The whole damage cannot be much less than \$40,000.

## TEXAS.

By a late arrival at New Orleans from Texas, additional information has been received as to the progress of the Annexation Question. The Texans do not appear yet to have made up their minds on this question. Authentic information has been received that the Executives of the two countries, Texas and Mexico have completed a negotiation by which Mexico acknowledges the independence of Texas, guaranteed by England and France, provided Texas rejects annexation with the United States or any other Country!

President Jones has issued a proclamation by which he officially renits the question of annexation to the People of Texas—by them it is to be decided.